

Secondary School Immunisation Program

OFFICIAL

Collection statement

Information for schools and parents/guardians to understand the purpose of the collection statement.

Sample letter and FAQs for parents/guardians of Year 7 and Year 10 students

Dear parent/guardian

The Secondary School Immunisation Program offers free vaccines to all eligible Year 7 and Year 10 students.

Year 7 students

- Diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Year 10 students

- Meningococcal ACWY

The local council immunisation service delivers the school-based immunisation program. The local council will provide immunisation consent forms and information to your child's school for your child to bring home. Parents/guardians are required to complete and return the immunisation consent forms to their child's school.

The [Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2019](http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_reg/phawr2019331/s112.html)

<http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/consol_reg/phawr2019331/s112.html> authorises secondary schools to provide their local council with student and parent/guardian contact information for any student scheduled to receive a vaccination. This information is only used to assist local councils to follow-up parents/guardians of students with incomplete or missing immunisation consent forms.

What information is given to local council?

The school provides the following basic student and parent/guardian contact information to the local council immunisation service:

- student name
- date of birth
- gender
- year level and class group
- parent/guardian contact details
- language(s) spoken at home.

Why does the school provide this information?

- To improve communication with parents/guardians regarding their child's vaccination needs.
- To ensure all eligible students are offered the opportunity to access free vaccinations at school.
- To reduce the administrative burden on school staff to follow-up consent forms.
- To eliminate manual data entry processes.

What do I need to do?

1. Read the information provided in your child's consent form and complete all sections.
2. Return the immunisation consent form with all relevant fields completed to school, even if you choose not to consent for your child to be vaccinated as part of the secondary school immunisation program.
3. Your information will be provided to Merri-Bek Council in March. If you do not wish for your details to be provided, please advise the school in writing before the last school day in February.

Every day vaccination saves lives and makes it possible for Victorians to live free from the illness and disability caused by many infectious diseases.

For further information please go to the following links:

- Privacy - <https://www.antonine.catholic.edu.au/uploads/PDF/Policies/School-Privacy-Policy.pdf>
- [Immunisation in Secondary Schools](https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/immunisation-in-secondary-schools)
<<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/immunisation-in-secondary-schools>>

From your Principal Joanne Bacash