

06 September 2023

W: [Immunisations | Children Young People and Families Online Resource \(berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk\)](#)

Dear Parent/Carer,

**HPV vaccination programme: changes from September 2023.**  
**Moving from 2 to 1 dose schedule.**

This letter provides information about changes to the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme.

We are pleased to announce that from 1 September 2023, the HPV vaccine programme will change from a two dose to a one dose HPV vaccine schedule. This is because the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has advised that a [one dose HPV vaccine schedule has shown to be just as effective as 2 doses](#) at providing protection from HPV infection.

- Those who have started their HPV vaccination schedule and have already received one dose of the vaccine will be considered fully vaccinated.
- Those who have not yet received any HPV vaccinations will be eligible to receive one dose of the HPV vaccine.
- For any children/young people who are known to be immunosuppressed or living with HIV at the time of vaccination please contact us so we can advise.

Kind regards

**School-aged Immunisation Team**

## Frequently asked questions:

### What is HPV?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the name of a very common group of viruses.

Read about them here: [Human papillomavirus \(HPV\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/human-papillomavirus/hpv/)

### What does the HPV vaccine do?

The HPV vaccine helps protect your child from being infected by the human papillomavirus. This virus increases the risk of developing some cancers later in life, such as:

- Cervical cancer
- Some mouth and throat cancers
- Some cancers of the anus and genital areas

Find out more about this: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine/>

### Which vaccine do you use?

The HPV vaccine used in the NHS programme is now Gardasil 9. Information on Gardasil 9 can be found by following this link <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/7330/pil>. If your child received Gardasil as dose one, it is safe to give Gardasil 9 as dose two and your child will not need to repeat dose one.

### I have a child in year 8- what do I need to do?

You will be sent a link to the consent form via your child's school in the spring term.

### I have a child in year 9,10 or 11- what do I need to do?

If you have completed a consent form for your child and they have received at least one dose then your child is considered fully vaccinated and you do not need to do anything more.

If you have completed a consent form for your child and they have not yet been vaccinated they will receive one dose from us and be considered fully vaccinated. You do not need to do anything more.

### I have not previously completed a consent form (year 9, 10 and 11)- what do I need to do?

Please contact us by email or phone.

**For further information about self-consent please go to:**

[Consent to treatment - Children and young people - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/self-consent/)

**The Complete UK Immunisation Schedule can be found here:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-complete-routine-immunisation-schedule>

Vaccination saves lives and is the most important thing we can do to protect ourselves and our children against ill health. **Is your child up to date with their routine childhood vaccinations?** Please contact us using the details above if your child is outstanding any vaccinations.

