



**Leicestershire Partnership**  
NHS Trust

A university teaching and research-active Trust

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**DATE AT FOREST WAY: 16 APRIL 2024**

Dear Parent / Carer and Young Person,

### **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to protect against various cancers**

We are offering all young people in school year 8 (aged 12 to 13 years), the chance to have an important vaccination that helps to protect from the human papillomavirus (HPV). This is a common virus that increases the risk of developing some cancers in males and females. Cancers caused by the HPV virus include cervical cancer, some mouth and throat cancers, as well as some cancers of the anus and genital areas.

HPV infection is very common and more than 70% of unvaccinated people will get it. HPV is spread through skin-to-skin contact. There are many different strains of HPV; most of which are harmless, but some do not clear up and can lead to cancer or cause genital warts.

The HPV vaccine is **free, safe and effective**. Since the vaccine has been used, there has been a big drop in the number of people getting conditions linked to HPV and research suggests the by giving the HPV vaccine from this early age will help to save thousands of lives in the UK. The best way to be protected against HPV-related cancers in the future is by having the vaccine in school. It is given quickly into the upper arm, and only need one dose to be given. Please note these vaccines do not contain any gelatine or alcohol. To find out more visit: [tiny.cc/hpvleaflet](http://tiny.cc/hpvleaflet)

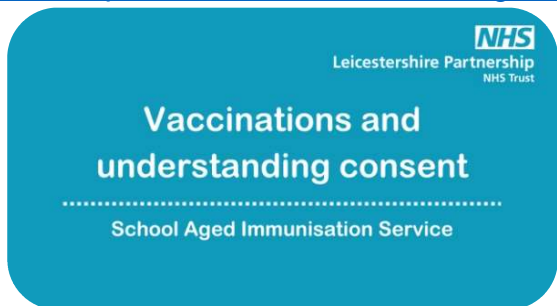
### **Important change about the consent process: the young person can now consent for the vaccines.**

If we do not receive a parental or carer consent decision for the vaccinations, using the below process, we may allow the young person to self-consent to the vaccination on the day. We will only offer this opportunity to young people in year 8 and above, who have read the appropriate vaccination information and who are assessed by a health professional as having enough understanding to fully appreciate what's involved. Only those clearly comfortable in receiving the immunisation will have it.

If parents or carers have responded and refused consent, the decision cannot be overruled by a young person, and we will not vaccinate. As always, we encourage young people and their parents and carers to have a conversation about the vaccination on offer and to fill out the form together.

More information about consent can be found on:

[www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/schoolagedimms](http://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/schoolagedimms) or you can watch these videos below:



**Vaccinations and understanding consent**

[tiny.cc/vaccinationsandconsent](http://tiny.cc/vaccinationsandconsent)



**Our Clinical Lead explains self-consent**

[tiny.cc/selfconsent](http://tiny.cc/selfconsent)

You can also let us know if you do not want the young person to be vaccinated.

## How to give your consent decision for the vaccination

- Make a note of the code for your school. For **Forest Way School** the school code is **LE137905**
- Visit [www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk](http://www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk) or scan the QR code using your smartphone camera to go straight to the website.
- Select **Human Papillomavirus (HPV)** and enter the school code.
- On the consent decision page, please select:
  - I want the young person to have the vaccination.
  - I do not want the young person to have the vaccination.
- You will receive a confirmation email when the form is submitted.



If you are unable to complete the form online, please call us on **0300 3000 007** or email [lpt.sais@nhs.net](mailto:lpt.sais@nhs.net) with your contact details. If you change your mind about your consent decision, please call us on the number above to change it.

Your school will let you know when the vaccination session will take place. **The consent system will close one working day before the vaccination session.** You will not be able to submit a consent form on the day.

Yours sincerely,

School Aged Immunisation Service

# How does the HPV vaccine work?

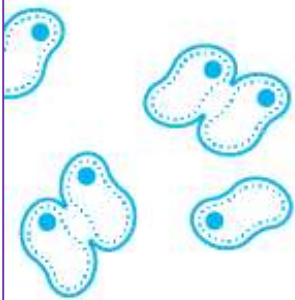
Without vaccine 



Person with human papilloma virus (HPV)



High-risk types of HPV can damage DNA



This can cause cells to divide and grow out of control



This can lead to cancer

With vaccine 



Vaccination provides protection against the main types of high-risk HPV – HPV16 and HPV18.



Person is not infected with HPV 16/18



Less chance of cells being damaged



We will see fewer cancer cases

By protecting against HPV infection, we can help prevent cell changes and reduce the risk of cancer.

Together we will beat cancer



CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK

## Frequently asked questions

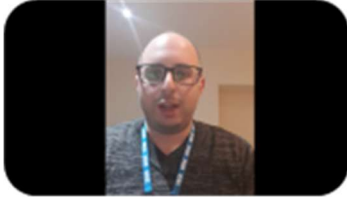
What vaccine is being offered?	The vaccine for HPV is Gardasil9. These vaccines <b>do not contain any gelatine or alcohol.</b>
Why is this being offered right now?	The best time to have the HPV vaccine is before a young person becomes sexually active. This ensures the vaccine will deliver the most effective protection throughout their lives. Even if a young person is sexually active, it is still strongly recommended they have the vaccine.
What are the side effects?	Like all medicines, this vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Young people may develop a slight redness on the injection site. For more information, please read the vaccine product leaflets.
Where can I read the vaccine product leaflet?	Visit: <a href="https://tiny.cc/hpvpil">tiny.cc/hpvpil</a>
Can I have this information in a video format?	Listen to one of our nurses talk about the vaccination: <a href="https://tiny.cc/hpvinfo">tiny.cc/hpvinfo</a> 
How can the young person prepare for the vaccinations?	Watch our animation for the HPV vaccine: <a href="https://tiny.cc/HPVanimation">tiny.cc/HPVanimation</a> 
The young person is scared of needles, is there any support available?	You can include this information on your consent form and our team will do the best to support. This video may help reassure young people about their vaccination experience: <a href="https://tiny.cc/reassurance">tiny.cc/reassurance</a> – there is also this video: <a href="https://tiny.cc/toptipsforvaccinations">tiny.cc/toptipsforvaccinations</a>
It says the email addresses don't match or it doesn't recognise the school code.	Make sure there are no spaces or punctuation before or after the email address and the school code.
What if the young person is absent or unwell on the session day?	An additional opportunity will be made available for the vaccination.

What's the national vaccination programme?

Visit: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations) to find out more.

You can also learn about the vaccination in other languages:

[tiny.cc/hpvinfotranslations](http://tiny.cc/hpvinfotranslations)



If you would like this information in another language, visit:

[www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/schoolagedimms](http://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/schoolagedimms)

Arabic

ذا كنت ترغب في قراءة هذه الرسالة بلغة أخرى، قم بزيارة موقعنا على الإنترنت

Gujarati

જો તમે આ પત્ર ગુજરાતીમાં વાંચવા માંગતા હો તો અમારી વેબસાઇટ પર જાઓ

Polish

Jeśli chcesz przeczytać ten list w innym języku, przejdź na naszą stronę.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਪੜ੍ਹਨਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਸਾਡੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਜਾਓ

Somali

Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd inaad ku akhrido warqadan luuqad kale, booqo boggayaga internetka

Urdu

اگر آپ اردو میں یہ خط پڑھنا چاہتے ہیں تو ہماری ویب سائٹ پر جائیں۔

Ukrainian

Якщо ви хотіли б прочитати цей лист іншою мовою, відвідайте