





### #immunisations #publichealth5-19service



# **IMMUNISATIONS**FACTSHEET

This factsheet will provide you with helpful tips and a link to the NHS website to help you understand and make the important decisions about getting your child fully vaccinated.

#### TOP TIPS ABOUT IMMUNISATIONS:

Following the National Immunisation Programme is important to ensure that your child is protected against life threatening diseases. Vaccines work by causing the body's immune system to make substances (antibodies) which fight the disease or infection.

By the time your child starts school they should have received a primary course of immunisations as well as preschool boosters. Your doctor's surgery will have a record of what your child has been immunised against so please contact them if you think they may have missed any of their immunisations.

Once your child has reached school age they will be offered the following immunisations in school:

Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 - Nasal flu vaccination offered to both girls and boys.

- Year 8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) offered to girls only.
- Year 9 Diphtheria/tetanus/polio and Meningitis ACWY offered to boys and girls in 2 injections.

You will be asked for your consent before each immunisation. This will be a paper form which will be sent to you via your child's school along with information about the specific vaccine.

- **Tip 1:** Please contact your school nurse if you or your child has any questions or worries about the immunisation.
- Tip 2: Ensure that you have understood, signed and returned paperwork to school.
- **Tip 3:** Ensure your child has breakfast on the morning of the immunisation.

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**Tip 4:** Explain to your child age appropriately what is going to happen and why it is important.

**Tip 5:** For secondary aged children wearing a vest or t-shirt under school tops allows easier access to their arm.

**Tip 6:** Each child will be seen individually by a nurse before giving the immunisation. This allows your child to discuss any concerns, or questions they have with the nurse.

#### VISIT THESE USEFUL WEBSITES

www.nhs.uk/vaccinations