



Online consent now available for school vaccinations

The routine school vaccination program for students in Year 7 and Year 10, is offering online consent from 2023.

Benefits:

- get SMS notifications when vaccinations are given
- easily update your child's details
- faster upload of vaccination records to the Australian Immunisation Register

You will need:

- your Service NSW log-in details
- you and your child's Medicare card number (if you both have one)
- details of which school your child will attend in 2023

More information:



NSW School Vaccination Program Year 7

Important Information 2023

Translations in 26 languages

Visit www.health.nsw.gov.au/schooltranslations

العربية (Arabic)

لقراءة هذه المعلومات الهامة بلغتك، تفقّد الموقع الإلكتروني المبين أعلاه.

বাংলা (Bangla)

এই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় পড়তে, উপরের ওয়েবসাইটটি দেখুন।

မြန်မာ (Burmese)

ဤအရေးကြီးသော သိကောင်းစရာအချက်အလက်များကို သင့်ဘာသာစကားဖြင့် ဖတ်ရှုရန်အတွက်၊ အထက်ပါ ဝက်ဘ်ဆိုက်ကို ကြည့်ပါ။

中文 (Chinese)

如欲閱讀這份重要資料的中文本，請瀏覽以上網頁。

دری (Dari)

برای خواندن این معلومات مهم به زبان خودتان، به وب سایت فوق مراجعه کنید.

Thuɔŋjäŋ (Dinka)

Të bīn lëk thekiic kăn kween në thon du, kënyë/lor ë webthiat tö nhial.

فارسی (Farsi)

برای خواندن این اطلاعات مهم به زبان خودتان، به وب سایت بالا مراجعه کنید.

Français (French)

Pour lire ces informations importantes dans votre langue, visitez le site Web ci-dessus.

हिंदी (Hindi)

इस महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी को अपनी भाषा में पढ़ने के लिए उपरोक्त वेबसाइट पर जाएं।

Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian)

Untuk membaca informasi penting ini dalam bahasa Anda, silakan kunjungi situs web (website) di atas.

日本語 (Japanese)

この重要な情報を日本語でお読みになりたい方は上記ウェブサイトをご覧ください。

ကညီကျိင် (Karen)

လၢနကဖးတၢ်ဂ့ၢ်တၢ်ကျိၤအကါဒိၣ်တမံၤအံၤလၢနကျိၣ်ဒၣ်နဲအဂီၢ်.လဲၤဆူပုၣ်ယဲၤသန့အိၣ်လၢထးန့ၣ်တက့ၢ်.

ខ្មែរ (Khmer)

ដើម្បីអានព័ត៌មានដ៏សំខាន់នេះជាភាសាខ្មែរសូមបើកចូលរូបសាយខាងលើនេះ ។

한국어 (Korean)

본 주요 정보를 한국어로 보시려면, 위의 웹사이트를 방문하시기 바랍니다.

ລາວ (Lao)

ເພື່ອອ່ານຂໍ້ມູນສຳຄັນນີ້ ເປັນພາສາຂອງທ່ານ ຈົ່ງເຂົ້າເບິ່ງເວັບໄຊຕ໌ທີ່ຢູ່ຂ້າງເທິງ.

नेपाली (Nepali)

यो महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी तपाईंको आफ्नै भाषामा पढ्नको लागि, माथि उल्लेखित वेबसाइट हेर्नुहोस्।

Português (Portuguese)

Para ler esta informação importante na sua língua, visite o sítio web mostrado no topo da página.

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)

ਇਸ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਲਈ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵੈਬਸਾਈਟ ਤੇ ਜਾਓ।

Русский язык (Russian)

Прочитать эту важную информацию на своем родном языке вы можете, посетив указанный выше сайт.

Fa'a-Samoa (Samoan)

Mo le faitauina o nei faamatalaga taua tele i lau lava gagana, asiasi i le upega tafa'ilagi (website) pei ona ta'ua i luga.

Español (Spanish)

Para leer esta importante información en español, recurra a la página web indicada arriba.

தமிழ் (Tamil)

இம் முக்கிய தகவலை உங்கள் மொழியில் வாசிக்க மேலுள்ள வலைத்தளத்திற்குச் செல்க.

ไทย (Thai)

อ่านข้อมูลสำคัญนี้เป็นภาษาไทยไปที่เว็บไซต์ที่อยู่ด้านบนนี้

Lea Faka-Tonga (Tongan)

Ke lau 'a e fakamatala mahu'ingá ni 'i ho'o lea tu'ufonuá, 'a'ahi ki he uepisaiti 'i 'olungá.

