

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination Programme



Briefing document for head teachers and school staff 2023/24

This briefing is for schools on the school-aged HPV vaccination programme in Wales.

Please ensure that all school staff who need to know about the programme have access to this information.

! The HPV vaccine helps protect young people from cancers caused by HPV

Eligibility for HPV vaccination

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

Young people who miss their HPV vaccination in school will be given other opportunities to receive the vaccine before they leave statutory schooling at the end of year 11.

Young people who were offered, but haven't received the HPV vaccine at school can receive it at their GP surgery up until their 25th birthday (for boys this only applies to those born on or after 1 September 2006).

Some other individuals are at increased risk from HPV so they are also eligible for this vaccine. More information is available at phw.nhs.wales/HPVvaccine

3 reasons for having the HPV vaccine:

- 1** It **cuts the risk of cervical cancer by 90%**, as well as dramatically lowering the rates of other types of HPV related cancers.
- 2** HPV infects most people in their lifetime, and there are **more than 100 different types**.
- 3** The vaccine is **safe, effective and easy** to get.

About the HPV vaccine

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is linked to the development of **a range of cancers and genital warts**. The HPV vaccine is the **safest way** to protect against these diseases.

Evidence is clear that the HPV vaccine helps protect boys and girls against future risks of:

- cervical cancer (in females);
- some head and neck cancers;
- some cancers of the anus;
- some cancers of the genital area (for example penis, vagina and vulva); and
- genital warts.

Head and neck cancers are most common in males with around 700 cases diagnosed in Wales each year.

Cervical cancer is the most common type of cancer in women under 35.

The HPV vaccine is given in the top part of the arm. In order to give the best protection it should be given before a young person becomes sexually active. Therefore, it is first offered to all young people before they come into contact with the virus.

Condoms do not provide complete protection against HPV and as there are lots of different types of this virus, eligible people should still have the vaccine even if they are already sexually active.

Evidence shows that eligible people under 25 only need one dose of HPV vaccine for the best protection, so from September 2023 only one dose will be offered. More information about this change is available at: phw.nhs.wales/HPVvaccine

The HPV vaccine is excellent at giving protection against HPV and is very safe. It is expected that the vaccine will eventually save thousands of lives each year.

A full list of the vaccine ingredients and possible side effects are available at medicines.org.uk/emc by entering 'Gardasil 9' into the search box.

Consent packs and HPV vaccination information

Consent packs for pupils and their parents or carers will be supplied to secondary schools before the scheduled school HPV vaccination session. This may be paper based or in a digital format.

Each consent pack usually contains:

- A **letter (or email), leaflet and consent form**. The letter and leaflet gives pupils and parents/carers an understanding of the vaccine and its benefits. Information is provided to enable informed consent for young people to receive the HPV vaccine. Some schools will be asked to send these electronically.
- The leaflet is available in **accessible formats** (including Large Print, Easy Read, British Sign Language and Audio). Parents and care givers should be directed to:
phw.nhs.wales/vaccines/accessible-information

- A **consent form has to be completed before a vaccination is given**. While we recommend that pupils get **agreement from their parent or care giver**, some children in secondary school will be able to legally consent for themselves. This may include some children who are under 16 but only if they are assessed as having the understanding needed to do so by a school nurse or immuniser. This is called 'Gillick competence'. For more information about this, search consent here:
www.111.wales.nhs.uk

How your school can support the HPV vaccination programme

The relationship between schools and the NHS school nursing immunisation team is vital for protecting the health of future generations. It is estimated that the HPV vaccination programme will save thousands of lives from HPV related cancers. If uptake is high enough the World Health Organization have modelled that it will help to eradicate cervical cancer by the end of the century.

School support with the HPV vaccination programme is highly valued and essential.

