

School Immunisation Team
Meningitis ACWY Vaccination

Dear Parents/Guardians

As a result of a continuing increase in the number of cases of Meningococcal W (MenW) disease over recent years, a catch-up programme offering a MenACWY vaccination to all year 11 students in schools is starting from September 2015. Your child is eligible to receive this single vaccine in school as part of this school-based programme for year 11 students. **This is in addition to the meningitis C Vaccination they were offered last year.** The vaccination date will be arranged by the School Immunisation Team directly with the school and will be scheduled for the Spring Term.

Older teenagers and young adults are more at risk of getting meningitis and septicaemia from MenW. Meningococcal bacteria can cause meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning). Both diseases are very serious and can kill, especially if not diagnosed early.

The most common side effects include redness, tenderness or swelling at the injection site, drowsiness, fever, fatigue, nausea, muscle aches or headache.

With this letter is a consent form and information leaflet. Please ensure that you return the signed consent form to school as soon as possible; there is a section to sign even if you do not wish your child to receive the vaccine. Please note, that by your giving consent, you are agreeing to your child's electronic health record being updated by CCS NHS Trust, and your GP being notified.

If you need further information regarding the vaccinations please contact the Suffolk Immunisation Team: Tel: 01473 599140 or email: ccs-tr.suffolkimmsteam@nhs.net .. Further information can be found online by searching 'childhood vaccinations' at: www.nhs.uk.

Yours faithfully

Nicky Srahan
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