

May 2017

**Immunisation and Vaccination Team**

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Dear Parent/ Legal Guardian,

Acting Chair: Janet Wood  
Chief Executive: Sally Morris

**School Leaver booster vaccinations.**

These booster vaccinations (Diphtheria/Tetanus/Polio and Meningitis ACW Y) are changing from being offered to students in year 10, to every young person in year 9; as part of national recommendations by NHS England. The vaccines offer protection against Diphtheria/Tetanus/Polio and Meningitis strains A, C, W and Y.

When your son/daughter was young they would have had immunisations for the protection against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio. This is the last and final booster due, to complete the course and to have best possible protection against the diseases.

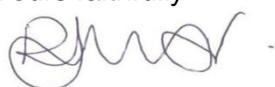
Your son/daughter is also offered the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine. The Men ACWY vaccination helps to protect your son/daughter against four types of meningococcal bacteria (groups A, C, W and Y) that can cause meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning). These diseases are very serious and can kill, especially if not diagnosed early. Cases of meningococcal W disease ("MenW") in England have increased significantly in recent years, and it is in response to this rise in cases that this vaccine has been introduced.

Please find attached a consent form, please sign and return to school by the **26<sup>th</sup> May**, the nurses will be collecting them after half term. Even if you do not wish for your son or daughter to have the vaccines, please return the consent form. If you would like further information or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the imms and vacs team on the number detailed above.

**REMINDER**

If your son/daughter has not received two doses of the MMR vaccine, they will not have completed the schedule for MMR vaccine to protect them fully against Measles, Mumps and Rubella (usually received at 13 months of age and at pre-school age). Please ask your GP surgery about receiving required doses.

Yours faithfully



**Becky Twist**

**Immunisation and Vaccination Team Manager.**