Türkçe (Turkish)

Bu önemli bilgiyi kendi dilinizde okumak için yukarıdaki internet sitesine giriniz.

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

Muốn đọc thông tin quan trọng này bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị hãy thăm trang website ghi trên.

NSW School Vaccination Program



NSW Health works with schools to offer human papillomavirus (HPV) and diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa) vaccines to Year 7 students in a school-based vaccination program. These vaccines are recommended by the National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and funded under the National Immunisation Program.

- Information about the vaccines and the diseases they protect against are included in this Parent Information Sheet.
- For your child to be vaccinated, consent for each vaccine must be provided by the parent/guardian on the enclosed Consent Form or online at nswhealth.service-now.com/school. The vaccines are only provided free at school if you complete, sign and return the Consent Form while your child is in Year 7.
- Consent can be withdrawn at any time by following the advice on page 2.
- If you do NOT wish your child to be vaccinated against a disease, do NOT sign your name next to that vaccine.
- A Privacy Statement that explains how the information you provide is collected and used is also included on page 4.

For more information regarding online consent:



Frequently asked questions

Q. How do vaccines work?

Vaccines work by triggering the immune system to fight certain infections. If a vaccinated person comes into contact with these infections, their immune system is able to respond more effectively, preventing the disease developing or greatly reducing its severity.

Q. How safe are vaccines?

Vaccines used in Australia are safe and must pass strict safety testing before being approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). In addition, the TGA monitors the safety of vaccines once they are in use.

Q. What are the side effects of vaccination?

Side effects are commonly mild and usually involve pain, swelling and redness at the injection site. Serious side effects are extremely rare. For example, NSW parents who were followed up in the days after HPV vaccination reported that 9% of students experienced mild side effects while only 0.4% required medical attention. More information about side effects is available in the Consumer Medical Information (CMI) for the vaccine available from www.health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination.

Parents concerned about side effects after vaccination should contact their GP who should also make a report to the local public health unit.

Q. What is anaphylaxis?

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that may result in unconsciousness and death if not treated quickly. **It occurs very rarely after any vaccination.** The school immunisation nurses are fully trained in the treatment of anaphylaxis. Any history of anaphylaxis may mean that a student should not receive a certain vaccine.

Q. What if my child has asthma and takes cortisone or prednisone by a “puffer”?

The vaccines can be safely administered to someone who has asthma regardless of which medications they are taking.

Q. Should the vaccine be given to a female student who is or thinks she may be pregnant?

No. Any female student who is, or thinks she may be, pregnant should not be vaccinated. On the day of the clinic the vaccination nurse will ask female students if they are or could be pregnant. If a student answers yes to this question, she will not be vaccinated.

The student will be urged to immediately discuss the issue with her parent/guardian and to seek medical help. She will also be provided with contact details for a health referral service that will provide advice, support and guidance.

Q. Can I withdraw consent?

Consent can be withdrawn at any time:

- where consent has been given online, please log-in at nswhealth.service-now.com/school and follow the prompts to withdraw consent for your child
- where consent has been given on the physical consent form, please provide the school with written notification of the withdrawal of consent or telephone the school to withdraw consent.

Q. What if I prefer to wait until my child is older?

These vaccines can only be provided at school by you returning the original consent form while your child is in Year 7. If you choose to wait until your child is older you will need to make arrangements with your GP or pharmacist immuniser. Please note, there may be costs involved.

Q. What if my child missed out on the vaccine at school?

Every effort will be made to vaccinate your child at subsequent school clinics during the Year 7 school year. Where this is not possible, you will be advised of arrangements for catch-up vaccination.

Alternatively, free catch-up vaccine is available through your local GP and pharmacist immunisers. Please note the GP and Pharmacist immunisers may charge a consultation or administration fee.

Q. Can students with physical and/or intellectual disabilities be vaccinated at school?

Most students with physical and/or intellectual disabilities can be vaccinated at school. However, some students may require additional support on the day of the clinic at school, or a referral to a specialist immunisation clinic that offers vaccinations under close observation.

If you believe your child requires additional support or a referral, please contact your local public health unit (PHU) on 1300 066 055 to discuss further.

Q. How can I access a record of the vaccinations?

Information about your child's vaccinations will be uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) so it can be linked to your child's existing immunisation history.

Parents can request a copy of their child's AIR Immunisation History Statement at any time up to their child being 14 years of age, and students aged 14 years and over can request their own immunisation history statement, as follows:

- using the Medicare online account through myGov <https://my.gov.au/>
- using the Medicare Express Plus App www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/subjects/express-plus-mobile-apps
- calling the AIR General Enquiries Line on 1800 653 809.

