



## School Aged Immunisation Team

T: 0300 1245515

E: [sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net](mailto:sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net)

[www.sirona-cic.org.uk](http://www.sirona-cic.org.uk)

Dear Year 9 student

### **Meningococcal ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations**

We are offering you a free Meningococcal ACWY vaccine and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccination in school this year.

#### **What is the Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccination?**

The MenACWY vaccine helps to protect your child against four types of bacteria that can cause meningitis and blood poisoning. These diseases are very serious and can kill.

#### **What is the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccination?**

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio are serious diseases that have practically disappeared in this country due to the vaccination programme. All children need 5 doses of this vaccine to build and maintain immunity. The first 3 doses should have been given as a baby and the fourth dose at around four years old. **The fifth dose is due now.**

#### **How is the vaccine given?**

The vaccinations are given by two injections in the upper arm.

#### **Are there any side effects?**

As with most other vaccinations, the side effects of these vaccinations are mild; however, soreness, swelling and redness in the arm are common but wear off in a couple of days. More serious side effects are very rare.

#### **Important notes:**

- It is important to talk about the vaccinations with your parents/ carer.
- Your parents/ carer have been sent a consent form for you to receive the vaccines, please encourage them to complete the form whether they do or don't want you to have the vaccines.
- If your parents/ carer do not complete the consent form before the session we may not be able to vaccinate you at the school session.

## What do you need to do?

- On the day of the session wear a short-sleeved shirt if possible, or a T-shirt under your shirt
- Have something to eat on vaccination day.
- Drink plenty of water

## Want to learn more?

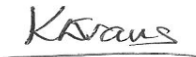
[Immunisations for young people - your questions answered \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](http://publishing.service.gov.uk)

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations>

## Questions?

Contact the School Immunisation Team: 0300 124 5515 or email [sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net](mailto:sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net)

Yours sincerely



Karen Evans  
Head of Specialist Services for Children and Sirona Integrated Immunisation Services

Service provided by



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