

17 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

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 18/05/2021 at Cheney School. These immunisations are given by a team of school health nurses who will come to your child's school. Please be aware that this date may be subject to change due to circumstances outside of our control including local or national Covid restrictions. In this event, please be assured that we will work with your child's school to ensure your child still receives these important immunisations.

Further information is available on our website: www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/school-health-nurses/immunisations.

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

To access the consent form please click on the following link.

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

The unique code for your child's school is:- OX139146

Please submit your form at least two working days before the date of the session to ensure your child receives their vaccination. Late consents will not be accepted.

You will need your child's NHS No. to complete the form. This is available from your GP Practice or can be found on child's Red Book.

If you experience any problems accessing the form, please telephone the Immunisation Team Assistant 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 the Immunisation Team Assistant. 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 refusing the immunisation. 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 submit another consent form refusing the immunisation and inform the following at least 48hrs before the immunisation session.

- Inform your school and request that your message is given to the School Nursing team coming to your school.
- Inform the School Health Nurse Assistant by telephone

If you believe your child may have already received either of these immunisations please check with your GP **BEFORE** submitting your consent form. Some children who have received immunisations for travel or due to an injury may have already received their 5th Tetanus, diphtheria and inactivated Polio (Td/IPV) or Meningitis ACWY (Men ACWY) and may therefore not require these immunisations, please check. If, following submission of

the Consent Form, your child is immunised before the school session, please ensure you withdraw consent as detailed above.

If you or your child have any concerns or wish to discuss this important immunisation with a school health nurse, please telephone the Immunisation Team Assistant who will be able to direct your call to the most appropriate person.

Yours faithfully,

S Mahoney

Susan Mahoney

Immunisation Team Lead

Contact Details	
(on the day of vaccination please call the School Nurse Assistant <u>mobile number</u>)	
School Health Nurse Assistant	Immunisation Team Assistant
Gemma Ellis 07826 878768	07920254400
For <u>non-urgent enquiries</u> . This mailbox is checked weekly. Email: ImmunisationTeam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk	

For further information about vaccines please go to: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/>

The information collected on the consent form will be securely sent to the local NHS Child Health Information Service and to your Doctor/GP Practice. It will also be retained by OHFT. For further information you can read our fair processing policy here: www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/privacy/