

April 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

**The HPV vaccination is a 2-dose course. The 1<sup>st</sup> dose is delivered in School Year 8 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose is delivered 12 months later in School Year 9.**

**The first dose of HPV vaccine is now being offered to all 12 and 13 year-old pupils in school Year 8 throughout March and the summer term.**

### **What is the HPV vaccination?**

Please read the leaflet enclosed which will provide you with further information about the virus and the vaccination. Further information can be found on <https://www.nhs.uk/hpv>

The Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine has been part of the national immunisation programme since 2008. The vaccine, called Gardasil®, (which protects against HPV types 6,11,16,18), is the same vaccine that has been used for the girls' programme since its introduction in 2008. This vaccine protects against HPV-related cancers.

### **Who is it for?**

Since September 2019 the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine is offered to boys and girls, as part of the routine School Aged Immunisation programme in England. This follows the government's announcement in July 2018 to include HPV vaccination of boys. It is recommended for girls and boys aged 12-13 years because the vaccination works best if they receive it before an infection occurs. The first HPV vaccination is given in Year 8 and the second dose is given in Year 9.

### **What are the benefits?**

Over 80 million people have received the vaccine worldwide. In time it is expected that the vaccine will save hundreds of lives every year in the UK. Australia has been vaccinating both boys and girls since 2013 and the United States since 2011. HPV vaccine is not routinely available from your GP. By having the HPV vaccine, they will be protecting themselves and others from a very serious disease later in life.



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## **How can I find out more?**

If you require any further information, please contact the School Aged Immunisation Service on:

**Email:** [snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-PORTS@nhs.net](mailto:snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-PORTS@nhs.net)

We would urge you to sign the consent form and bring it into school as soon as possible. Even if you decide not to get your child vaccinated please return the form to the School Aged Immunisation Nurses who can record this on your child's records.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Jolly

**Clinical Team Lead School Aged Immunisation Service**

All information and results will be treated confidentially: your child's information will not be shared with other parents or children. The record of your child's immunisations will be stored locally but made anonymous at national level. This information will then be used within the NHS to help us understand and plan interventions. Solent NHS work closely with your child's school to ensure the safe delivery of the school-based immunisation programme.