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2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023

Deputy Smith  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: To ask the Minister for Health if special schools are included in the HSE's schools vaccination programme; if so, if all three vaccines under the schools vaccination programme are administered in special schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Duncan Smith**

**To ask the Minister for Health the provisions that are put in place if a particular special school does not offer the HSE's vaccination programme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Duncan Smith**

Dear Deputy Smith,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

I can confirm Special schools are included in the HSE School Vaccination Programmes. The programme aims to vaccinate on an annual basis;

- All four to five year olds with MMR and 4 in 1 vaccines by targeting students in junior infants of primary schools for the 2022/2023 academic year and age equivalent in special schools (i.e. born between 01/09/2017 and 31/08/2018) or aged 6 years and home schooled (i.e. born between 01/09/2016 and 31/08/2017).
- All 12 to 13 year olds with Tdap, MenACWY and HPV9 vaccines by targeting students in first year in second level schools for the 2022/2023 academic year and age equivalent students born between 01/09/2009 and 31/08/2010 in special schools and home schooled students.

Schools who are unable to accommodate the school vaccinate teams on their premises are requested to work with the HSE School Vaccination Teams to make parents aware of an alternative vaccination location which can be a CVC or HSE vaccination clinic.

Information about the school vaccination programmes is available from [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie)

Yours sincerely,

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