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September 2024

**Re: School Vaccination Programme for Junior Infants**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In this pack you will read information about your child's vaccinations. Please read the information, complete the consent form and return it in the provided envelope.

**What vaccines will your child receive in school?**

The HSE school vaccination team will visit schools during the school year to offer free booster doses of the following vaccines:

- **4 in 1** vaccine which protects against diphtheria, polio, tetanus and whooping cough (pertussis)
- **MMR** vaccine which protects against measles, mumps and rubella

**Why are these vaccines important?**

These vaccines protect your child from seven different infections.

Measles is circulating in Ireland, so it is important to protect your child with the MMR booster vaccine. Whooping cough (Pertussis) is also circulating at higher levels than normal. The 4 in 1 vaccine protect against Whooping cough (Pertussis) and three other infections including Diphtheria, Polio and tetanus.

**How many doses does your child needs to receive?**

Your child needs to receive one dose of 4 in 1 vaccine and one dose of MMR vaccine.  
The nurse or doctor will give one injection in each arm.

**When will the visits take place?**

The HSE school vaccination team will visit schools during the school year. The school will know the date when the vaccinations are due to take place.

**What does this pack contain?**

- Information leaflets about the vaccines and the diseases they prevent.
- A consent form for vaccination.
- Please complete consent form.
- Return this form in the envelope provided before the vaccinations begin.
- This form must be completed in BLOCK CAPITALS in pen and signed by the parent or legal guardian.

**What can you do to help on the day of vaccination?**

On the day of vaccination, please make sure your child:

- Eats breakfast.
- Wears a loose fitting short sleeved top.
- Brings their immunisation record card/immunisation passport to school, if they have one.

If you have any questions, members of the school vaccination team are happy to help. The contact numbers for the vaccination teams are available on [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie) where you will also find more information about this programme.

Yours sincerely,

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