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Dear Parents/Carers

**Immunisations at Secondary School:**

The national childhood immunisation programme has meant that many dangerous diseases such as tetanus, diphtheria and polio (Td/IPV) have practically disappeared in the UK. Unfortunately this is not the same for all countries and cases of these diseases continue to be seen worldwide, including Europe. Similarly immunisations for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) and Meningitis (Men) have drastically reduced the number of people contracting these serious infections. Therefore it is important that we continue to immunise our children and teenagers in order to maintain the high level of protection found in the UK.

**Meningitis ACWY**

**From September 2015, the Meningitis ACWY vaccination is required for teenagers. This has been added to the Teenage Immunisation schedule, to give protection against Meningitis ACWY into early adulthood. We are now able to offer this vaccine to year 11 students. Although your child will have received a Meningitis C whilst in year 9, this recommended vaccine gives cover against 4 strains of meningitis.**

**Students in Year 11 will be offered their Meningitis ACWY (Men ACWY) on Tuesday 15 March 2016, at Abingdon Boys School by a team of School Health Nurses.**

**Consent Form**

Please discuss and complete the consent form with your child. Every student should return the consent form to school as soon as possible, whether or not they need the immunisations.

For further information please consult the enclosed information booklet '*Protect yourself against meningitis and septicaemia*' which contains useful information about these vaccines or visit the website [www.nhs.uk/vaccinations](http://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations)

If you have any concerns please contact the School Health Nurses on the above number.

Yours sincerely

**Claire James**  
**Locality Team Leader**

*A record of immunisations given to your son/daughter will be held at the Child Health Department and at your GP/Doctors' surgery (it may also be stored for a short time with the School Health Nurses). This information will be used to compile figures on how many people are immunised.*