YOUR HEALTH
YOUR *FUTURE*

HPV VACCINATION PROGRAMME

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION TOOLKIT

Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives

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YOUR *FUTURE*

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YOUR HEALTH YOUR *FUTURE*

HPV VACCINATION PROGRAMME

The HPV vaccine is offered free to all boys and girls who are aged 12 to 13 years (school Year 8).

The HPV vaccine is highly effective at reducing the risk of getting HPV.

HPV can lead to cancer of the cervix, some mouth and throat cancers, cancer of the anus and genital areas, as well as genital warts.

Since the vaccine has been introduced, there has been a big drop in the number of young people getting conditions linked to HPV.

Research suggests that over time the HPV vaccine will help save thousands of lives in the UK, and **your school can help**.

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WHAT IS HPV?

HPV is the short name for more than 100 viruses called **Human Papillomavirus.** It is very common, and 8 in 10 people will get infected at some point in their lives.

HPV usually has **no symptoms**, which is why it's so easy to pass on. In most people it clears up quickly, but if it continues, it can cause certain types of cancer.

WHY IS THE VACCINE IMPORTANT?

The HPV vaccine is offered to boys and girls in school in Year 8 to protect against some cancers and infections.

Since the HPV vaccine was widely introduced in 2008, it has reduced **cervical cancer rates** by almost 90% in women in their 20s.

90%

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HOW SCHOOLS CAN HELP

Delivering immunisation programmes through schools is **vital** to ensuring that most children and young people have easy access to vaccines. This helps to achieve high uptake of vaccination and reduced inequalities in health for children and young people.

Our research shows that young people trust the information they get through school and so your help will have a **significant impact.**

WAYS YOUR SCHOOL CAN SUPPORT THE VACCINATION PROGRAMME

1.SEND

the Public Health Wales (PHW) **HPV Briefing document** to the head of year 8, relevant staff and colleagues working in your school. It gives more information about the HPV vaccination programme delivered in schools across Wales

2.DOWNLOAD

HERO FILM
ADVICE TO MY YOUNGER SELF

Q+A FILM
HPV FACTFILE

ANIMATION
HPV VACCINE

WAYS THESE FILMS CAN BE USED IN SCHOOL

- Year 8 registration groups
- Assemblies (if not already provided by the school nursing service)
- Health and well-being lessons/area of learning
- Via school social media channels and comms

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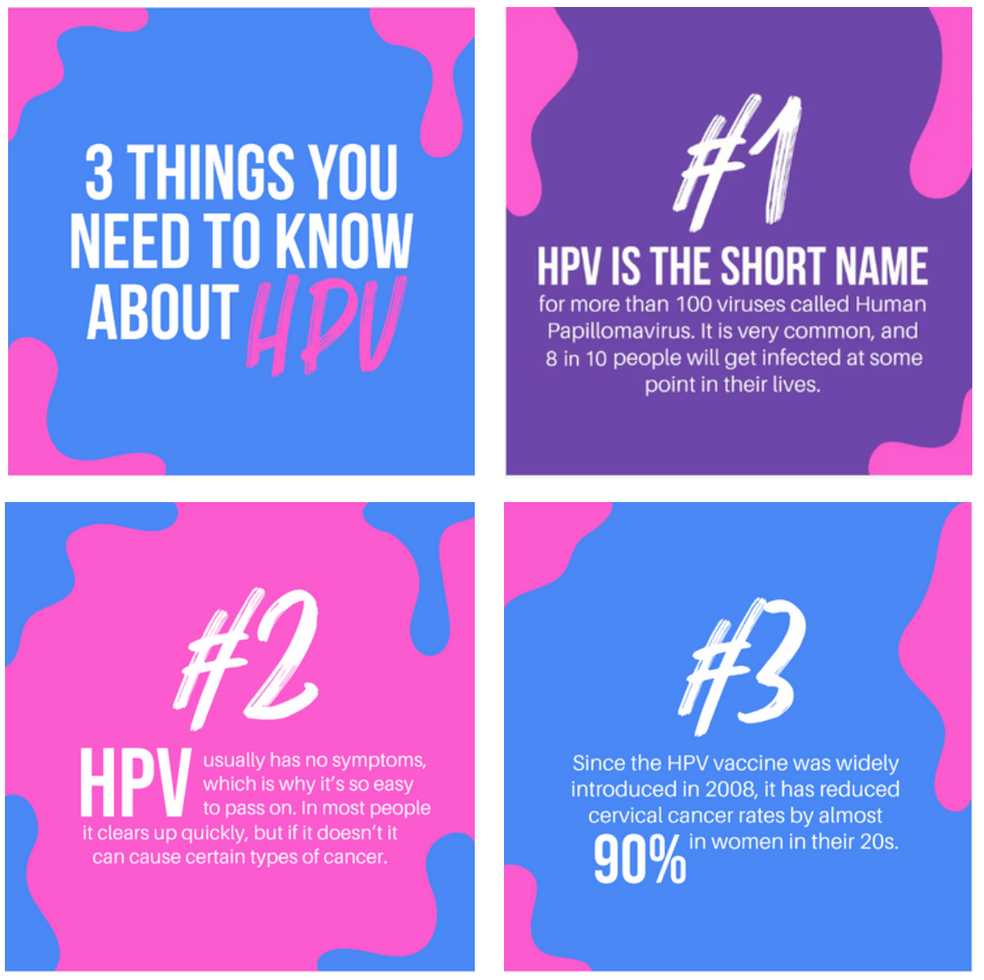
3.SHARE

