

Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County Bainisteoir Ginearálta Cúram Príomhuil Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath Saoráid Cúram Sláinte Bhaile Munna Baile Munna, Baile Átha Cliath 9.

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General Manager Primary Care Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County Ballymun Healthcare Facility Ballymun, Dublin 9.

Ms Mary Lou McDonald TD. Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

12th April 2022

PQ 17122/22 - To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the challenges facing parents and guardians of children living in Dublin 1 trying to access school vaccination programmes now currently provided for in Swords, County Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mary Lou McDonald

PQ 17123/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the plans that are in place to ensure that children living in Dublin 1 that are unable to access school vaccination programmes in Swords, County Dublin will be able to receive their vaccines; and if he will make a statement on the matter.-Mary Lou McDonald

Dear Deputy McDonald,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) Public Health Nursing Services Primary Care have advised that some Public Health Nursing teams in CHO DNCC are currently redeployed to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

Given this pressure on resources, the Centralised School Vaccination Programme currently underway at Swords Vaccination Centre has been designed to ensure a maximum offer and uptake of Diphtheria, Polio, Tetanus and Whooping Cough (4 in 1) and Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccinations for junior school pupils, as well as the Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (HPV) for 1st year students in secondary schools across the CHO.

We are conscious that some schools may have a low vaccine uptake in Swords Vaccination Centre, due to factors such as geographical location or DEIS status. Our intention is to run local targeted clinics for any students who cannot attend the vaccination centre or where possible attend schools that have displayed low attendance rates. On completion of this round of vaccinations, and when the redeployment of key immunisation staff to the CVCs is no longer required, we will then be in a position to turn our attention to these targeted clinics.



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I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Forde

General Manager Primary Care

Mechale Sonda