



Providing NHS services



IntraHealth



Who are we?

We are a team of nurses and administration assistants that provide Immunisations to children and young people in line with the national program.

- The Immunisations we provide in schools are:
 - Flu
 - HPV (Human papillomavirus)
 - Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio (3 in 1)
 - Meningitis ACWY



What do vaccines do?



Year 9 vaccines

In year 9 you will be offered 2 vaccines:

- The diphtheria, tetanus and polio vaccine (3 in 1)
This is a booster and boosts the protection you will have received from your baby/preschool Immunisations. Most people will have received 4 vaccines before they reached school age to protect them from these illnesses and require a booster in year 9.
- A meningitis vaccine (MenACWY) - this helps protect against life-threatening illnesses like meningitis and sepsis. It's offered to teenagers in school - but can be given up to the age of 25 if it's been missed.
- We also offer catch ups for children outstanding their HPV vaccine and MMR vaccines.



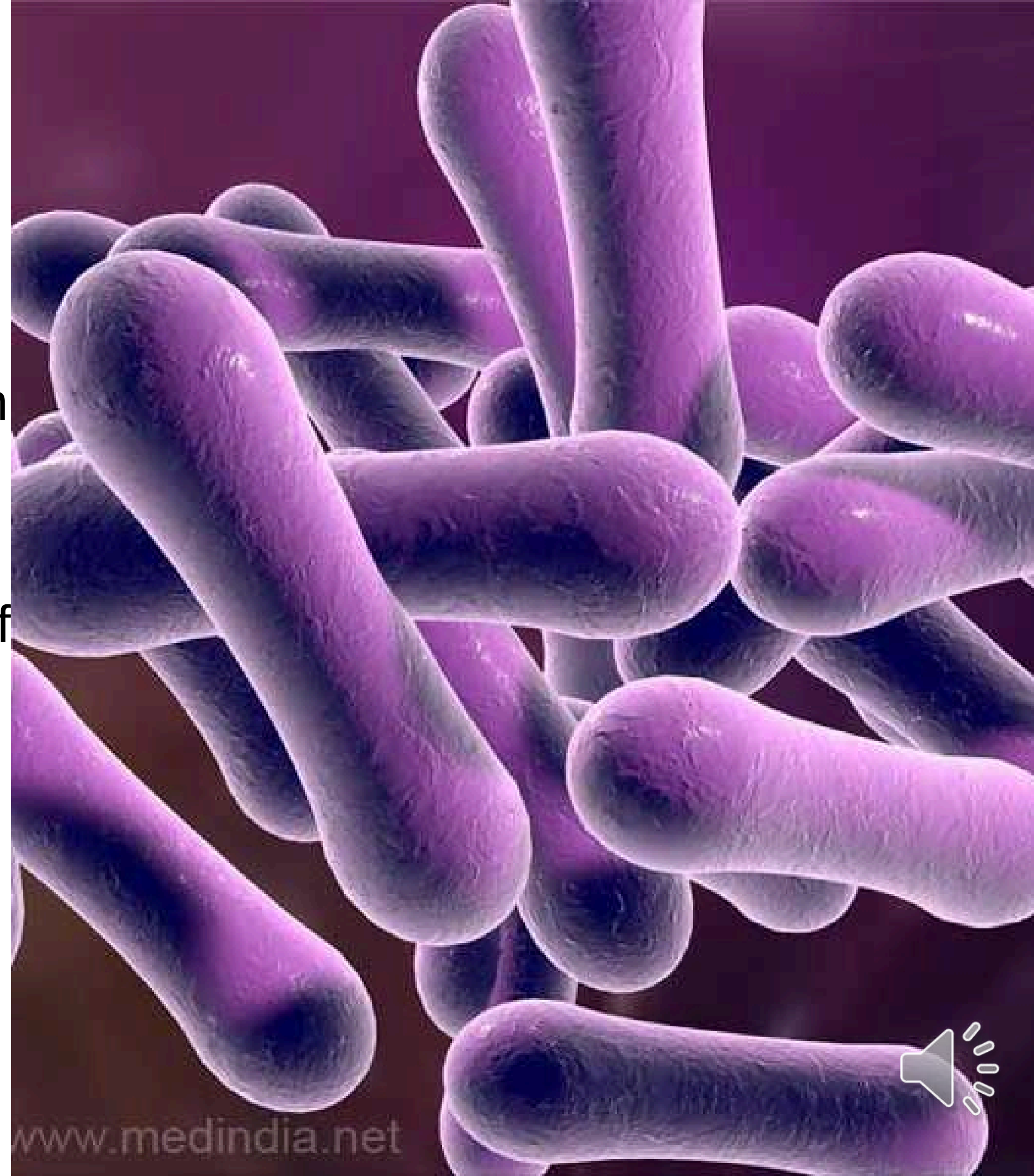
Tetanus

- › Tetanus is a serious, life-threatening condition.
- › There is a risk of tetanus if soil or manure containing bacteria gets into a wound, such as a bite, burn or scratch.
- › Tetanus is rare because the tetanus vaccine has been part of the routine vaccination schedule for many years - but the chances of getting it are higher if:
 - you have not been fully vaccinated (the tetanus vaccine has routinely been given since 1961)
 - you have a large or deep wound
 - the wound is very dirty or there is something stuck in the wound
- › Tetanus affects the nervous system and can cause symptoms such as muscle spasms, breathing difficulties, seizures and sometimes can lead to death.