Female students receiving HPV vaccine

– by signing the Consent Form, you are agreeing to disclose your child's health information for linkage to the National Cervical Screening Program Register in the future.

Q. Where can I find more information about school vaccination?

More information is available:

- by visiting the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination
- by contacting your local public health unit on 1300 066 055

Information about each of the vaccines

Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

What is the disease and how is it spread?

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common virus affecting both men and women. HPV is spread through genital contact during sex with someone who has the virus. The virus passes through tiny breaks in the skin and is not spread through blood or other body fluids. Condoms offer limited protection, as they do not cover all of the genital skin.

Most sexually active people will have a genital HPV infection at some time in their lives. While the body usually clears the infection naturally and there are no symptoms, it can sometimes cause serious illness, including:

- almost all cases of cervical cancer
- 90% of anal cancers
- 65% of vaginal cancers
- 60% of oropharyngeal cancers (cancers of the back of the throat)
- 50% of vulva cancers
- 35% of penile cancers
- almost all cases of genital warts

Vaccinating males will prevent cancers and genital warts and will also help to protect females from cervical cancer.

Which vaccine will be used?

An HPV vaccine that protects against 9 types of HPV (6, 11, 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52 and 58).

How many HPV doses does my child need?

Australian guidelines currently recommend two doses of HPV vaccine given six months apart. International evidence indicates that one dose of HPV vaccine is likely to provide sufficient protection. You will be contacted by NSW Health if current Australian recommendations change from two doses to one dose of HPV vaccine.

*Students with significantly impaired immune systems are recommended to have 3-doses of HPV vaccine at their GP, defined as those with primary or secondary immune deficiencies (B lymphocyte antibody and T lymphocyte complete or partial deficiencies); HIV infection; malignancy; organ transplantation; or significant immunosuppressive therapy (excluding asplenia or hyposplenia).

Who should be vaccinated?

All students in Year 7 should receive 2-doses of HPV vaccine (those with significantly impaired immune systems should arrange to have 3 doses of the vaccine at their GP – see above).

Regular cervical screening (previously called Pap smears) is still important for vaccinated women, as the HPV vaccine does not protect against all types of HPV that can cause cervical cancer. All women from 25 years of age who have ever been sexually active should have a Cervical Screening Test every 5 years, regardless of their HPV vaccination status.

Who should not be vaccinated?

HPV vaccine should not be given to people who:

- are or may be pregnant
- have had anaphylaxis following a previous dose of vaccine
- have a history of anaphylaxis to yeast
- have had anaphylaxis following any of the vaccine additives (see below)

What additives does the vaccine contain?

The vaccine contains additives in very small amounts to either assist the vaccine to work or to act as a preservative. These include yeast, aluminium adjuvant, sodium chloride, L-histidone, polysorbate and sodium borate.

How effective is the vaccine?

The vaccine protects against high-risk HPV types that cause over 90% of cervical cancers in women and also protects against additional HPV types that cause cancers in men. The vaccine provides best protection when given at a younger age and when it is given to someone before they become sexually active.

The latest research shows that the vaccine still offers close to 100% protection more than 10 years after it was given. As cervical cancer usually develops over 10 or more years, the role of the vaccine in reducing cervical cancer will not be evident for some time. However, there has been a 77% reduction in HPV types responsible for almost 75% of cervical cancer.

Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa)

What is the disease and how is it spread?

Diphtheria is a contagious and potentially life-threatening bacterial infection that causes severe breathing difficulties, heart failure and nerve damage. People can get diphtheria by breathing in the bacteria after an infected person has coughed or sneezed, or from close contact with discharges from an infected person's mouth, nose, throat or skin.

Tetanus is a severe, often fatal disease of the nervous system. The person suffers severe painful muscle spasms, convulsions and lockjaw. Even with modern intensive care about 1 in 10 people will die. Tetanus is caused by bacteria found in soil and infection may occur after major injuries or minor injuries (sometimes unnoticed punctures to the skin that are contaminated with soil, dust or manure).

Pertussis (whooping cough) is a highly infectious bacterial disease that causes bouts of coughing. Adolescents and adults can have an annoying cough for up to 3 months. Severe bouts of coughing can cause vomiting, rib fractures, rupture of small blood vessels and hernias. About 1 in 125 babies aged less than 6 months who catch whooping cough from an infected person die from pneumonia or brain damage. Whooping cough is spread to other people by droplets from coughing or sneezing. Untreated, a person with whooping cough can spread it to other people for up to 3 weeks after the onset of cough.

Which vaccine will be used?

