

March 2023

Re: The Laura Brennan HPV Vaccination Catch-up Programme

Dear Parent, Guardian or Student,

In this letter you will find information about the Laura Brennan HPV Vaccination Catch-up Programme. The HSE is offering young people another chance to protect themselves from HPV, by receiving the HPV vaccine, if they were not vaccinated when they were offered it previously. This opportunity is available in 2023 for eligible people to get the HPV vaccine.

Who is being offered this vaccine?

The HPV (Human Papillomavirus) catch-up vaccination is being offered to:

- Females (currently in 2nd year – 6th year) who have not received the HPV vaccine
- Males (currently in 2nd year – 4th year (5th year if they did not do transition year)) who have not received the HPV vaccine

Students (both male and female) currently in 1st year are being offered HPV vaccination this year as part of the routine school immunisation schedule.

How many doses are needed?

The recommendations of the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) about the number of HPV vaccine doses needed has recently changed. Most students only need to receive **one dose** of HPV vaccine (if your child has a weak immune system they will need 3 doses). Please visit www.hpv.ie for more information.

What to do if you/your child has already received the HPV vaccine

If your child has already received at least one dose of the HPV vaccine they do not need another dose of the vaccine. If they have a weak immune system and they did not complete the HPV vaccine course when they were offered it, please contact the school vaccination team.

How do I get my child/myself vaccinated?

If your child is 15 years old or younger and eligible for the Laura Brennan HPV Vaccination Catch-up Programme you will be able to phone for an appointment into the Immunisation Department in Rathass Tralee. There are two dates arranged presently. These dates are the 23rd of March and the 20th of April. To arrange an appointment for your child please contact

Catherine Kearney on (066)7195682 (Boys) or **Kerry Anne Mooney on (066)7184570 (Girls)**

From the end of April 2023 you will be able to register your child for vaccination on www.hpv.ie.

We will use social media and other channels to notify people when this option is available.

Young people aged 16 years and over may register themselves for the Laura Brennan HPV Vaccination Catch-up Programme on www.hpv.ie.

Where will the vaccine be given?

The HSE vaccination team will offer the vaccine to you/your child in the Covid Vaccination Centre, Borg Warner Monavalley Industrial Est Tralee V92HT21.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the above numbers and they will be happy to help. Further information is also available on www.immunisation.ie and www.hpv.ie

Yours sincerely

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