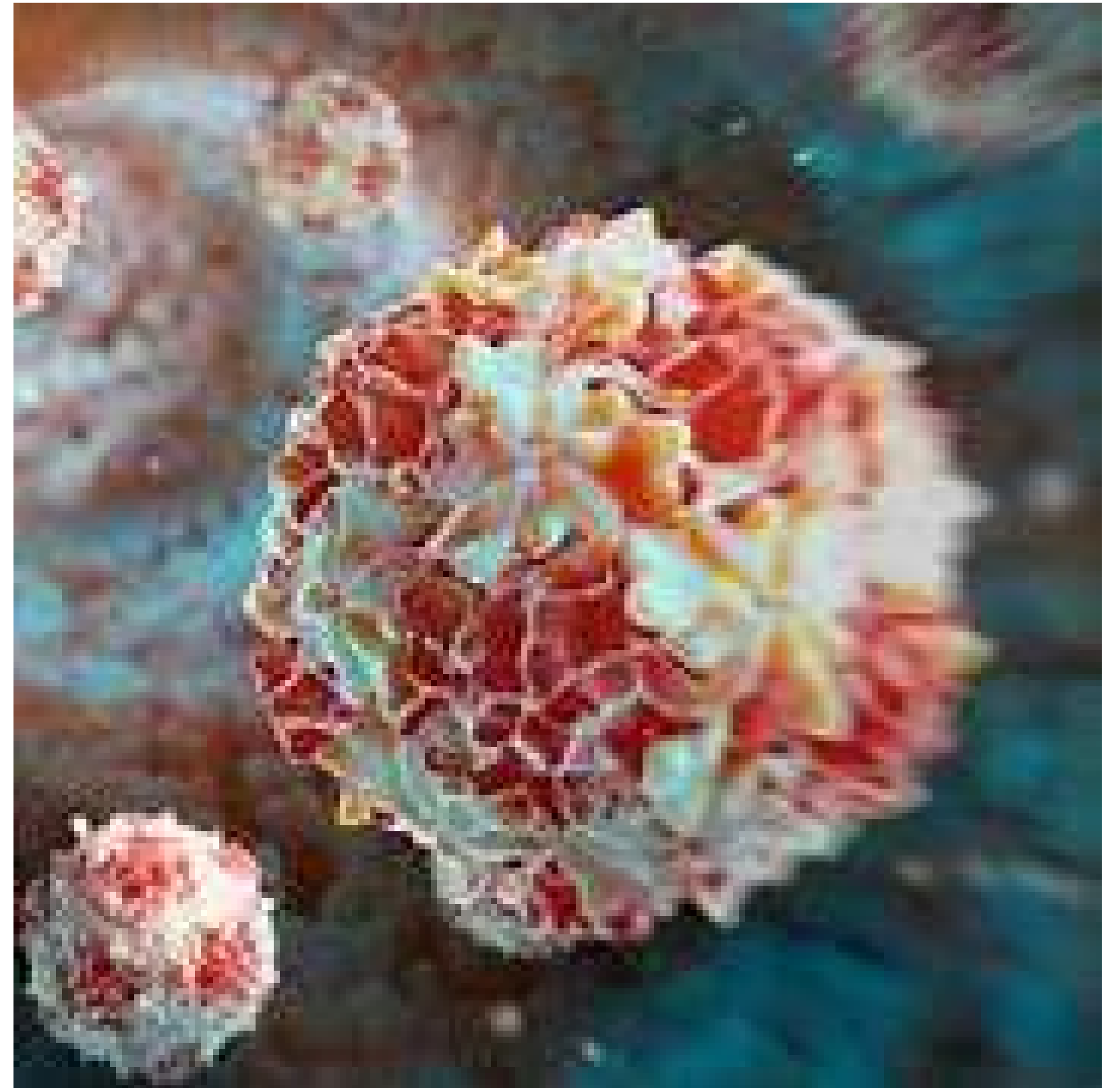
Diphtheria

- Diphtheria is a highly contagious infection that affects the nose and throat, and sometimes the skin.
- It's rare in the UK, but there's a small risk of catching it if you travel to some parts of the world. Diphtheria can be a serious illness and sometimes fatal, especially in children, if it's not treated quickly.
- Diphtheria usually begins with a sore throat and can quickly cause breathing problems. It can damage the heart and nervous system and in severe cases, can kill.



Polio

- Polio is a severe disease that can be passed from person to person. Your chance of getting polio in the UK is extremely low. This is because most people are fully vaccinated.
- There's still an extremely small risk of catching it when travelling in a country where polio is still found, such as Afghanistan and Pakistan, or through contact with a person when they return to the UK if you're not vaccinated.
- Symptoms of polio include a high temperature, extreme tiredness, headaches, being sick, a stiff neck, muscle pain. In





Meningitis ACWY



MenACWY

This vaccine protects against 4 types of bacteria linked to meningitis – A, C W and Y.

The MenACWY vaccine is given to teenagers. Anyone can get meningitis but it's most common in babies, children, teenagers and young adults. Meningitis is spread by close contact such as coughing, kissing or sneezing and can spread very quickly in places like universities and colleges. **Some people may unknowingly carry the meningococcal bacteria at the back of their nose and throat.**