The following will help to minimise disruption to the school:

- Ahead of the day of the vaccinations talk to the school nurse or immunisation team to arrange a suitable location and requirements.
- It is important to let parents and carers know which day vaccinations will take place. The consent pack will contain this information. Please ensure the school consent packs are distributed to parents and carers. Communication (e.g., an email or a text) can be sent to parents to remind them of the:
 - vaccination date(s); and
 - date they need to return the consent form by.
- Please **reassure** parents and care givers of the **effectiveness of one dose** of the HPV vaccine. This is a change – in previous years two doses were offered to secondary school age pupils
- The change is based on evidence that only one dose is needed. The Joint Committee of Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) and NHS Wales now advise one dose of the HPV vaccine for eligible people under 25 for maximum protection.
- Pupils and their parents many have questions about the vaccine. Let them know that further information is available at: phw.nhs.wales/HPVvaccine

How consent is collected:

- Your school may be asked to collect **completed paper consent forms** from parents on behalf of the school nursing or immunisation team.
- Electronic consent forms, where used, are sent directly from the parent/carer to the school nursing or immunisation team.
- Forms should be **returned by the deadline agreed** with the school nurse or immunisation team.

Who will give the vaccine to the children:

- The programme will be delivered by an NHS employed school nursing or immunisation team.
- They will administer the vaccination according to nationally set standards. NHS vaccinators have appropriate qualifications and training, including safeguarding training. They are also fully trained to answer any questions from pupils and teachers about the HPV vaccine.

Further information about the HPV vaccine

- More than 280 million doses of the HPV vaccine have been given worldwide, in at least 113 countries.
- The HPV vaccine meets the high UK safety standards, and has been offered to girls in Wales since 2008, and boys since 2019.
- Side effects are usually mild. The most common side effect is a sore, swollen or red arm at the site of injection. This usually wears off within a few days. Less common side effects are headaches, nausea and fever. Serious side effects are extremely rare.
- The safety of all vaccines continues to be monitored by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) through the Yellow Card Scheme. Anybody can report suspected side effects of vaccines and medicines through the Yellow Card scheme. This can be done online at www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or by calling **0800 731 6789** (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).



A note of thanks

Delivering immunisation programmes through schools is vital for ensuring 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.

We are grateful for the support of schools in hosting these vaccination sessions, and for communicating to parents and carers when the HPV immunisation sessions are scheduled to take place.

If you have any enquiries or questions regarding the delivery of the HPV vaccination programme in your school please direct these to the local health board school nursing/immunisation team.

Further information on HPV and the vaccine is available at:
phw.nhs.wales/HPVvaccine

Sut mae caniatâd yn cael ei gasglu:

- Etallai y gofynnir i'ch ysgol gasglu **ffurfienni caniatâd papur wedi'u cwblhau** gan rieni ar ran tîm nyrsio neu imiwneiddio'r ysgol.
- Mae ffurfienni caniatâd electronig, lle cânt eu defnyddio, yn cael eu hanfon yn uniongyrchol gan y rhiant / gofaiwr at dîm nyrsio neu imiwneiddio'r ysgol.
- Dylid **dychwelyd y ffurfienni erbyn y dyddiad cau y cytunwyd arno** gyda'r nyrs ysgol neu'r tîm imiwneiddio.

Pwy fydd yn rhoi'r brechiad i'r plant:

- Bydd y rhaglen yn cael ei chyflwyno gan dîm nyrsio neu imiwneiddio'r ysgol sy'n cael ei gyflogi gan y GIG.

- Bydd yn rhoi'r brechiad yn unol â safonau sydd wedi'u pennu yn genedlaethol. Mae gan frechwy'r y GIG gymwysterau a hyfforddiant priodol, gan gynnwys hyfforddiant diogelu. Maent hefyd wedi'u hyfforddi'n llawn i ateb unrhyw gwestiynau gan ddysgbylion ac athrawon am y brechiad HPV.

Rhagor o wybodaeth am y brechiad HPV

- Mae mwy na 280 miliwn o ddosau o'r brechiad HPV wedi'u rhoi ledled y byd, mewn o leiaf 113 o wledydd.
- Mae'r brechiad HPV yn bodoni safonau diogelwch uchel y DU, ac mae wedi'i gynnig i ferched yng Nghymru ers 2008, ac i fechgyn ers 2019.
- Mae'r sgil-ffeithiau yn ysgafn fel arfer. Y sgil-ffeithiau fwyaf cyffredin yw braich ddolurus, chwydded neu goch yn safi'r pigiad. Mae hyn fel arfer yn diffannu o fewn ychydig ddwyddiau. Y sgil-ffeithiau llai cyffredin yw cur pen, teimlo'n sal a thymheredd uchel. Mae sgil-ffeithiau difrifol yn hynod o brin.
- Mae diogelwch pob brechiad yn parhau i gael ei fonitro gan yr Asiantaeth Rheoleiddio Meddyginiaethau a Chynhyrchion Gofal Iechyd (MHRA) drwy'r Cynllun Cerdyn Melyn. Gall unrhyw un roi gwybod am sgil-ffeithiau posibl brechiadau a meddyginiaethau drwy gynllun y Cerdyn Melyn. Gellir gwneud hyn ar-lein yn www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard neu drwy ffonio **0800 731 6789** (Dydd Llun i ddydd Gwener, 9am i 5pm).

