

24 February 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Immunisations at Secondary School

The national childhood immunisation programme has meant that many dangerous diseases such as tetanus, diphtheria and polio (Td/IPV) have practically disappeared in the UK. Unfortunately, this is not the same for all countries and cases of these diseases continue to be seen worldwide, including Europe. Similarly, immunisations for Meningitis (Men) have drastically reduced the number of people contracting these serious infections. Therefore, it is important that we continue to immunise our children and teenagers in order to maintain the high level of protection found in the UK.

Students in Year 9 will be offered their 5th dose of Tetanus, diphtheria and inactivated Polio (Td/IPV) and Meningitis ACWY (Men ACWY) on **Thursday 19th March 2020** for **Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge**. These immunisations are given by a team of school health nurses.

Men ACWY

Teenagers require one dose of Meningitis ACWY vaccination. It gives protection against four strains of meningitis and will be given at the same time as the Td/IPV.

Td/IPV

Young people need a total of five doses of Td/IPV vaccine following the UK schedule to build up and keep their immunity. Four doses are given to children before they start primary school:

- The first three doses as a baby
- The fourth dose at 3 years 4 months or soon after
- The fifth dose is due now

Consent to vaccinate your child is now via an online consent form. We will no longer be sending out paper consent forms, so it is important that you complete the form online so that your child is able to receive their vaccination. To access the online consent form, please click on the following link

<https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/Forms/DTP>

You will need to enter the unique code for your child's school. The code is **OX146103 (please type this code do not copy and paste)** Please submit your form by **3pm 13th March 2020** to ensure your child receives their vaccination, as late consents will not be accepted when the link closes. If you experience any problems accessing the form, please telephone your School Health Nurse Office (details overleaf) who will be happy to help.

Important parent/carer information - Please read the leaflet available [here](#) which explains the vaccination programme. If you require a hard copy, please contact your School Health Nurse Office. It is important that you read this leaflet carefully so that you are fully informed to provide consent for your child to receive the vaccination.

If your child is unable to receive his or her immunisation due to absence or for another reason, a catch-up session will be arranged in school and you will be advised of this date.

Declining the offer of vaccination - Please complete and submit your consent form.

If you decide you do not want your child to receive either of the Vaccinations, please complete and submit the consent form. If you would like to share why you do not want your child to receive the vaccine, this will help us plan and improve the service.

Withdrawing Consent – If you have consented for your child to be vaccinated and subsequently wish to withdraw this consent please inform your School Health Nurse Office by telephone and by e mail.

If you or your child have any concerns or wish to discuss this important immunisation with a school health nurse, please telephone your School Health Nurse Office.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your School Health Nurse Office.

Yours faithfully,



Fiona Singleton
Immunisation Team Lead

Your School Health Nurse Office Contact Details		
School Nurse Office Base	School Nurse Assistant (on the day of vaccination please call the <u>mobile</u> <u>number below</u>)	Office Phone Number
Wallingford Hospital Reading Rd, Wallingford, OX10 9DU	Chris Sturdy Mobile: 07585 404378	Tel: 01865 904845
<p style="text-align: center;">Email: ImmunisationTeam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk For <u>non-urgent enquiries</u>. This mailbox is checked weekly.</p>		

For further information about vaccines please go to:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/>