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4th. March 2021

Deputy Alan Kelly TD Dail Eireann Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ 12365/21:.To ask the Minister for Health the status of the HPV vaccine programme in view of ongoing school closures; the plans in place to ensure its continuation for first years in 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The above PQ has been forwarded to my Department for direct response to you on same.

We are trying to manage both the pre-existing programme and the COVID vaccination programme. The existing programme in the schools had ceased as the schools were closed. That has allowed us to concentrate on the COVID programme. However with the re-opening of schools we will aim to start up the schools programme and continue into the Summer. This will allow for a catch-up both in the schools and the Summer holidays.

I trust this clarification will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

DR. KEVIN KELLEHER, FFPHM, FFPHMI ASSISTANT NATIONAL DIRECTOR –PUBLIC HEALTH/CHILD HEALTH OFFICE OF CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER Medical registration number 19719