content and information from the **Your Health Your Future** campaign. Help inform children and young people, their parents and carers about the HPV school vaccination programme **via social media channels or email.**

SOCIAL GRAPHICS



In the term that the HPV vaccination session is arranged you can **use this template post** for social media, email comms or class apps:

> "Consent forms for the HPV vaccine are being sent out to all Year 8 pupils and those that may have missed the HPV vaccine previously. Find out more about how the vaccine can help protect children and young people's future health here: LINK TO FILM/ASSET/GRAPHIC"

More information for children, young people, parents, carers, and schools can be accessed here: www.phw.nhs.wales/HPVvaccine

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INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

On this page you can find more information on how parents and carers can help protect their child's future health.

Young people highly value the advice they get from their parents.

Discussing this with your child will help ensure that they feel informed and confident about the vaccine.

WATCH

the Public Health Wales film '**Advice to My Younger Self**' and discuss with your child. (It's under 2 minutes long!)

KEY TALKING POINTS

- The HPV vaccine is offered free to all boys and girls who are aged 12 to 13 years (school Year 8).
- Before your child's vaccination session takes place in school, you will receive a consent form that you will need to complete and return. This may be either a digital or paper version. It's best to involve parents or carers in decisions about having the vaccination. In some cases where the consent form has not been returned, young people may be able to consent to the vaccination themselves if they understand fully what is being offered.
- The HPV vaccine is a safe and effective way to prevent some cancers and infections. It is expected that the vaccine will eventually save thousands of lives each year.
- The HPV vaccine is given in the top part of the arm.
- Young people who miss their HPV vaccination in school will be given other opportunities to receive the vaccine up until the end of school year 11.They can also contact their school nurse, immunisation team or GP to discuss how to get the vaccine. Young people remain eligible to receive the vaccine up until their 25th birthday*.

*For boys, this applies to those born on or after 1 September 2006.

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RESOURCES FOR YEAR 8 PUPILS

DOWNLOADABLE VIDEOS

- Hero Film: Advice to My Younger Self
- Q&A Film: HPV Factfile
- Animation: HPV Vaccine

DOWNLOADABLE GRAPHICS

- Carousel post: 3 things you need to know about HPV
- Carousel post: 3 things to discuss with your child about the HPV vaccine
- Social graphics (x3)
- HPV Vaccine Poster

WEBSITES

- www.phw.nhs.wales/HPVvaccine
- www.phw.nhs.wales/vaccines/youngpeople
- www.instagram.com/publichealthwales
- www.tiktok.com/@publichealthwales
- www.facebook.com/PublicHealthWales

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