

**Protection from Meningitis, Septicaemia and
Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio**

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Dear Parent/ Guardian

**YOUR CHILD'S MENINGITIS ACWY AND TETANUS/ DIPHTHERIA AND POLIO VACCINATION
IS NOW DUE**

The meningitis vaccination programme is in place to help protect your child against Meningitis ACWY (Meng ACWY). This vaccine protects against meningitis (inflammation of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning) caused by meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y.

It is being offered in response to a rapidly growing increase in cases of Meningococcal disease group W, an aggressive strain. As the vaccine will also boost your child's protection against MenC, it replaces the "Freshers" MenC programme, your child will still need to attend for this vaccination if previously immunised against Meningitis C.

Your child will also receive an immunisation against Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio. The teenage booster, also known as 3-in1 or the Td/IPV vaccine is given as a single injection into the upper arm to boost your child's protection against three separate diseases: tetanus, diphtheria and polio. The 3-in 1 teenage booster is available for all young people in school year 9. It is generally given at the same time as the Meng ACWY vaccine.

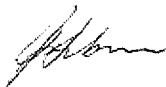
Please complete the enclosed consent form (one for each child) and return to the school within 2 weeks of receipt of this letter to ensure your child receives their vaccination. A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme is enclosed.

If you decide not to have the vaccination please let us know so we can enter this on your child's medical records.

We are trying to improve how we communicate with patients. Please tell us if you need information in a different format or communication support.

Further information on the vaccination programme can be found on NHS Choices at:
<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/vaccination-schedule-age-checklist.aspx>

Yours Faithfully



Dr Terese Tubman

Clinical Lead School Immunisation Service

Chair: Dr Philip Dommett

Chief Operating Officer: Peter Stokes

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