

Immunisation Service

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January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

13th March 2019 - Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) and Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio (Td/IPV) Vaccinations

As your child is in Year 9 the Immunisation Team in KCHFT would like to invite your son/daughter to receive the MenACWY and Td/IPV vaccinations.

MenACWY vaccination helps to protect your child against four types of meningococcal bacteria (groups A, C, W and Y) that can cause meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning) and can kill. Cases of meningococcal W disease ("MenW") in England have increased significantly in recent years.

Tetanus is a painful disease affecting the nervous system which can lead to muscle spasms, cause breathing problems and can kill. It is caused when germs in soil and manure get into the body through open cuts and wounds, it cannot be passed from person to person.

Diphtheria is a serious disease that usually begins with a sore throat and can quickly lead to breathing problems. It can damage the heart and nervous system, it can kill.

Polio is a virus that attacks the nervous system which can cause permanent paralysis of the muscles. If it affects the chest muscles or the brain it can kill.

Before **20th February 2019** please complete an online consent form by visiting our website www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms and clicking the link for Men ACWY and Td/IPV consent form. You can also find out more information about the vaccinations there.

Chairman David Griffiths Chief Executive Paul Bentley

Trust HQ The Oast, Unit D, Hermitage Court, Hermitage Lane, Barming, near Maidstone, Kent ME16 9NT

Please note that a young person can consent to an immunisation if they are deemed competent to do so. Further information about consent can also be found on our website.

If you require further information, would like paper copies of immunisation information leaflets or would like to speak with a member of the immunisation team please contact us on the phone number overleaf.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Burton', with a long, sweeping underline.

Catherine Burton
Head of School Public Health and Immunisation Service