Mae rhagor o wybodaeth am HPV a'r brechiad ar gael yn: icc.gig.cymru/brechlynHPV

Os oes gennych chi unrhyw ymholiadau neu gwestiynau ynglŷn â chyflwyno'r rhaglen trechu HPV yn eich ysgol, cyfeirwch y rhain at dîm nyrsio/imiwneiddio ysgolion y bwrdd iechyd lleol.

Gair o ddiolech

Mae darparu rhaglen imiwneiddio drwy ysgolion yn hanfodol er mwyn sicrhau bod plant a phobl ifanc yn gallu cael brechiadau'n hawdd. Mae hyn yn helpu i sicrhau bod nifer uchel yn cael eu brechu a llai o anghydraddoldebau iechyd i blant a phobl ifanc. Rydym yn ddiolechgar am gefnogaeth ysgolion wrth gynnal y sesiynau brechu hyn, ac am gyfathrebu â rhieni a gofaiwyr pan fydd y sesiynau imiwneiddio HPV yn cael eu cynnal.





Rhaglen Frechu Papiłomateirws Dynol (HPV)

Dogfen triffio ar gyfer penaeithiaid
a staff ysgolion 2023/24



3 rheswm dros gael y brechiad HPV:

1 Mae'n lleihau'r risg o ganser ceg
y groth 90%, yn ogystal â gostwng
cyfraddau mathau eraill o ganserau sy'n
gysylltiedig â HPV yn ddramatig.

2 Mae HPV yn heintio'r rhan fwyaf o bobl
yn ystod eu hoed, ac mae mwy na 100 o
wahanol fathau.

3 Mae'r brechiad yn ddiogel, yn effeithiol
ac yn hawdd ei gael.

Cymhwysedd ar gyfer y brechiad HPV

**Mae'r brechiad HPV yn
helpu i warchod pobl ifanc
rhag canserau sy'n cael eu
hachosi gan HPV**

Mae'r ddogfen triffio yma ar gyfer
ysgolion am y rhaglen frechu HPV
oedran ysgol yng Nghymru.
Gwnewch yn siŵr bod yr holl staff ysgol
sydd angen gwybod am y rhaglen yn
cael mynediad i'r wybodaeth hon.

Mae'r brechiad HPV yn cael ei gynnyg **am ddim**
i bob bachgen a merch rhwng 12 a 13 oed
(blwyddyn ysgol 8).

Bydd pobl ifanc sy'n methu eu brechiad HPV yn yr
ysgol yn cael cyfluoedd eraill i gael y brechiad cyn
iddynt adael addysg statudol ar ddiwedd blwyddyn 11.
Gall pobl ifanc a gafodd gynnyg, ond nad ydynt
wedi cael y brechiad HPV yn yr ysgol, ei gael yn
eu meddygfa hyd at eu pen-blwydd yn 25 oed (!
techgyn ddim ond i'r rhai sydd wedi'u geni ar neu ar
ôl 1 Medi 2006 mae hyn yn berthnasol).

Mae rhai unigolion eraill mewn mwy o berygl o
HPV felly maent hefyd yn gymwys i gael y brechiad
hwn. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth ar gael yn
icc.gig.cymru/brechlynHPV

Mae papiłomateirws dynol (HPV) yn gysylltiedig
â datblygiad **ystod o ganserau a datadennau**
gwenerol. Y brechiad HPV yw'r **ffordd fwyaf diogel**
o warchod rhag yr affeichyd hon.
Mae tystiolaeth glir bod y brechiad HPV yn helpu
dyfodol o:
• canser ceg y groth (mewn merched);
• rhai mathau o ganserau'r pen a'r gwdw;
• rhai mathau o ganserau'r anws;
• rhai canserau'r ardal wenerol (er enghraifft y pidyn,
y fagina a'r twfita); a
• datadennau gwenerol.