

Dear Parent / Guardian

December 2023

Protecting your child against HPV related cancers

As your child is now in school year 8, they are now due for the HPV vaccination. This vaccine will help protect them against cancers caused by the Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

Vaccine protection against cancer

- Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common, contagious virus that can cause cancers in both men and women.
- Without vaccination, 90% of adults will have HPV infection at some point in their life. There is no treatment for HPV infection.
- For some people the virus causes no symptoms and goes away by itself, but it can persist and cause types of cancer or serious illness for others.
- Having HPV vaccination helps protect against cervical, vaginal and vulval cancers in females, throat and anal cancer in females and males, and penile cancer in males. The vaccine also protects against cases of genital warts in both males and females.
- HPV vaccine is most effective when given at age 12/13 years therefore this school programme is only available in school year 8.
- The vaccine has been thoroughly tested and millions of doses have been used around the world.
- This is a one dose programme and nurses will attend the school to give your child the vaccine.
- The vaccine brand name is Gardasil and since its introduction it has reduced the rates of some cancers significantly. For more information please see - [Gardasil 9 suspension for injection - Summary of Product Characteristics \(SmPC\) - \(emc\) \(medicines.org.uk\)](#) and [HPV Vaccine \(Human Papillomavirus Vaccine\) | Vaccine Knowledge Project \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)
- If your child is absent on the day of the vaccination, there will be a catch up clinic held in the hospital outpatients department on Wednesday 21st Feb 4-8pm – you will receive a separate letter confirming this if your child misses the vaccination.

Please -

- **Discuss the importance of this vaccination with your child** – Please help ensure they don't miss out on this important protection.
- **Read the enclosed leaflet** – This gives you and your son/daughter more information and guides you to our webpage www.gov.je/hpvvaccine where you'll find links to further information.
- **Note the school timetable below** - It shows the dates that nurses will be in your son's/daughter's school to administer both doses of the HPV vaccine.
- **Complete the consent form and return it to school - Please return a completed consent form to school before the injection is due. This will save your child's school having to contact you.**
- **Contact the immunisation specialist team** – If you or your child are apprehensive, please contact us for a discussion on 01534 443741 or email IST@health.gov.je

Dates 2024-year 8 pupils HPV vaccination -

Les Quennevais	Monday 29 th January
Le Rocquier	Tuesday 30 th January
JCG	Wednesday 31 st January
Beaulieu	Thursday 1 st February
De La Salle	Friday 2 nd February Morning
Mont a L'Abbe	Friday 2 nd February afternoon
Haut Vallee	Monday 5 th February
Grainville	Tuesday 6 th February
St Michaels	Wednesday 7 th February
Victoria College	Thursday 8 th February
Le Sente	TBC