

# Immunisation Policy

## Beech Hill School



**Approved by:** Samantha Bowling

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Last reviewed on:** September 2023

**Next review due by:** September 2025

**Rationale:**

To inform parents and schools about their pupil immunisation responsibilities and exclusion processes during an infectious disease outbreak.

**Definitions:**

- **Vaccination** means having a vaccine – that is, receiving an injection.
- **Immunisation** means both receiving a vaccine and becoming immune to a disease as a result of being vaccinated.
- **Exclusion** is the period of time for which a student is required to not attend school.

**Implementation:**

While responsibility for the prevention and control of infectious diseases is primarily with individuals, families and public health authorities, schools also have an important role to play.

**Schools:**

- are required to request and record the immunisation status of each child, i.e. primary students prior to enrolment,
- must follow exclusion requirements as required, and
- can support the prevention and control of transmission of infectious diseases by:
  - supporting immunisation programs, and
  - providing prompt and consistent response to detected or suspected cases of disease.
- **should not be expected to:**
  - give expert advice or treat students. This is the role of medical practitioners and health authorities, as appropriate.

**Note:** Prior to commencing primary school, children should have received their childhood vaccinations as per the National Immunisation Program Schedule.

External Link:

[Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings](#)

## School Responsibilities – Exclusion Processes

This table details the exclusion processes for pupils

Student	Exclusion Process
Primary Students	<p>The Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2018 require children with certain infectious diseases, and children who have been in contact with certain infectious diseases, to be excluded from school for a specified period.</p> <p>During an outbreak of an infectious disease Headteacher of primary students must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• be aware of and abide by exclusion requirements</li><li>• not allow a child to attend school if:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ they have been informed that the child is infected with an infectious disease, that requires exclusion,</li><li>○ they have been informed that a child is a contact of a person</li><li>○ they have not been immunised against a vaccine preventable disease and are directed to do so by the principal and until the principal directs that such attendance can be resumed.</li></ul></li></ul>

### Related legislation

- Public Health England – Guidance on infection control and immunisation

### Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the three-year review cycle, in accordance to the Department's immunisation policies.

This policy was ratified by the Governing Body in September 2023



## The complete routine immunisation schedule

From September 2023

Age due	Diseases protected against	Vaccine given and trade name		Usual site <sup>1</sup>
Eight weeks old	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib) and hepatitis B	DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB	Infanrix hexa or Vaxelis	Thigh
	Meningococcal group B (MenB)	MenB	Bexsero	Left thigh
	Rotavirus gastroenteritis	Rotavirus <sup>2</sup>	Rotarix <sup>2</sup>	By mouth
Twelve weeks old	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, Hib and hepatitis B	DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB	Infanrix hexa or Vaxelis	Thigh
	Pneumococcal (13 serotypes)	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)	Prevenar 13	Thigh
	Rotavirus	Rotavirus <sup>2</sup>	Rotarix <sup>2</sup>	By mouth
Sixteen weeks old	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, Hib and hepatitis B	DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB	Infanrix hexa or Vaxelis	Thigh
	MenB	MenB	Bexsero	Left thigh
One year old (on or after the child's first birthday)	Hib and MenC	Hib/MenC	Menitorix	Upper arm/thigh
	Pneumococcal	PCV booster	Prevenar 13	Upper arm/thigh
	Measles, mumps and rubella (German measles)	MMR	MMRvaxPro <sup>3</sup> or Priorix	Upper arm/thigh
	MenB	MenB booster	Bexsero	Left thigh
Eligible paediatric age groups <sup>4</sup>	Influenza (each year from September)	Live attenuated influenza vaccine LAIV <sup>5,6</sup>	Fluenz Tetra <sup>5,6</sup>	Both nostrils
Three years four months old or soon after	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio	dTaP/IPV	Boostrix-IPV	Upper arm
	Measles, mumps and rubella	MMR (check first dose given)	MMRvaxPro <sup>3</sup> or Priorix	Upper arm
Boys and girls aged twelve to thirteen years	Cancers and genital warts caused by specific human papillomavirus (HPV) types	HPV <sup>6</sup>	Gardasil 9	Upper arm
Fourteen years old (school Year 9)	Tetanus, diphtheria and polio	Td/IPV (check MMR status)	Revaxis	Upper arm
	Meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y	MenACWY	Nimenrix	Upper arm
65 years old	Pneumococcal (23 serotypes)	Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPV23)	Pneumovax 23	Upper arm
65 years of age and older	Influenza (each year from September)	Inactivated influenza vaccine	Multiple	Upper arm
65 from September 2023 <sup>7</sup>	Shingles	Shingles vaccine	Shingrix	Upper arm
70 to 79 years of age (plus eligible age groups and severely immunosuppressed) <sup>7</sup>	Shingles	Shingles vaccine	Zostavax <sup>3,7</sup> (or Shingrix if Zostavax contraindicated)	Upper arm

1. Intramuscular injection into deltoid muscle in upper arm or anterolateral aspect of the thigh.  
 2. Rotavirus vaccine should only be given after checking for SCID screening result.  
 3. Contains porcine gelatine.  
 4. See annual flu letter at: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-flu-programme](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-flu-programme)  
 5. See Green Book HPV Chapter 15a for details on immunising immunocompromised young people who will need 3 doses.

