



Circular 0043/2013

To
BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**Primary School Vaccination Programme and
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) Vaccination Catch up
Campaign in 2013/2014.**

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has asked the Department of Education and Skills to circulate to the Principals of recognised schools the attached letter to inform schools of the HSE primary school vaccination programme for the 2013/2014 school year.

The Minister for Education and Skills acknowledges the continued support by school management in preventing and responding to public health concerns.

Further information about the vaccinations contained in the school vaccination programme 2013/14 is available at www.immunisation.ie and the HSE dedicated website www.hpv.ie. The Department's website www.education.ie under National Emergencies/Public Health will provide a link to the HSE websites

TOM DEEGAN
PRINCIPAL OFFICER

SEPTEMBER, 2013.

August 2013

Primary School Vaccination Programme 2013/2014

Dear Principal,

This letter is to inform you of the Health Service Executive (HSE) primary school vaccination programme in 2013/2014.

1. School vaccination programme

All children aged 4 -5 years of age should receive a booster dose of diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), polio and tetanus (the 4 in 1) vaccine and a second dose of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. To date these vaccines have been given by HSE vaccination teams in primary schools in most parts of the country and in the remainder by general practitioners in their surgeries.

As a review of data from Ireland and from other countries strongly suggests that provision of vaccines through school based programmes results in significantly greater vaccine uptake, most areas will provide a school based service for these routine vaccines in 2013/2014 (see overleaf for more details).

2. MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) Vaccination Catch up Campaign

As part of Ireland's commitment to the World Health Organization's European measles elimination strategy the HSE has decided to offer a dose of MMR vaccine to all pupils in primary schools in 2013/2014. This is a one off campaign in response to large outbreaks of measles in Ireland and Europe. These outbreaks have occurred because some young people have not received the recommended two doses of MMR vaccine.

This catch up campaign will be delivered from September 2013 alongside the routine immunisation programme and may require additional time depending on the demand.

Information packs for these vaccination programmes are currently being prepared and will be distributed to schools in the coming weeks.

I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in the delivery of these vaccination programmes. The HSE vaccination teams will work with you to ensure these take place as efficiently as possible.

Should you or any parents require further information please visit www.immunisation.ie or contact your local immunisation office (phone numbers overleaf)

Yours sincerely



Dr Kevin Kelleher
Assistant National Director of Health and Well-Being - Health Protection, Health Promotion & Child Health
Medical Registration Number 19719

Contact phone numbers for HSE Local Health Immunisation Offices

Local Health Offices by county or area	Phone Number	
	4 in 1	MMR Catch up
Carlow	056 7784496 056 7784495	056 7784495 056 7784531
Cavan	049 4373149	049 4373149
Cavan - West Cavan	071 9155148	071 9155148
Clare	065 6868022	065 6868022 065 6868039
Cork - North Cork	022 58700	022 58736
Cork - North Lee	021 4273087	021 4921775
Cork - South Lee	021 4923214	021 4923214
Cork - West Cork	028 40419	028 40419
Donegal - Buncrana	074 9361044	074 9361044
Donegal - Dungloe	074 9521343	074 9521343
Donegal - Letterkenny	074 9123753	074 9123753
Donegal – Donegal Town	074 9721074	074 9721074
Dublin North (areas covered Artane(part), Coolock, Darndale, Edenmore, Raheny, Kilbarrack, Howth, Sutton, Baldoyle, Portmarnock, Malahide, Swords, Lusk, Rush, Skerries, Balbriggan and Naul)	01 8164259	01 8164259
Dublin North Central (areas covered Ballymun, Drumcondra, Whitehall, North inner City, Fairview, Clontarf and Donnycarney)	01 8467289 01 8467097	01 8467289 01 8467097
Dublin North West (areas covered Cabra, Phibsborough, Finglas, (Part) Glasnevin, Castleknock, Blanchardstown, Mulhuddart and Smithfield)	01 8975139	01 8975100
Dublin South (areas covered Dun Laoghaire, Blackrock, Stillorgan, Cabinteely, Foxrock, Dalkey, Shankill and Loughlinstown)	01 2365248	01 2365246 01 2365244 01 2365247
Dublin South City (areas covered South Inner City, Ringsend, Rathmines, Terenure, Churchtown and Rathfarnham)	086 3837416	01 4156501
Dublin South East (areas covered Baggot St, Ranelagh, Donnybrook, Dundrum, Churchtown, Ballinteer Leopardstown and Sandyford)	01 2680419	01 2680419
Dublin South West (areas covered Crumlin, Drimnagh, Tallaght, Templeogue and Firhouse)	01 4141390	01 4141390 01 4141393
Dublin West (areas covered Clondalkin, Ballyfermot, Palmerstown, Lucan, Inchicore and Rathcoole)	01 6206313 01 6206461	01 6206313 01 6206461
Galway	091 546180	091 546180
Kerry	066 7195682 066 7195683	066 7195683
Kildare	045 907929 045 907935	045 907937 045 907938
Kilkenny	056 7784496 056 7784495	056 7784495 056 7784531
Laois	057 9359559	057 8692500
Leitrim	061 483990	071 9155148
Limerick	061 483058	061 483935
Limerick - East Limerick	071 9155148	061 483058
Longford	044 9395076	043 3339705
Louth	042 9332287	042 9332287
Mayo	094 9042218	094 9042217
Meath	046 9021595	046 9021595
Monaghan	047 30484	047 30484
Offaly	057 9359559	057 9359544
Roscommon	090 6637545	090 6637545

Local Health Offices by county or area	Phone Number	
	4 in 1	MMR Catch up
Sligo	071 9155148	071 9155148
Tipperary - North Tipperary	067 46416	067 46416
	067 46410	067 46410
Tipperary - South Tipperary	052 6177329	052 6177329
Waterford	051 846772	051 8462909
	051 846705	051 842964
Westmeath	044 9395076	044 9395076
		090 6477115
Wexford	053 9243290	053 9243290
		053 9243289
Wicklow	0404 60643	0404 60643
		0404 60691
Wicklow - West Wicklow (areas covered Baltinglass, Blessington and Dunlavin)	045 907929	045 907937
		045 907935

Primary Schools Immunisation Programme Schedule 2013/2014

Immunisations	Recommended Age	Target Population	Delivery of Vaccinations 2013/2014
4 in 1 + MMR2 (MMR1 given at 12 months)	4 to 5 years (2 injections)	65,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSE delivered to children in junior infants in 30 LHOs (Local Health Offices) GP delivered in 2 LHOs*
MMR catch-up 2013/2014	Age 4-12 years (1 injection)	500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSE delivered to children in senior infants to sixth class.

* Donegal and Sligo /Leitrim

Please note that for vaccination sessions to take place the HSE teams will require

- Use of a large room such as a hall/indoor sports court. In choosing this area it would be very useful if there was a separate entrance and exit.
- Hand-washing facilities
- Tables and chairs for vaccinating teams (depending on size of school and vaccinating team)
- Chairs or mats for one class of students at any one time
- A liaison member of staff or a designated student to call students from class at the appropriate time for vaccination and return them to class in an orderly way after vaccination