



Ellesmere

A 7 – 18 Coeducational School

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4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Dear Parent,

### **Protection from Meningitis and Septicaemia and School Leaver's Booster**

I am writing to inform you that we are offering a MenACWY vaccine as a vaccination programme for all 13 and 14 year olds. This vaccine protects against Meningitis (inflammation of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning) caused by meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y.

Our records show that your child is eligible to receive this vaccine which will be given by the Shropshire Community Health Immunisation Team at our vaccination clinic to be held on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019**.

It is very important that they take up the vaccine. It is being offered in response to a rapidly growing increase in cases of a highly aggressive strain of meningococcal disease group W. (Meningitis is a serious life threatening condition and can leave you with life long after effects.) The vaccine also protects against three other meningococcal groups too – A, C and Y and will boost their protection against MenC.

At the same time they can have the School Leaver's Booster against Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio.

Further information on the vaccination programme and meningococcal disease can be found on NHS Choices at:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/men-acwy-vaccine.aspx>

Please complete the attached consent forms, whether or not you wish your child to be vaccinated, and return it to me no later than **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019**. If you are aware of any medical reason why your child should not be given this vaccine, or if they have already received it elsewhere, please inform the College surgery in writing.

If your child is unable to make this date for any reason please let us know as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

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