6. If LAIV (live attenuated influenza vaccine) is contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable use inactivated flu vaccine (check Green Book Chapter 10 for details).  
 7. See Green Book Shingles Chapter 25a for details on eligible age groups including severely immunosuppressed individuals from age 50.



For vaccine supply information for the routine immunisation schedule please visit [portal.immform.phe.gov.uk](https://portal.immform.phe.gov.uk) and check Vaccine Update for all other vaccine supply information: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/vaccine-update](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/vaccine-update)



## Selective immunisation programmes

Target group	Age and schedule	Disease	Vaccines required
Babies born to hepatitis B infected mothers	At birth, four weeks and 12 months old <sup>1,2</sup>	Hepatitis B	Hepatitis B (Engerix B/HBvaxPRO)
Infants in areas of the country with TB incidence >= 40/100,000	Around 28 days old <sup>4</sup>	Tuberculosis	BCG
Infants with a parent or grandparent born in a high incidence country <sup>3</sup>	Around 28 days old <sup>4</sup>	Tuberculosis	BCG
Children in a clinical risk group	From 6 months to 17 years of age	Influenza	LAIV or inactivated flu vaccine if contraindicated to LAIV or under 2 years of age
Pregnant women	At any stage of pregnancy during flu season	Influenza	Inactivated flu vaccine
	From 16 weeks gestation <sup>5</sup>	Pertussis	dTaP/IPV (Boostrix-IPV)

1. Take blood for HBsAg at 12 months to exclude infection.

2. In addition hepatitis vaccine (Infanrix hexa or Vaxelis) is given at 8, 12 and 16 weeks.

3. Where the annual incidence of TB is >= 40/100,000 – see

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-tb-by-country-rates-per-100000-people](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-tb-by-country-rates-per-100000-people)

4. Check BCG screening outcome before giving BCG.

5. Ideally before 32 weeks gestation but may still be given after 32 weeks.

## Additional vaccines for individuals with underlying medical conditions

Medical condition	Diseases protected against	Vaccines required <sup>1</sup>
Asplenia or splenic dysfunction (including due to sickle cell and coeliac disease)	Meningococcal groups A, B, C, W and Y Pneumococcal Influenza	MenACWY MenB PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Annual flu vaccine
Cochlear implants	Pneumococcal	PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age)
Chronic respiratory and heart conditions (such as severe asthma, chronic pulmonary disease, and heart failure)	Pneumococcal Influenza	PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Annual flu vaccine
Chronic neurological conditions (such as Parkinson's or motor neurone disease, or learning disability)	Pneumococcal Influenza	PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Annual flu vaccine
Diabetes	Pneumococcal Influenza	PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Annual flu vaccine
Chronic kidney disease (CKD) (including haemodialysis)	Pneumococcal (stage 4 and 5 CKD) Influenza (stage 3, 4 and 5 CKD) Hepatitis B (stage 4 and 5 CKD)	PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Annual flu vaccine Hepatitis B
Chronic liver conditions	Pneumococcal Influenza Hepatitis A Hepatitis B	PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Annual flu vaccine Hepatitis A Hepatitis B
Haemophilia	Hepatitis A Hepatitis B	Hepatitis A Hepatitis B
Immunosuppression due to disease or treatment <sup>4</sup>	Pneumococcal Shingles vaccine Influenza	PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2,3</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Shingrix – over 50 years of age <sup>5</sup> Annual flu vaccine
Complement disorders (including those receiving complement inhibitor therapy)	Meningococcal groups A, B, C, W and Y Pneumococcal Influenza	MenACWY MenB PCV13 (up to 10 years of age) <sup>2</sup> PPV23 (from 2 years of age) Annual flu vaccine

1. Check relevant chapter of the Green Book for specific schedule: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book)

2. If aged 2 years to under 10 years of age and unimmunised or partially immunised against pneumococcal infection, give one PCV13 dose.

3. To any age in severely immunosuppressed.

4. Consider annual influenza vaccination for household members and those who care for people with these conditions.

5. Check Green Book Shingles Chapter 26a: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/shingles-herpes-zoster-the-green-book-chapter-26a](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/shingles-herpes-zoster-the-green-book-chapter-26a)