

Somerset SAINT  
(School Aged Children Immunisation Nursing Team)

Tel: 0300 3230032

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Protecting against HPV (human papillomavirus vaccine) infection and reducing the risk of cancer. This year we will be offering the HPV Vaccination to all students in school years 8, 9 & 10 due to previous school closures during the pandemic**

We are writing to tell you about the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine which has been offered to all girls in school year 8 for over ten years. From September 2019 the vaccine has also be offered to year 8 boys. This is because the evidence is clear that the HPV vaccine helps protect both boys and girls from HPV-related cancers.

The vaccine is given as two separate vaccinations given a year apart. For further information about the HPV vaccination please visit -

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine.aspx>

The vaccination may be given in your child's school or in a community setting by experienced immunisation nurses, following all the latest Public Health guidance regarding PPE.

**Year 8 Information**

For this vaccination to take place we require a consent form for your child to be completed, this consent form will be valid for your child to receive both doses of the HPV vaccine. The first dose will be administered in year 8 and the second in year 9. To complete a consent form for your child please follow the below link.

**Year 9 Information**

If you have previously completed a consent form for your child to receive their HPV vaccinations and they have received their 1<sup>st</sup> dose with Somerset SAINT, the existing consent form will remain valid for the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. **Please do not complete another consent form.**

If your child has not yet received their 1<sup>st</sup> HPV vaccination. This can still be accessed at school please complete a consent form by using the below link.

**Year 10 Information**

If you have previously completed a consent form for your child to receive their HPV vaccinations and they have received their 1<sup>st</sup> dose with Somerset SAINT, the existing consent form will remain valid for the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. **Please do not complete another consent form.**

If your child has not yet received their 1<sup>st</sup> HPV vaccination. This can still be accessed at school please complete a consent form by using the below link.

Please note that young people over the age of 15 years old who have not yet received their 1<sup>st</sup> dose will require 3 doses of the HPV vaccination in line with NHS England guidelines, 1<sup>st</sup> doses can be administered in school further doses will need to be accessed via your GP. For further information please visit <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine.aspx>

### **Information for all**

**HPV Consent form link**      <https://saint.somersetft.nhs.uk/hpv/2021/west>

If your child is in Year 8 up to and including Year 11 you will shortly receive a separate consent form to complete for the COVID vaccination. If you give consent for your child to receive both the HPV and COVID vaccines, please note these will be co-administered during the same school-based vaccination session. Each vaccine is consented **separately** so that families can consent for one, both or neither vaccine independently.

### **Please complete the consent form even if you do not consent to the vaccination.**

The consent form can only be completed by someone with parental responsibility, if you have any queries about whether or not you hold parental responsibility and are therefore able to complete the consent form please contact the immunisation team by email at [SomersetSaint@somersetft.nhs.uk](mailto:SomersetSaint@somersetft.nhs.uk).

There is an expectation that the immunisation team will only visit your child's school once during this programme, although community based catch up sessions for children will be offered at some point in the future (dates/times to be confirmed).

If your child has already received their HPV vaccinations only via another route, then please inform us so that we can update our database. If you would not like your child to receive the HPV vaccine, please complete a form to indicate this so that we can update your child's records to reflect this choice.

Yours sincerely

Somerset SAINT



**outstanding care  
listening and leading  
working together**

Chairman: Colin Drummond OBE DL  
Chief Executive: Peter Lewis