

November 2020

[The Hermitage]

Dear Parent/Carer,

Protecting Your Children Against Meningitis and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio

Your child is being offered two vaccines in Year 9. These are the MenACWY vaccine which helps to protect against **Meningitis** and **Septicaemia**, and the DTP booster which helps to protect against **Diphtheria**, **Tetanus** and **Polio**. These diseases are all serious, and in some cases they can be fatal.

How do I give my consent?

1. Go to www.hdft.nhs.uk/year9form
2. Enter the School Code [**136683**] and click “**Find School**”.
3. **Complete the form** with your child’s information and parent/guardian contact information*.
4. Click the **green “Submit” button**.

*Once submitted, if you provide a valid email address, you will receive an automatic confirmation email. We will also email you to let you know that your child has been vaccinated in school. If your child has specific medical requirements, one of our nurses may need to get in touch before we are due to visit school. We routinely share your child’s vaccination information with your registered GP surgery.

The deadline for online consents is 11th January 2021

Why is the Meningitis vaccine being offered?

The **MenACWY vaccination** helps to protect your child 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.

Why is the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccine being offered?

The **3-in-1 DTP booster vaccine** helps protect your child against three severe diseases; **diphtheria**, **tetanus** and **polio**.

Diphtheria is a serious disease that can damage the heart and nervous system.



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Tetanus is a painful disease affecting the nervous system which can lead to muscle spasms and breathing problems.

Polio is a virus that attacks the nervous system which can cause permanent paralysis of muscles.

Where can I find out more?

We hope that the information provided addresses any concerns you or your child might have about these vaccinations. By having these vaccines your child will be protecting themselves and others from very serious diseases. It is important that this letter is shared with your child.

For more information regarding the **MenACWY** vaccination please visit this website:
www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/men-acwy-vaccine

For more information regarding the **DTP booster** vaccination please visit this website:
www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/3-in-1-teenage-booster

For more information about **our service** please visit: www.hdft.nhs.uk/immsconsent

If you have any questions regarding this programme, or you believe your child's vaccination status is not up to date **please contact the Childhood Immunisation Team** by emailing hdft.immunisationteam@nhs.net.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Harvey
Interim Clinical Lead, Childhood Immunisation Team, Durham, Darlington and Teesside

