

School Vaccination Programme 2017/2018

August 2017

Dear Principal,

This letter is to inform you of the Health Service Executive (HSE) school vaccination programme in 2017/2018. The World Health Organization recommends that school age vaccines should be given in schools to provide equity of access and there is scientific evidence that vaccine uptakes are much higher in adolescents when they are given in schools.

◆ **Tdap (Tetanus low dose diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine**

The Tdap vaccine will continue for all 1st year students and given with the first HPV vaccine for girls.

◆ **MenC (Meningococcal C) vaccine**

The MenC vaccine booster will continue for all 1st year students. This vaccine will be given in the second or third term at the same time as the Tdap or 2nd dose of HPV vaccine.

◆ **HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine**

The HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccination programme will continue for girls in 1st year. Two vaccine doses with a six month interval are required for HPV vaccine to be fully effective. The HSE vaccination teams will provide HPV vaccinations on agreed dates in September/October and March/April.

The HPV vaccine (Gardasil) is safe and effective and the safety profile of the vaccine has not changed since the HSE vaccination programme began in 2010. A separate fact sheet on HPV vaccine has been produced for teachers this year so they can help to provide accurate information about HPV vaccine to students.

Parents of any older students who now wish to be vaccinated should contact their local immunisation office.

Information packs for these vaccination programmes will be distributed to schools in the coming weeks. *We ask that you only distribute HSE information materials and do not forward any other non HSE vaccine information to parents*. This is to ensure that parents receive information that is scientifically accurate and endorsed by national and international expert and regulatory bodies so they can choose to protect their daughters from cervical cancer.

Indemnity for any future liability arising from the role which schools currently undertake in the school vaccinations is a matter which would be addressed by the HSE and/or the Department of Health.

I would like to thank you for your cooperation in the delivery of the successful vaccination programmes in previous years. The HSE vaccination teams will continue to work with you to ensure vaccination sessions this year take place as efficiently as possible. As always, they adhere to the policies of the school when providing this service. Should you or any parents require further information please visit www.immunisation.ie or contact your local immunisation office (phone numbers overleaf)

Yours sincerely



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Please note that for vaccination sessions to take place the HSE teams will require

- Use of a large room on the ground floor such as a hall/indoor sports court. In choosing this area it would be very useful if there was a separate entrance and exit.
- Hand-washing facilities
- Tables and chairs for vaccinating teams (depending on size of school and vaccinating team)
- Chairs or mats for one class of female students at any one time
- A liaison member of staff or a designated student to call students from class at the appropriate time for vaccination and return them to class in an orderly way after vaccination

Contact phone numbers for HSE Local Health Immunisation Offices

Contact phone numbers for HSE Immunisation Offices	Phone Number
Carlow	056 7784531 056 7784496
Cavan	047 30422 047 30423 047 39089
Cavan - West Cavan	071 9155148
Clare	065 6868039
Cork - North Cork	022 58736
Cork – North Lee	021 4921775 021 4921790
Cork – South Lee	021 4923840 021 4923214
Cork - West Cork	028 40429
Donegal - Buncrana	074 9361044
Donegal - Donegal Town	074 9740643
Donegal - Dungloe	074 9561210
Donegal - Letterkenny	074 9123753
Dublin North (areas covered Artane(part), Coolock, Darndale, Edenmore,Raheny, Kilbarrack, Howth, Sutton, Baldoyle, Portmarnock,Malahide, Swords, Lusk, Rush, Skerries, Balbriggan,	01 8661431
Dublin North Central (areas covered Ballymun, Drumcondra,Whitehall,North inner City, Fairview, Clontarf, Donneycarney)	01 8467097
Dublin North West (areas covered Cabra, Phibsborough, Finglas, Part Glasnevin, Castleknock, Blanchardstown, Mulhuddert, Smithfield)	01 8975135
Dublin South (areas covered Dun Laoghaire, Blackrock, Stillorgan, Cabinteely, Foxrock, Dalkey, South County Dublin, Shankill, Loughlinstown)	01 2365246
Dublin South City (areas covered South Inner City, Ringsend, Rathmines, Terenure, Churchtown, Rathfarnham)	076 6958196 086 3837416
Dublin South East (areas covered Baggot St, Ranelagh, Donnybrook, Dundrum, Churchtown, Ballinteer Leopardstown and Sandyford)	01 2680419
Dublin South West (areas covered Crumlin, Drimnagh, Tallaght, Templeogue, Firhouse)	01 4141485 01 4141390
Dublin West (areas covered Clondalkin, Ballyfermot, Palmerstown, Lucan, Inchicore and Rathcoole)	076 6955766 076 6955746
Galway	091 546180
Kerry	066 7184570
Kildare	045 907934 045 907936
Kilkenny	056 7784531 056 7784496
Laois	057 9359785
Leitrim	071 9155148
Limerick	061 464252
Limerick - East Limerick	061 461140
Longford	043 3339700
Louth	042 9381262 042 9381244
Mayo	094 9042217 096 21511

Meath	046 9098725 046 9098763 046 9098752
Monaghan	047 30422 047 30423 047 39089
Offaly	057 9359785
Roscommon	090 6637515
Sligo	071 9155148
Tipperary - North Tipperary	067 46410 067 46416
Tipperary - South Tipperary	052 6177352
Waterford	051 846772
Westmeath (areas covered Athlone and Moate schools)	090 6424816
Westmeath (areas covered Mullingar Schools)	044 9394992
Wexford	053 9243289
Wicklow	076 6959035
Wicklow - West Wicklow (areas covered Baltinglass, Blessington and Dunlavin)	045 907934 045 907936