

Dear Parent/Carer,

We will be visiting your child's school to deliver the HPV vaccination to those children who have not yet received it on the following dates **2nd February 2024** and **8th March 2024**. Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust are commissioned by NHS England to offer the vaccine to 100% of eligible children. Please note your child could be vaccinated on either of these dates.

Before giving the vaccine, we require consent from either a parent or the child if they are competent. If your child is in Years 9-11 and you believe they have not received 1 dose of the HPV vaccine previously, please click <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/parents/> for information on how to submit a Yes or No consent for this vaccine. Please contact Child Health on 0300 561 1851 to check if this vaccine is outstanding **before** submitting a consent form.

By law, some young people under the age of 16 may be considered competent enough to provide their own consent, so-called 'Gillick competent'. The competency assessment is completed by a health professional on the day who will decide if the young person can understand about the vaccine including the benefits and risks. Gillick competency assessment helps people who work with children to balance the need to listen to children's wishes with the responsibility to keep them safe.

Please be aware that if the young person would like to receive the vaccine but we do not hold parental consent, we may complete an assessment and go ahead if we decide they are competent to consent. Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust always encourage young people to share decisions about their healthcare with their parents and carers.

It is important to highlight that the Immunisation team is contractually and legally responsible for the school-based Immunisation programme. The school take no part in Gillick Competence and any queries need to come directly to immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk who will be happy to help.

For further information on Gillick Competence please see links below:

[Gillick competence and Fraser guidelines | NSPCC Learning](#)

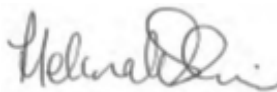
[Consent to treatment - Children and young people - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Supporting immunisation programmes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Yours faithfully,



Susan Mahoney,
Immunisation Team Lead



Helena Uddin,
Immunisation Team Lead