Meningitis, sepsis and septicemia (blood poisoning) are very serious, potentially life-threatening illnesses that can lead to life-changing disabilities, such as amputations, hearing loss and brain damage. Meningitis can start like a bad case of flu but then get worse very quickly. A rash can develop, along with a stiff neck. Early treatment can be lifesaving.





SIDE EFFECTS

What are the potential side effects of the vaccines?

A reaction where the injection was given, such as pain, swelling or itchiness

A headache

feeling sick (nausea)/dizzy

a rash

feeling irritable

feeling drowsy

loss of appetite

Or generally feeling unwell

More serious side effects, such as a severe allergic reaction are very rare. The person who vaccinates you will be trained to deal with allergic reactions and treat them immediately.

The MenACWY vaccine and tetanus diphtheria polio vaccine used in the UK do not contain live bacteria, so there's no risk of getting the infections from the vaccine

MMR catch up vaccines

The MMR vaccine protects against:

- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella (German measles)

These 3 infections spread easily between people and can lead to serious problems including meningitis, blindness and hearing loss.

Getting measles during pregnancy can cause premature birth, miscarriage or still birth. And getting rubella can cause serious problems for the baby such as damage to their sight and hearing.

2 doses of the MMR vaccine gives you long-term protection. Some people have missed one or 2 doses of the MMR vaccine given in childhood and require a catch-up dose. Please ask your parents if you received your MMR vaccines before you started school. If not you can contact us to book a catch up vaccine.

