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September 2024

**Re: School Vaccination Programme for pupils in first year of second level school**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In this pack you will find information about your child's school vaccinations.

Please read the information, complete the consent form and return it in the provided envelope.

**What vaccines your child will receive**

The HSE school vaccination team will visit schools during the school year to offer the following vaccines:

- **HPV** (Human papillomavirus) vaccine which protects against cancers
- **Tdap** vaccine which protects against tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough (Pertussis)
- **MenACWY** (Meningococcal) vaccine which protects against meningococcal types A, C, W and Y, which can cause meningitis and septicemia.

**How many doses your child needs to receive**

Your child needs to receive one booster dose of Tdap, one dose of MenACWY and for most people one dose of HPV vaccine (if your child has a weak immune system they will need 3 doses of HPV vaccine).

Please visit [www.hpv.ie](http://www.hpv.ie) for more information.

The three vaccines (Tdap, MenACWY and HPV) will be given on the same day, the vaccinator will give two injections in one arm and one injection in the other arm.

**When the visit will take place**

In most areas the visit will take place from January 2025 to give HPV, Tdap and MenACWY vaccines.

The school will know the date when the vaccinations are due to take place.

**What you could do to help on the day of vaccination**

On the day of vaccination, please make sure your child:

- Eats breakfast
- Wears a loose fitting short sleeved top
- Brings their immunisation record card/immunisation passport to school, if they have one.

If you have any questions members of the school vaccination team are happy to help. The contact numbers for the vaccination teams are available on [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie) and [www.hpv.ie](http://www.hpv.ie) where you will also find more information about this programme.

Yours sincerely,

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