



Circular 0044/2013

**To**  
BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT OF POST-PRIMARY  
SCHOOLS AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF EDUCATIONAL TRAINING  
BOARDS

## **School Vaccination Programme 2013/14**

### **HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine**

### **Tdap (Tetanus low dose diphtheria, pertussis) (Whooping Cough) Vaccine**

### **MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) Vaccination Catch up.**

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 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](http://www.immunisation.ie) and the HSE dedicated website [www.hpv.ie](http://www.hpv.ie). The Department's website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie) under National Emergencies/Public Health will provide a link to the HSE websites

TOM DEEGAN  
PRINCIPAL OFFICER

SEPTEMBER, 2013.

August 2013

## School Vaccination Programme 2013/2014

Dear Principal,

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

### 1. School vaccination programme

#### ◆ HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine

In September 2013 the routine HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccination programme will commence for all girls in 1<sup>st</sup> year. The final year of the catch up HPV programme will also take place for all girls in 6<sup>th</sup> year who have not already been vaccinated. (Girls in 6th year now who did not do Transition year were already offered HPV vaccine in the schools programme when they were in second year in 2010/2011).

All girls require three doses of HPV vaccine with a two month interval between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose and a four month interval between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> doses. As in previous years the HSE vaccination teams will make arrangements to provide the vaccinations three times on agreed dates in September, November and March. It is important for girls to receive all three doses for the vaccine to be fully effective.

The target uptake of 80% for the three dose schedule was exceeded in 2011/2012 with a national uptake of 85% demonstrating the effectiveness of a school based programme.

#### ◆ Tdap (Tetanus low dose diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine

The Tdap (Tetanus low dose diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine was introduced nationally in 2012/2013 and is recommended for all 1<sup>st</sup> year students. This programme will continue in 2013/2014.

Tdap vaccine may be given at the same time as one of the HPV doses for girls. The Tdap vaccine is of particular public health importance due to the large number of pertussis (whooping cough) cases.

### 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 and in response to large outbreaks of measles in Ireland and Europe the

HSE offered a dose of MMR vaccine to all students in second level schools in 2012/2013 as a one off campaign.


In 2013/2014 this campaign will be extended to primary schools and will also be offered to all 1<sup>st</sup> year students, who were in sixth class of primary school last year. MMR vaccine may be given with Tdap vaccine for boys and /or one of the doses of HPV vaccine for girls.

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 for your cooperation in the delivery of the successful vaccination programmes in previous years. The HSE vaccination teams will continue to work with you to ensure vaccination sessions this year take place as efficiently as possible.

Should you or any parents require further information please visit [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie) or [www.hpv.ie](http://www.hpv.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

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

**Contact phone numbers for HSE Immunisation Offices**

<b>Local Health Offices by county or area</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
<b>Carlow</b>	056 7784495 or 056 7784531
<b>Cavan</b>	049 4373149
<b>Cavan - West Cavan</b>	071 9155148
<b>Clare</b>	065 6868022 or 065 6868039
<b>Cork - North Cork</b>	022 58736
<b>Cork - North Lee</b>	021 4921775
<b>Cork - South Lee</b>	021 4923214
<b>Cork - West Cork</b>	028 40419
<b>Donegal - Buncrana</b>	074 9361044
<b>Donegal - Dungloe</b>	074 9521343
<b>Donegal - Letterkenny</b>	074 9123753
<b>Donegal - Donegal Town</b>	074 9721074
<b>Dublin North</b> (areas covered Artane(part), Coolock, Darndale, Edenmore, Raheny, Kilbarrack, Howth, Sutton, Baldoyle, Portmarnock, Malahide, Swords, Lusk, Rush, Skerries, Balbriggan and Naul)	01 8164259
<b>Dublin North Central</b> (areas covered Ballymun, Drumcondra, Whitehall, North inner City, Fairview, Clontarf and Donnyearney)	01 8467289 or 01 8467097
<b>Dublin North West</b> (areas covered Cabra, Phibsborough, Finglas, (Part) Glasnevin, Castleknock, Blanchardstown, Mulhuddert and Smithfield)	01 8975100
<b>Dublin South</b> (areas covered Dun Laoghaire, Blackrock, Stillorgan, Cabinteely, Foxrock, Dalkey, Shankill and Loughlinstown)	01 2365246 or 01 2365244 or 01 2365247
<b>Dublin South City</b> (areas covered South Inner City, Ringsend, Rathmines, Terenure, Churchtown and Rathfarnham)	01 4156501
<b>Dublin South East</b> (areas covered Baggot St, Ranelagh, Donnybrook, Dundrum, Churchtown, Ballinteer Leopardstown and Sandyford)	01 2680419
<b>Dublin South West</b> (areas covered Crumlin, Drimnagh, Tallaght, Templeogue and Firhouse)	01 4141390 or 01 4141393
<b>Dublin West</b> (areas covered Clondalkin, Ballyfermot, Palmerstown, Lucan, Inchicore and Rathcoole)	01 6206313 or 01 6206461
<b>Galway</b>	091 546180
<b>Kerry</b>	066 7195683
<b>Kildare</b>	045 907937 or 045 907938
<b>Kilkenny</b>	056 7784495 or 056 7784531
<b>Laois</b>	057 8692500
<b>Leitrim</b>	071 9155148
<b>Limerick</b>	061 483935
<b>Limerick - East Limerick</b>	061 483058
<b>Longford</b>	043 3339705
<b>Louth</b>	042 9332287
<b>Mayo</b>	094 9042217
<b>Meath</b>	046 9021595
<b>Monaghan</b>	047 30484
<b>Offaly</b>	057 9359544
<b>Roscommon</b>	090 6637545
<b>Sligo</b>	071 9155148
<b>Tipperary - North Tipperary</b>	067 46416 or 067 46410
<b>Tipperary - South Tipperary</b>	052 6177329
<b>Waterford</b>	051 8462909 or 051 842964
<b>Westmeath</b>	044 9395076 or 090 6477115
<b>Wexford</b>	053 9243290 or 053 9243289
<b>Wicklow</b>	0404 60643 or 0404 60691
<b>Wicklow - West Wicklow</b> (areas covered Baltinglass, Blessington and Dunlavin)	045 907937 or 045 907938