

August 2016

School Vaccination Programme 2016/2017

Dear Principal,

This letter is to inform you of the Health Service Executive (HSE) school vaccination programme in 2016/2017.

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

The Tdap (Tetanus low dose diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine will continue for all 1st year students and this vaccine will be given with the first HPV dose for girls. The Tdap vaccine is of particular public health importance due to the large number of pertussis (whooping cough) cases.

◆ **MenC (Meningococcal C) vaccine**

The MenC (Meningococcal C) 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. This vaccine is currently given to babies but the immunity reduces over time so an adolescent booster dose is recommended to provide additional protection.

◆ **HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine**

The HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccination programme will continue for girls in 1st year. The schedule for HPV vaccine is two doses with a six month interval between the 1st and 2nd dose. It is important for girls to receive two doses for this vaccine to be fully effective. The HSE vaccination teams will make arrangements to provide HPV vaccinations on agreed dates in September/October and March/April. Vaccinations may continue into the 3rd term as the six month interval between the 2 doses must be observed.

There has been ongoing media coverage regarding the safety of Gardasil (HPV) vaccine. The safety profile of the vaccine has not changed since the HSE vaccination programme began in 2010 and all international bodies have stated the vaccine is safe and effective. A separate fact sheet on HPV vaccine is enclosed this year to provide you with additional information.

Information packs for these vaccination programmes are currently being prepared and will be distributed to schools in the coming weeks. Please only distribute these HSE information materials about the vaccination programme 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.

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.

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 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

Local Health Offices by county or area	HPV, Tdap and MenC	Tdap and MenC
Carlow	056 7784531 056 7784496	056 7784531 056 7784496
Cavan	047 30422 047 30423 047 39089	047 30422 047 30423 047 39089
Cavan - West Cavan	071 9155148	071 9155148
Clare	065 6868039	065 6868039
Cork - North Cork	022 58736	022 58736
Cork – North Lee	021 4921775 021 4921790	021 4921775 021 4921790
Cork – South Lee	021 4923840 021 4923214	021 4923840 021 4923214
Cork - West Cork	028 40429	028 40429
Donegal - Bunrana	074 9361044	074 9361044
Donegal - Donegal Town	074 9740643	074 9740643
Donegal - Dungloe	074 9561210	074 9561210
Donegal - Letterkenny	074 9123753	074 9123753
Dublin North (areas covered Artane(part), Coolock, Darndale, Edenmore,Raheny, Kilbarrack, Howth, Sutton, Baldoyle, Portmarnock,Malahide, Swords, Lusk, Rush, Skerries, Balbriggan, Naul)	01 8661431	01 8661431
Dublin North Central (areas covered Ballymun, Drumcondra,Whitehall,North inner City, Fairview, Clontarf, Donneycarney)	01 8467097	01 8467097
Dublin North West (areas covered Cabra, Phibsborough, Finglas, Part Glasnevin, Castleknock, Blanchardstown, Mulhuddert, Smithfield)	01 8975135	01 8975135
Dublin South (areas covered Dun Laoghaire, Blackrock, Stillorgan, Cabinteely, Foxrock, Dalkey, South County Dublin, Shankill, Loughlinstown)	01 2365246	01 2365246
Dublin South City (areas covered South Inner City, Ringsend, Rathmines,Terenure, Churchtown, Rathfarnham)	076 6958196 086 3837416	076 6958196 086 3837416
Dublin South East (areas covered Baggot St, Ranelagh, Donnybrook, Dundrum, Churchtown, Ballinteer Leopardstown and Sandyford)	01 2680419	01 2680419
Dublin South West (areas covered Crumlin, Drimnagh, Tallaght, Templeogue, Firhouse)	01 4141393 087 6672825	01 4141393 087 6672825
Dublin West (areas covered Clondalkin, Ballyfermot, Palmerstown, Lucan, Inchicore and Rathcoole)	076 6955766 076 6955746	076 6955766 076 6955746
Galway	091 546180	091 546180
Kerry	066 7184570	066 7195682
Kildare	045 907934 045 907936	045 907934 045 907936

Kilkenny	056 7784531 056 7784496	056 7784531 056 7784496
Laois	057 9359785	057 9358785
Leitrim	071 9155148	071 9155148
Limerick	061 464252	061 464252
Limerick - East Limerick	061 461140	061 461140
Longford	043 3339700	043 3339700
Louth	042 9381262 042 9381244	042 9381262 042 9381244
Mayo	094 9042217 096 21511	094 9042217 096 21511
Meath	046 9098725 046 9098763 046 9098752	046 9098725 046 9098763 046 9098752
Monaghan	047 30422 047 30423 047 39089	047 30422 047 30423 047 39089
Offaly	057 9359785	057 9359785
Roscommon	090 6637515	090 6637515
Sligo	071 9155148	071 9155148
Tipperary - North Tipperary	067 46410 067 46416	067 46410 067 46416
Tipperary - South Tipperary	052 6177352	052 6177352
Waterford	051 846772	051 846772
Westmeath (areas covered Athlone and Moate schools)	090 6424816	090 6424816
Westmeath (areas covered Mullingar Schools)	044 9394992	044 9394992
Wexford	053 9243289	053 9243289
Wicklow	076 6959035	076 6959035
Wicklow - West Wicklow (areas covered Baltinglass, Blessington and Dunlavin)	045 907934 045 907936	045 907934 045 907936