

## Understanding Cervical Cancer and the HPV vaccine

Dear Parent/Carer,

Most of you will be aware that girls aged 12-13 are routinely offered the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, which helps prevent most cases of cervical cancer. From this year, the vaccination is being given to boys too. The vaccination will take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

To help support our students to understand how the vaccine helps and what it involves, resources provided by Teenage Cancer Trust and Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust can be found at <https://www.teenagecancertrust.org/about-us/what-we-do/cancer-awareness/resources#cervicalcancer>

And <https://www.jostrust.org.uk/information/hpv>

### Who have provided the resources?

Teenage Cancer Trust is a national charity dedicated to helping young people understand and fight cancer. Teenage Cancer Trust's national 'Understanding Cancer Together' presentation is recognised by the government as it raises awareness of cancer which can lead to earlier diagnosis of cancer.

Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust is a national UK charity dedicated to supporting women affected by cervical cancer and other cervical abnormalities. We want to see cervical cancer become a disease of the past and work raise awareness of how it can be prevented through the HPV vaccination and cervical screening programmes.

### Why is this important?

Cervical cancer affects around 3,000 women every year in the UK. By protecting against certain types of HPV, the vaccination protects against 70% of cervical cancer cases and 90% of genital warts. For more information about the HPV vaccine, please visit NHS Choices or read the following leaflet: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/hpv-vaccine-vaccination-guide-leaflet](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hpv-vaccine-vaccination-guide-leaflet). You can also reduce your risk of cervical cancer by attending your cervical screening (smear test) when invited by your GP. Screening saves 5000 lives in the UK each year.

Should you have any further questions about the content of the resources please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Hannah Weaver

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in association with

Jo's cervical  
cancer trust

