

January 2023

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand

Capital, Coast, Hutt Valley and Wairarapa

Kia ora Parents/Caregivers,

School Based Immunisation Programme – Commencing March 2023

We are pleased to inform you of changes to the Immunisation Programme for Year 7 and 8 students, to align the immunisation activity to only Year 7 students from 2023.

From 2023 we will offer all Year 7 students both:

- **Boostrix immunisation** (one dose) - to provide protection against Tetanus, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, and
- **HPV immunisation** (two doses – 6 months apart) - to protect against genital warts, cervical cancer, throat and mouth cancers, and other types of cancers later in life.

In 2023 only we will offer all Year 8 students the:

- **HPV immunisation** (two doses – 6 months apart) - to protect against genital warts, cervical cancer, throat and mouth cancers, and other types of cancers later in life
- * Year 7 students were offered their Boostrix immunisation at school this year

This means that from 2024 we will reduce disruption for Year 8 students and minimise the impact on schools. For Year 7 students, the benefits are that they will receive Boostrix earlier in the year - outside of flu/winter season; and students receive their HPV vaccine a year earlier, preparing them for their teenage years.

Please read and complete the enclosed consent form and return it to your child's school as soon as possible.

For additional information about the Vaccination Programme:

- Visit the Ministry of Health website www.health.govt.nz/hpv
- Visit www.immune.org.nz or free phone 0800 IMMUNE
- Talk to your General Practice or Practice Nurse
- Contact the School Immunisation Team on (04) 570 9002 or email immunisation@huttvalleydhb.org.nz

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important aspect of your child's health.

Ngā mihi,

Dr Annette Nesdale

Medical Officer of Health | Āpiha Tākuta mō te Hauora

National Public Health Service | Capital, Coast, Hutt Valley and Wairarapa

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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government