



**Oifig Náisiúnta Imdhíonta**  
Aonaid 8/9 Páirc Gnó Shráid an  
Mhainéir  
Sráid an Mhainéir  
Baile Átha Cliath 7, D07 X320

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24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Deputy Burke,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: 13635/24 - To ask the Minister for Health what steps he will take to increase the uptake of the HPV vaccine in the school immunisation programme in consideration of the findings of the Health Protection Surveillance Centre's recently published report (26/02/24) on the uptake of the HPV vaccine; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke**

**13634/24 - To ask the Minister for Health if he is concerned by the Health Protection Surveillance Centre's recently published report (26/02/24) on the uptake of the HPV vaccine for the academic years 2022/2023 (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke** in light of the fact that the school immunisation programme shows that the national uptake of one dose of HPV was only 78.4% among first years in second level schools and their age equivalents in special schools and home schooled children, which amounts to a decrease of 0.03% when compared to the figures for 2021/2022

Dear Deputy Burke,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

HSE School teams are currently visiting second level schools and special schools to offer HPV, Tdap and MenACWY vaccine to all students in 1<sup>st</sup> year and age equivalent (in special schools). This programme rollout will continue until the end of this academic year. Students who miss their opportunity to get vaccinated in school due to illness or absenteeism will be offered an additional opportunity to get vaccinated at a HSE vaccination clinic during the summer months.

The HSE are supporting the vaccination programme through a communications campaign which included a [press release in February 2024](#) and continues to be supported through regular postings on social media sharing the facts about the programme and encouraging parents to consent for their children to be vaccinated.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Lucy Jessop  
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