

#### Is your child up to date with immunisations?

## Why are vaccinations important?

Immunisation's are a way of protecting against serious diseases. Once we've been immunised, our bodies are better able to fight these diseases if we come into contact with them. It remains important for children to be immunised.

#### How to consent?

Schools will be sent an electronic link or a paper copy to pass onto parents/guardians. Paper copies will need to be returned to school. The form requires to be completed even if it is a refusal.

# Secondary school based immunisation programmes

Year 8 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) First dose. This is also given to boys.

Year 9 Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Second Dose (Minimum 26 weeks apart).

Year 9 Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP) and Meningitis (ACWY). Meningitis ACWY travel immunisation certificates can be issued upon request. The DTP teenage/school leaver booster vaccine is called Revaxis. The ACWY vaccine is called Nimenrix.

#### DTP/ACWY/HPV

### What is Diphtheria?

Diphtheria is a serious disease that usually begins with a sore throat and can quickly cause breathing problems. It can damage the heart and nervous system, and in severe cases, it can kill.

## What is Tetanus?

Tetanus is a painful disease affecting the nervous system which can lead to muscle spasms, cause breathing problems and can kill. It is caused when germs found in soil gets into the body through open cuts or burns.

#### What is Polio?

Polio is a virus that attacks the nervous system which can cause paralysis of muscles. If it affects the chest muscles or the brain, polio can kill.

## What is Meningitis?

Meningitis is dangerous swelling of the lining around the brain and spinal cord. It can lead to life changing disabilities such as amputations, hearing loss, brain damage and scars.

## What is Human Papillomavirus?

HPV is a common infection and can be caught through intimate sexual contact. HPV increases the risks of developing certain cancers in later life.

For further information please visit: www.nhs.uk/vaccinations