

School Immunisation Team

**Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio Vaccination and 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, the MenACWY vaccine is replacing the routine MenC vaccine that is offered to year 10 students in schools starting from September 2015. Your child is eligible to receive this vaccine as part of this school-based programme for year 10 students. At the same time as receiving this vaccination, your child will receive their final, routine 'teenage booster' of Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio, which was previously only available through GPs. One injection will be given in each arm.

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 of the vaccinations 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 Suffolk Immunisation Team: Tel: 01473 599140 or email: [ccs-tr.suffolkimmsteam@nhs.net](mailto:ccs-tr.suffolkimmsteam@nhs.net) . Further information can be found online by searching 'childhood vaccinations' at: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk).

Yours faithfully



Nicky Srahan  
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