



Your Growing Healthy Team are here for all children and young people, providing support, encouraging healthy lifestyles and protecting those who are most vulnerable.

April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: HPV vaccine for Year 8 boys and girls**

We are very pleased to announce that all Year 8 boys will be offered the HPV vaccine alongside the girls starting September 2019.

We have been advised that a catch-up programme for older boys is not necessary as evidence suggests they're already benefitting greatly from the indirect protection (known as herd protection) that's built up from 10 years of the girls' HPV vaccination programme.

The HPV vaccine is a safe and effective vaccine that helps protect girls against cervical cancer, anal cancer, genital cancers and cancers of the head and neck. The vaccine helps protect boys against anus, penis and head and neck cancers. Please follow this link for more information;

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine/>

A letter will follow in the summer term advising you of how to consent for the vaccination online. If you would like any more information about the programme or to speak to one of our nurses please call 01423 542360 or email [Childhood.Immunisations@hdfn.nhs.uk](mailto:Childhood.Immunisations@hdfn.nhs.uk)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support with the Immunisation programmes.

Yours sincerely

**Lois Alderson**  
Clinical Lead for Childhood Immunisations for North Yorkshire, and City of York