

Telephone: 0300 3000 007

Email: ipt.sais@nhs.net

Dear Parent / Carer and Young Person,

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to protect against various cancers

We are offering all young people in school year 8 (aged 12 to 13 years), the chance to have an important vaccination that helps to protect from the human papillomavirus (HPV). This is a common virus that increases the risk of developing some cancers in males and females. Cancers caused by the HPV virus include cervical cancer, some mouth and throat cancers, as well as some cancers of the anus and genital areas.

HPV infection is very common and more than 70% of unvaccinated people will get it. HPV is spread through skin-to-skin contact. There are many different strains of HPV; most of which are harmless, but some do not clear up and can lead to cancer or cause genital warts.

The HPV vaccine is **free, safe and effective**. Since the vaccine has been used, there has been a big drop in the number of people getting conditions linked to HPV and research suggests the by giving the HPV vaccine from this early age will help to save thousands of lives in the UK. The best way to be protected against HPV-related cancers in the future is by having the vaccine in school. It is given quickly into the upper arm, and only need one dose to be given. Please note these vaccines do not contain any gelatine or alcohol. To find out more visit: tiny.cc/hpvleaflet

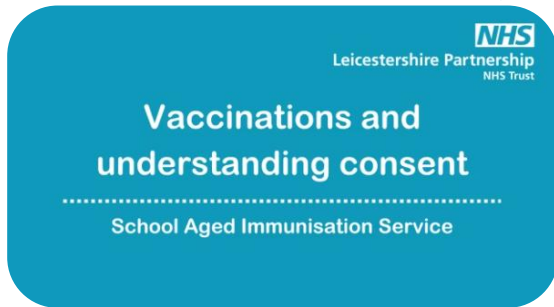
Important change about the consent process: the young person can now consent for the vaccines.

If we do not receive a parental or carer consent decision for the vaccinations, using the below process, we may allow the young person to self-consent to the vaccination on the day. We will only offer this opportunity to young people in year 8 and above, who have read the appropriate vaccination information and who are assessed by a health professional as having enough understanding to fully appreciate what's involved. Only those clearly comfortable in receiving the immunisation will have it.

If parents or carers have responded and refused consent, the decision cannot be overruled by a young person, and we will not vaccinate. As always, we encourage young people and their parents and carers to have a conversation about the vaccination on offer and to fill out the form together.

More information about consent can be found on:

www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/schoolagedimms or you can watch these videos below:



Vaccinations and understanding consent

tiny.cc/vaccinationsandconsent



Our Clinical Lead explains self-consent

tiny.cc/selfconsent

You can also let us know if you do not want the young person to be vaccinated.

How to give your consent decision for the vaccination

- Make a note of the code for your school. For **Brookvale Groby Learning Campus** the school code is **LE138323**
- Visit www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk or scan the QR code using your smartphone camera to go straight to the website.
- Select **Human Papillomavirus (HPV)** and enter the school code.
- On the consent decision page, please select:
 - I want the young person to have the vaccination.
 - I do not want the young person to have the vaccination.
- You will receive a confirmation email when the form is submitted.



If you are unable to complete the form online, please call us on **0300 3000 007** or email lpt.sais@nhs.net with your contact details. If you change your mind about your consent decision, please call us on the number above to change it.

Your school will let you know when the vaccination session will take place. **The consent system will close one working day before the vaccination session.** You will not be able to submit a consent form on the day.

Yours sincerely,

School Aged Immunisation Service

How does the HPV vaccine work?

Without vaccine 



Person with human papilloma virus (HPV)



High-risk types of HPV can damage DNA



This can cause cells to divide and grow out of control



This can lead to cancer

With vaccine 



Vaccination provides protection against the main types of high-risk HPV – HPV16 and HPV18.



Person is not infected with HPV 16/18



Less chance of cells being damaged



We will see fewer cancer cases


By protecting against HPV infection, we can help prevent cell changes and reduce the risk of cancer.

Together we will beat cancer



CANCER RESEARCH UK

Frequently asked questions

What vaccine is being offered?	The vaccine for HPV is Gardasil9. These vaccines do not contain any gelatine or alcohol.
Why is this being offered right now?	The best time to have the HPV vaccine is before a young person becomes sexually active. This ensures the vaccine will deliver the most effective protection throughout their lives. Even if a young person is sexually active, it is still strongly recommended they have the vaccine.
What are the side effects?	Like all medicines, this vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Young people may develop a slight redness on the injection site. For more information, please read the vaccine product leaflets.
Where can I read the vaccine product leaflet?	Visit: tiny.cc/hpvpil
Can I have this information in a video format?	Listen to one of our nurses talk about the vaccination: tiny.cc/hpvinfo 
The young person is scared of needles, is there any support available?	You can include this information on your consent form and our team will do the best to support. This video may help reassure young people about their vaccination experience: tiny.cc/reassurance – there is also this video: tiny.cc/toptipsforvaccinations
It says the email addresses don't match or it doesn't recognise the school code.	Make sure there are no spaces or punctuation before or after the email address and the school code.
What if the young person is absent or unwell on the session day?	An additional opportunity will be made available for the vaccination.
What's the national vaccination programme?	Visit: www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations to find out more.