

Your Growing Healthy Team are here for all children and young people, providing support, encouraging healthy lifestyles and protecting those who are most vulnerable.

December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Protecting Your Children Against Meningitis and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio and Human Papilloma Virus

Your child is being offered catch up vaccinations in Year 10 and Year 11 for the following immunisations:

- **Human Papilloma Virus** – First offered in Year 8
- **Meningitis ACWY** – First offered in Year 9
- **Diphtheria Tetanus and Polio** – First offered in Year 9

How do I give my consent?

1. Go to www.hdft.nhs.uk/schoolvaccinations
2. Enter the School Code **121663** and click “Find School”. **Please note:** Although we are now called ‘Risedale School’ we may still be registered as ‘Risedale Sports and Community College’.
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 immunised. If your child has specific medical requirements, one of our nurses may need to get in touch before we are due to carry out the immunisations. We routinely share your child’s vaccination information with their registered GP surgery.

The deadline for online consents is Midnight Sunday 2nd January 2022

Why is the Meningitis vaccine being offered?

The **Men ACWY 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.



@HarrogateNHSFT



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www.hdft.nhs.uk

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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.
- **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.

Is the HPV vaccine just for girls?

Historically this vaccine has only been offered to girls as HPV is the main cause of **cervical cancer**. However, due to increasing rates of **head and neck cancers** in adulthood linked to HPV infection, the programme is **now being offered to boys born on or after the 1st September 2006**. Early vaccination gives us the opportunity to help prevent the spread of a very serious disease that affects over 3,000 adults every year in the UK and causes over 1,000 deaths.

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.

Where can I find out more?

- 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
- For more information about HPV and why this vaccine is being offered: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine>
- You can read the patient information leaflet for the HPV vaccine (Gardasil) here: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/files/pil.261.pdf>
- 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.childhoodimmunisations@nhs.net

Yours sincerely,

Childhood Immunisation Team for North Yorkshire and City of York