Getting vaccinated also helps protect people who cannot be vaccinated, such as unborn babies, newborn babies and anyone with a weakened immune system.



CONSENT



- Prior to the session we will send a link home for parents to consent to the vaccines.
- On the day of the session if your parent has not given consent we will attempt to contact them if you wish to consent to the vaccine
- If we are unable to contact a parent/guardian we can assess you to see if you can self consent. This is known as being 'Gillick Competent'

Gillick competence (Self consent)

Children under the age of 16 can consent to their own treatment if they're believed to have enough intelligence, competence and understanding to fully appreciate what's involved in their treatment. This applies to many aspects of healthcare including sexual and mental health services. Being competent to self consent is known as being 'Gillick competent' .

To be considered Gillick competent you must demonstrate:

- You understand the immunisation being given
- You understand what the immunisation is protecting you from
- You understand the risks of not having the immunisation
- You understand the potential side effects of the vaccines

You must also show you can retain the information and make an informed decision.

A nurse will discuss this with you on the day of vaccination if you wish to self-consent.



Any Questions

- **EMAIL:**
- Immunisations.teesvalley@intrahealth.co.uk
- **CONTACTNO:**
03333 583 397 option 3 North East option 3 Teesside (All areas – Darlington, Redcar & Cleveland, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Stockton-On-Tees)

Monday 10 March 2025 Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 9 Vaccinations

School Health have contacted us to inform us that Year 9 students will be receiving **Year 9 Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio (3 in 1) and Meningitis ACWY** vaccination on **Wednesday 9 April 2025**.

As a school, we are simply the venue and have no responsibility for the vaccinations themselves or the process for consent, which is attached to this letter. Any queries, should be directed to School Health via this link [NorthEast - South, School Aged \(Immunisation Service\) | Intrahealth](#)

For the first time, School Health have decided that it is **the child who consents for the vaccination and not the parent/carer**. In order to ensure that you are fully informed of the new process that School Health are using in our region, we wanted to share the information we have received. This will give you the opportunity to peruse this information in plenty of time and speak to your child about the consent process for this vaccination.

In order to support your child in making the decision that is right for them, please can you read this information with them as the choice will be theirs on the day. Additionally, we will be allowing School Health to conduct an assembly to give them the information they are required about the vaccination and what it will protect them from.

As this is a new process of consent for everyone in our region, we would encourage you to speak to School Health if you have any queries well in advance of the day. The process on the day may take longer than usual, so if the School Health nurses are unable to vaccinate all those who wish to consent on this day, an extra day will be booked in at their earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Kell
Headteacher

Ground Floor
Brittania House
Falcon Court
Stockton on Tees
TS18 3TX
t: 03333 583 397 option 3

Dear Parents/ Carers

SCHOOL: Nunthorpe Academy

Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio (Td/IPV) & Meningitis ACWY Immunisations are due to take place at your school on **9/4/25**. These vaccines are free of charge.

Most children have been immunised against Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio and Meningitis C as part of the childhood UK schedule. Guidance from NHS England recommends that your child now receives a booster dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio and Meningitis ACWY.

Information regarding these vaccines is available on the website:

[MenACWY vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

[3-in-1 teenage booster overview - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

If you have any questions, you can contact us on the number below.

Please complete the link below within one week of receipt. If you do not wish your child to have the immunisations, please indicate this on the link.

<https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/a0d7c487>

~~Please be aware that if we do not receive completed consent forms, each young person will be assessed on an individual basis by a healthcare professional to self-consent and if deemed Gillick competent offered the vaccinations on the day.~~

If your child is outstanding their MMR vaccination and you would like for them to receive this vaccination, please contact our office on 0333 3583 397

option 3 and 3.

[MMR \(measles, mumps and rubella\) vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Immunisation Team on 0333 3583 397 **option 3 and 3** or immunisations.teesvalley@intrahealth.co.uk.

Service provided by:



Thank you.

Yours sincerely

On behalf of the School Age Immunisation Service