



A guide to Bristol's School Vaccination Programmes

Supporting the delivery of school-based immunisation programmes

Each year the [School Aged Immunisation Service](#) in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire offers immunisations to students in secondary schools. These are the four main vaccination programmes:

- [Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\)](#): Girls and boys aged 12 to 13 years are routinely offered the 1st HPV vaccination when they're in school Year 8. The 2nd dose is offered 6 to 24 months after the 1st dose. It's important to have both doses of the vaccine to be properly protected.

The HPV vaccine helps protect against cancers caused by HPV, including cervical cancer, some mouth and throat (head and neck) cancers, some cancers of the anal and genital areas. It also helps protect against genital warts. Visit [the NHS HPV webpage](#) for more information.

- [Meningococcal ACWY \(MenACWY\)](#): offered to all year 9 students alongside the teenage booster vaccine.

Meningococcal disease is caused by invasive bacterial infection. There are 12 identified serogroups of which groups B, C, W and Y were historically the most common in the UK. This is now part of the routine schedule alongside the teenage booster vaccine. Visit [the NHS MenACWY webpage](#) for more information.

- [The Teenage Booster \(Td/IPV\)](#): A single injection which boosts protection against tetanus, diphtheria, and polio. Routinely offered to all year 9 students alongside the MenACWY vaccine.

Diphtheria is a serious bacterial disease which usually begins with a sore throat and can cause severe breathing problems. Tetanus is a painful disease that affects the muscles and can kill. It is caused by tetanus toxins released by bacteria in soil and manure and can get into the body through cuts or burns. Polio is a virus that attacks the nervous system and can permanently paralyse muscles in the arms legs, and if it affects the chest muscles can be fatal. Visit [the NHS Td/IPV webpage](#) for more information.

- [Nasal Flu Vaccine \(Influenza\)](#): As the main flu viruses can change each year, a new nasal spray vaccine has to be given each year. The school aged immunisation team will also deliver the nasal flu vaccine each year to all primary school aged children and all students in year 7. Visit [the NHS child flu vaccine webpage](#) for more information.

[Current school schedule](#) for this area is:

	Reception – Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
HPV dose 1		All students	
HPV dose 2			All students
Diphtheria/Polio/Tetanus			All students
MenACWY			All students
Influenza	All students		

Checklist

Experience has shown that the immunisation programmes in school are most successful where schools have embraced the work and provided support. The checklist below is designed to help you support the vaccination teams who will be working at your school. Please ensure you:

* **Identify a named contact within the school to coordinate with the School Aged Immunisation Team.** This will help with communication and organisation of the immunisation programme within the school.

* **Provide the School Aged Immunisation Team year lists for all appropriate students getting vaccinated,** containing the school's name, unique reference number and the name, sex, date of birth, ethnicity code, home postcode, home address and home telephone number of each pupil.

* **Send out the immunisation consent forms, accompanying letter, and leaflets.** It is important to ensure that parents are given a reasonable opportunity to sign and return the consent forms. If any parents have questions about the vaccinations put them in touch with your named school health nurse.

* **Track the return of immunisation consent forms and chase any outstanding forms.** We appreciate that sometimes forms go astray, please ensure consent forms are returned to help increase the uptake of vaccinations at your school.

* ***Schedule a convenient day and time for the School Aged Immunisation Team to come into the school*** to undertake the immunisation sessions. Remember to check exam timetabling to minimise rearranging these sessions.

* ***Provide a suitable room for the immunisation sessions*** and supervise student's movement to and from the room. The school will need to identify a private and quiet area for the immunisation session. The room will need to be large enough to accommodate space for students to wait prior to the immunisation, an area with tables for immunisation preferably with screens and an area with chairs for the students to wait for 15 minutes after the immunisation which will include a mat for students who may need to lay down. This ideally would be a large hall.

* ***Support students who have missed vaccinations***: inform the School Aged Immunisation Team if a student has missed vaccinations and support the student where possible, for example if they need interpreters. If a student misses a vaccination they will be able to either receive it at a different session. If a student misses a vaccine, call school health nurse to arrange a clinic appointment.

Contact: sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net / 01275 373 104

* ***Actively promote and raise awareness of the programmes***. Success is seen in schools where governors, teachers, parents, and children have a good understanding and awareness of the programmes and their importance. Discuss with the School Aged Immunisation Team ways to promote the programme, such as asking them to attend an assembly where they can talk to students about the programme, including an article in the school newsletter/ website and sharing information on the programme with governors.