

0-19 Public Health Nursing Service

Crookall House
Demesne Road
Douglas
Isle of Man
IM1 3QA

Email: HPVVaccinationEnquiries.DHSC@gov.im

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Invitation for the HPV vaccine in February 2024, offered to all Year 8 students in the Isle of Man
Protecting against Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection to help reduce the risk of cancer**

The HPV vaccine has been offered in school to all girls in Year 8 routinely since 2010 in the Isle of Man. From September 2019 the vaccine was introduced to all year 8s, both girls and boys. This is because the evidence is clear that the HPV vaccine helps protect both girls and boys from HPV-related cancers. Worldwide over 80 million people have received the vaccine and it is expected that this vaccine will save hundreds of lives every year in the UK.

The HPV vaccine helps protect against infection from the human papillomavirus (HPV). This virus increases the risk of developing some cancers later in life, such as:

- cervical cancer
- some mouth and throat cancers
- some cancers of the anus and genital areas.

In April 2023, a press release was published on various platforms to advise the public that those who are eligible to receive the HPV vaccination will now only require one dose rather than the previous two doses: <https://www.gov.im/news/2023/apr/28/changes-announced-for-routine-adolescent-hpv-vaccination-programme/>

Accompanying this letter is a link to the information leaflet and a link to the electronic consent form. Once the online consent form is completed you will receive a confirmation email.

We trust that the information provided addresses any concerns you or your child may have about the vaccination. You should feel confident that by having the HPV vaccine your child will be helping to protect themselves from serious disease later in life.

Please note that your child's HPV vaccine record will be shared with their GP. If your child has already had the HPV vaccine or you require more information please contact us via HPVVaccinationEnquiries.DHSC@gov.im

If you would like more details, please visit www.gov.im/hpv

If you do not wish for your child to receive the HPV vaccination you do not need to do anything. Please be reassured that we will only vaccinate children for whom we have received a completed consent form

Yours sincerely

Julie Price
0-19 Public Health Nursing Service Lead

