

School Immunisation Team
Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio Vaccination and Meningitis ACWY Vaccination

Dear Parents/Guardians

As a result of a continuing increase in the number of cases of Meningococcal W (MenW) disease over recent years, the MenACWY vaccine is being offered to year 9 and 10 students in schools, which your child is eligible for. At the same time as receiving this vaccination, your child will receive their final, routine 'teenage booster' of Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio, which was previously only available through GPs. One injection will be given in each arm.

Older teenagers and young adults are more at risk of getting meningitis and septicaemia from MenW. Meningococcal bacteria can cause meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning). Both diseases are very serious especially if not diagnosed early. Tetanus, diphtheria and Polio are serious diseases that can affect the nervous system, breathing and heart. All these conditions can be fatal.

The most common mild side effects of the vaccinations include redness, tenderness or swelling at the injection site, fever, fatigue, nausea, muscle aches or headache.

With this letter is a consent form and information leaflet. Please complete the medical information as fully as possible.

If you are unsure of your child's vaccination history, please check with your GP before you return the form. If your child has already received their 'teenage booster' or a dose of Meningitis ACWY within the last five years, further doses may not be necessary.

If you would like your child to receive the vaccinations, please ensure that you return the signed consent form to school as soon as possible before the vaccination session. **If the consent form is not returned, your child will not be vaccinated.** However, if you do not return a consent form, we will endeavour to contact you in order to confirm that you do not wish your child to receive the vaccines. If your child is absent on the day of vaccinations, a further attempt will be made to offer your child the vaccine at a later date

Please note, that by your giving consent, you are agreeing to your child's electronic health record being updated by CCS NHS Trust, and your GP being notified.

If you need further information regarding the vaccinations please contact the Immunisation Team on 01353 725575 or 01480 418692 or email the Team at ccs-tr.cambsimsteam@nhs.net. Further information can be found online by searching 'childhood vaccinations' at: www.nhs.uk. The medical information for the vaccines can be read by typing 'Nimenrix', 'Menveo' and 'Revaxis' into the search bar at: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/>

Yours faithfully



Nicky Srahan
School Immunisation Team Lead