



15 July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

## **YOUR CHILD'S HPV VACCINATION (Human Papillomavirus) IS NOW DUE**

All young people aged 12-13 in the UK are now eligible for the HPV vaccine. This is usually offered in year 8 of secondary school, however due to Covid-19 this was delayed and is now being offered in year 9. In order to be fully protected against the strains of HPV young people need two doses which are normally given 6 to 12 months apart, for year 9 students (from September 2020) two doses will be given within academic year 20-21 to ensure full protection is given.

The HPV vaccine protects against the human papillomavirus which is linked to 90% of cervical cancers and 5% of all cancers worldwide. The vaccine gives protection against the most high-risk strains of the human papillomavirus including ones which can cause:

- Cervical Cancer
- Some mouth and throat (head and neck) cancers
- Some cancers of the anal and genital area

We are due to immunise at your child's school on **11 September 2020**. In order to access the online consent form, please click on the following link <https://www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/> You will need to enter the unique code for your child's school (**The Piggott School**). The code is **BK110079**

Please submit your form by **01 September 2020** to ensure your child receives their vaccination. If you experience any problems accessing the form, please telephone 0300 365 0077 and the team will be happy to help.

A leaflet explaining the vaccination programme can be found via the following link: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/812484/PHE HPV\\_vaccination\\_leaflet.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812484/PHE HPV_vaccination_leaflet.pdf). Please note that as in previous years you must opt-in to the programme. If a consent form is not submitted your child will not be vaccinated. If you decide not to have your child vaccinated, please let us know so we can enter this on your child's medical records.

Further information on the vaccination programme can be found via the vaccine knowledge project: <https://vk.ovg.ox.ac.uk/vk/>. We are trying to improve how we communicate with patients. Please tell us if you need information in a different format or communication support.

Kind regards,

**The Berkshire School Aged Immunisation Team**