

NHS North West London
15 Marylebone Road
London NW1 5JD

4th July 2023

Dear Parents,

We all want to keep our young people safe and protected from serious illness. This is why we are asking you to support a focus on encouraging parents in North West London to ensure that their child is up to date on their routine immunisation course. The summer holidays are a good opportunity to catch up on any outstanding vaccinations before children return to school and start mixing again.

Vaccination rates have been falling in London, which was further exacerbated during the pandemic. We need to maintain a high level of vaccine uptake across the population to reduce the risk of outbreaks and the potentially serious impacts on children's health. Since February we have seen an increase in the number of cases of measles across North West London which may develop into life-threatening illnesses such as meningitis and pneumonia.

Booking a vaccine over the summer

Any young person in London who is not up to date with their routine childhood or teenage vaccinations can book one over the summer holidays.

Where do I get my child's vaccine?

Your child can get their routine vaccinations at their GP surgery or via your local school age team. They deliver the teenage vaccination programme of HPV from year 8. Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) vaccine and the 3-in-1 teenage booster vaccine which boosts protection against tetanus, diphtheria and polio. These are both offered to young people aged 13 or in year 9. If they have been missed, they can be caught up at any age.

The NHS has also been contacting the parents of children who are not fully vaccinated to book an appointment at their GP practice or to access them at specialist community clinics in your local area. These will continue over the summer.

For residents of:

- **Brent, Ealing, Hillingdon, Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster** please use this link to book any outstanding teenage vaccines: [Child Immunisation Service :: Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust \(cnwl.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/child-immunisation-service-central-and-north-west-london-nhs-foundation-trust)
- **Harrow and Hounslow** please use this link please use this link to book any outstanding teenage vaccines: <https://clchschoollimmunisations.co.uk>
- For more information on childhood diseases e.g. measles: [Health A to Z - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/health-a-to-z)
- NHS vaccination schedule: [NHS vaccinations and when to have them - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-vaccinations-and-when-to-have-them)

- Why vaccines are safe and effective [Why vaccination is safe and important - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/health/a-z/why-vaccination-is-safe-and-important)

If you have any queries or require further information please contact nhsnw.immunisations@nhs.net

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,

NHS North West London Immunisations Team