

## **Beating Cervical Cancer**

## **HPV School Based Vaccination Programme**

**Dear Head Teacher:** 

## We are about to start the 14<sup>th</sup> year of the successful HPV vaccination programme and will be contacting your school very shortly to offer you a date for the year 8 and year 9 students to be given the opportunity to have this course of vaccinations.

The HPV vaccination programme in the UK consists of 2 doses of the vaccine, which is started before the child's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. All children will be offered their first dose in year 8 and a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose a minimum of 24 weeks later: this may not be in the same academic year.

As you will be aware, this programme was cancelled last year due to the pandemic, so we will be giving the year 8 pupils their first does and the year 9 pupils their 2<sup>nd</sup> and final dose April – June 2021.

We plan to work in partnership with you to make this as seamless as possible for school, pupils and the immunisation team to ensure the young people are offered and given this vaccination during these difficult times.

Previously we would have offered an assembly to give the young people and yourselves as much information as we could about the programme. We appreciate that this is currently not possible.

We can supply a power-point to school that you may be able to share with the young people, if you would find that helpful.

Alternatively, the children and young people and their families will be given the link to the Immunisation page website and the NHS choices website where they can find more information. These links are on the consent forms.

If you could share these via your school web-page / electronic communications network, that would be greatly appreciated.

https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-services/immunisations/

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine/



As a Trust we are also improving our use of technology and are currently developing the use of e-consents (some of you may have already been involved with this process). Our staff will continue to link in closely with you as we roll it out across all campaigns.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with you to keep our young population protected from vaccine preventable diseases.

Yours sincerely

School Based Immunisation Team