



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

HSE National Immunisation Office
Unit 8/9 Manor Street Business Park
Manor Street
Dublin 7, D07 X320

www.hse.ie/flu
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[YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#)

To: Primary School Principals
By Email Only
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3 May 2024

Vaccination Programme Updates from the HSE

Dear Principal,

We are writing to update you about HSE immunisation programmes and to ask for your support.

6th Class Leaflet

Feedback from parents of 6th class students showed that parents would prefer more time to read and consider the information materials about the vaccines their children will receive in 1st year of second level schools. Therefore, we would appreciate if you could share the attached letter in English and Irish with parents of students in 6th class.

Be Measles Aware!

The HSE continues to be concerned about the risk of measles outbreaks in Ireland and across Europe as cases numbers continue to rise.

The MMR vaccine is the best way to prevent cases of measles and 2 doses are recommended for protection. There is now an opportunity for eligible people to receive free MMR vaccine through GP practices.

The HSE is writing to ask for your support in raising awareness among parents, guardians and school staff about:

- watching out for the symptoms of measles
- the importance of the MMR vaccine in protecting children now, particularly if they are planning to travel over the summer holidays.

Please consider downloading a copy of the [Think Measles posters](#) from the HSE and displaying in your school.

Influenza Vaccination Programme 2024/25 for Children

Annual influenza (flu) vaccination is strongly recommended for all children aged 2-17 years.

The 2024/2025 HSE seasonal vaccination programme will offer the nasal flu vaccine for all those aged 2-17 years from October 2024.

Children will be able to get their flu vaccine for free at their local participating GP or pharmacy from mid-October. Parents will be able to find a list of participating pharmacies on hse.ie/flu when the campaign begins.

GPs and pharmacies are already planning for the 2024/2025 seasonal vaccination programme and may contact your school to offer vaccines to students. You can choose to work with a local GP or pharmacy to offer vaccines to students where parents have provided consent.

We thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Lucy Jessop
Consultant in Public Health Medicine – National Immunisations Lead
National Immunisation Office MRCN 424447