



Nottinghamshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

School Aged Immunisation Service
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Dear Parent/Guardian

Your Child's Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination is now due!

This vaccine is part of the Childhood Immunisation Programme and consists of 2 doses given in school between 6 and 24 months apart.

- The HPV vaccine has been offered to girls in school year 8 for over 10 years. From September 2019, the vaccine will also be offered to boys in year 8.
- Having the HPV vaccine helps protect both boys and girls from Human Papillomavirus related cancers.
- The UK programme has already contributed to preventing future deaths from cancer. We expect it to eventually prevent hundreds of cancer deaths every year.

Further information can be found in the attached leaflet.

What You Need To Do Now

To complete the electronic consent form for your child to receive 2 doses of the HPV vaccination, please access using the website address below:

www.nottinghamshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/HPV

Even if you are refusing consent, please still complete the online form.

We are due to visit your child's school on **Thursday 19th September 2019**.

You will need to enter the unique code for your child's school - the code is **NG135583**.

Please submit your form before Tuesday 17th September to ensure your child receives the vaccination.

If you experience any problems or have any queries, please contact us on 07920 182032 and the team will be happy to help.

Please Note

If we don't receive a completed form, your son or daughter will be given the opportunity to self-consent. The decision to have the vaccination is legally your son or daughter's as long as they understand the reasons for the vaccination and the issues in giving consent, however, the nurse would much rather have your permission as well.

If You Need More Information

Please visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine for further information about the disease and the vaccine, as well as links to other useful websites.

If you would prefer to discuss any concerns or questions, then the team will be more than happy to answer these. Please feel free to contact us on the number or email address above.

Yours faithfully

Nottinghamshire School Aged Immunisation Service

 **positive**
about integrated healthcare

HPV

vaccination

Protecting against HPV infection to help reduce your risk of cancer



The universal HPV

immunisation programme

The HPV vaccine has been offered to all girls in school year 8 for over ten years. From September 2019 the vaccine will also be offered to year 8 boys.

This is because the evidence is clear that the HPV vaccine helps protect both boys and girls from HPV-related cancers.

The HPV vaccine helps protect you from being infected by the human papillomavirus (HPV).

This virus increases the risk of developing some cancers later in life, such as:

- cervical cancer
- some mouth and throat cancers
- some cancers of the anus and genital areas.

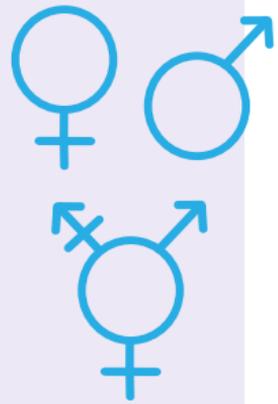
The HPV vaccine does not protect against other sexually transmitted infections.

HPV and how it spreads

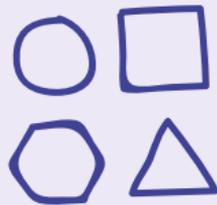
HPV infection is very common. More than 70% of unvaccinated people will get it

70%

HPV lives on the skin in and around the whole genital area, so using condoms does not provide complete protection from HPV



There are **many different types** of HPV



Most HPV infections do not cause any symptoms and **get better on their own**



Some do not clear up and can lead to cancer whilst others cause genital warts



What difference has the HPV vaccine made so far?

Over 80 million people have received the vaccine worldwide.

In time it is expected that the vaccine will save hundreds of lives every year in the UK. A recent Scottish study has already shown a 71% reduction in pre-cancerous cervical disease in young women.

Since the start of the vaccination programme in the UK there has been a big decline in the number of young people with genital warts.

Having the HPV vaccine

The vaccine is given in your arm and you need two doses to be fully protected.

The first injection is given in year 8 and the second one usually 6 to 12 months later. You will be informed when you are due the second dose.



To give you the best protection, the vaccine should be given before you become sexually active.

If you are sexually active you should still have the vaccine.



What if I have not had my first HPV vaccine by the age of 15?

If you have not had any HPV vaccine before you are 15 years old you will need three doses. This is because the response to two doses in older girls and boys is not as good.

The second dose will be given around a month after the first dose, and a final dose is given around six months after the first dose.

If you have missed your vaccine you should speak to the immunisation team or your GP practice about making an appointment as soon as possible.

I missed my vaccination, can I still have it?

Yes. If you missed either of your vaccinations at school, you can have them up to your 25th birthday. Contact your school nurse or GP practice as soon as possible.



Women who have had the vaccine will still need to go for cervical screening

All women aged 25 and over in England are offered cervical screening tests.

The vaccine will prevent around 70% of cervical cancer cases, but screening is still needed to pick up any other cervical abnormalities.

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What about the other cancers?

There are currently no screening programmes for other HPV-related cancers. If you are worried about any symptoms speak to your GP practice.

For more information about the side effect of the vaccine or to see the patient information leaflet for the vaccine, visit www.nhs.uk/hpv



Remember



to get your two doses of HPV vaccine at least 6 months apart



to get your HPV vaccine now, to protect yourself against a number of cancers in the future



in time it is expected that the vaccine will save hundreds of lives every year in the UK.

For more information, visit www.nhs.uk/hpv

A complete list of ingredients for the vaccine is given in the: Patient Information Leaflet (PIL):

www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/19033

The Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC):

www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/19016/SPC/gardasil/



This leaflet has been produced by Public Health England.
Immunisation, helping to protect everyone at every age.