A combination diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough vaccine (dTpa) will be offered as a single dose to provide protection against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. This booster dose is essential for maintaining immunity into adulthood after the previous diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough vaccines given in childhood. Children who have previously received a diphtheria-tetanus vaccine (ADT) should receive the dTpa vaccine to also protect them against whooping cough.

Who should be vaccinated?

All students in Year 7 should receive 1 booster dose of dTpa vaccine.

Who should not be vaccinated?

dTpa vaccine should not be given to people who:

- have had anaphylaxis following a previous dose of vaccine
- have had anaphylaxis following any of the vaccine components (see below)

What additives does the vaccine contain?

The vaccine contains aluminium hydroxide and phosphate, traces of formaldehyde, polysorbate 80 and glycline and was exposed to bovine-derived materials during manufacture.

How effective is the vaccine?

The vaccine is very effective in preventing diphtheria and tetanus and about 80% effective in preventing whooping cough.

Privacy statement

Our obligations

We are committed to treating your personal information in accordance with privacy law.

This statement explains how and why we collect personal information about you and your child, how you can access your information and how your information may be used within the NSW public health service or disclosed to other parties. Your personal information includes personal details about you and your child and personal health information relating to your child's immunisation.

Collection

Personal information is collected so that your child can be provided with the appropriate immunisation services.

Only information that is relevant and necessary for your child's immunisation and to manage immunisation services is collected.

Information is collected directly from you and your child, wherever possible. Information may need to be collected from your child's school and other health professionals who have treated your child. In an emergency, information may also need to be collected from another family member, friend, carer or other person who can help us to provide your child with the best care.

Security of information collected

Personal information may be held in a variety of ways. Most commonly, information may be held as a paper medical record, and/or an electronic medical record forming part of a secure computerised database. We follow strict rules and policies regarding the secure storage of personal information in all formats in order to protect your information from loss, unauthorised access and misuse.

Use and disclosure

Your personal information or that of your child may be used by the NSW public health service, or disclosed outside the health service, to enable appropriate care and treatment to be provided to you. For example, your information may be used or disclosed to your GP, to your child's GP, to another treating health service or hospital, to the Ambulance Service of NSW, to a specialist for a referral, or for pathology tests. Personal information may also be used or disclosed for purposes relating to the operation of the NSW health service and the treatment of our patients, including funding, planning, safety, and quality improvement activities.

Personal information must be disclosed to State and Commonwealth government agencies to comply with laws regarding the reporting of notifiable diseases, to provide Medicare details and immunisation statistics. HPV vaccination data will be uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) and linked to your child's existing immunisation history, and included on future AIR Immunisation History Statements. Data relating to female students will also be disclosed to the National Cervical Screening Program Register in the future.

We may also use your personal information to contact you regarding client satisfaction surveys and to monitor vaccine safety. Participation is voluntary and non-participation does not affect the health care provided.

Access to your information

You are entitled to request access to your personal information held by us, and to that of your child. You may be charged a fee if you request copies of your personal information or medical record.

Further Information and contact us

For further information on how your personal information is managed, please see the NSW Health Privacy Manual for Health Information: health.nsw.gov.au/patients/privacy

If you have questions or a complaint about the privacy of your personal information, please contact your local public health unit on **1300 066 055**.

NSW School Vaccination Program



Parent/Guardian to complete all fields in **CAPITAL** letters using a **black** or **blue** pen.

Student's Details

Surname

Given name/s

Date of Birth

 / / **20**

Gender

 M F Indeterminate/
Intersex/Unspecified

Name of School

Medicare Number

Number beside your child's name on the Medicare card



Indigenous Status

 No Yes, Aboriginal Yes, Torres Strait Islander Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Your Details - Parent or Legal Guardian

Name of Parent/Guardian (e.g. JACK SMITH)

Home Address (e.g. 5 SMITH LANE)

Suburb

Postcode

Best Alternate Number

Consent

I have read and understood the information provided regarding the benefits and possible side effects of the **HPV vaccine and dTpa vaccine** and note that I can **withdraw consent** at any time.

I have been provided with a copy of the Privacy Statement and I understand that my and/or my child's personal information (including health information) may be disclosed in certain circumstances as set out in that Statement.

I declare to the best of my knowledge that my child:

1. Has not had an anaphylactic reaction following any vaccine.
2. Does not have an anaphylactic sensitivity to any of the vaccine components listed in the Parent Information Sheet.
3. Is not pregnant.

I, on (today's date)

 / / **20**

sign below for each vaccine I wish my child to receive.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

HPV Vaccine. I hereby give consent for my named child to receive a 2 dose course.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa) Vaccine. I hereby give consent for my named child to receive a single (booster) dose.

Please turn over ►

