



Circular 0043/2013

To  
BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**Primary School Vaccination Programme and  
MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) Vaccination Catch up  
Campaign in 2013/2014.**

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has asked the Department of Education and Skills to circulate to the Principals of recognised schools the attached letter to inform schools of the HSE primary school vaccination programme for the 2013/2014 school year.

The Minister for Education and Skills acknowledges the continued support by school management in preventing and responding to public health concerns.

Further information about the vaccinations contained in the school vaccination programme 2013/14 is available at [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie) and the HSE dedicated website [www.hpv.ie](http://www.hpv.ie). The Department's website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie) under National Emergencies/Public Health will provide a link to the HSE websites

TOM DEEGAN  
PRINCIPAL OFFICER

SEPTEMBER, 2013.

August 2013

## Primary School Vaccination Programme 2013/2014

Dear Principal,

This letter is to inform you of the Health Service Executive (HSE) primary school vaccination programme in 2013/2014.

### 1. School vaccination programme

All children aged 4 -5 years of age should receive a booster dose of diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), polio and tetanus (the 4 in 1) vaccine and a second dose of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. To date these vaccines have been given by HSE vaccination teams in primary schools in most parts of the country and in the remainder by general practitioners in their surgeries.

As a review of data from Ireland and from other countries strongly suggests that provision of vaccines through school based programmes results in significantly greater vaccine uptake, most areas will provide a school based service for these routine vaccines in 2013/2014 (see overleaf for more details).

### 2. MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) Vaccination Catch up Campaign

As part of Ireland's commitment to the World Health Organization's European measles elimination strategy the HSE has decided to offer a dose of MMR vaccine to all pupils in primary schools in 2013/2014. This is a one off campaign in response to large outbreaks of measles in Ireland and Europe. These outbreaks have occurred because some young people have not received the recommended two doses of MMR vaccine.

This catch up campaign will be delivered from September 2013 alongside the routine immunisation programme and may require additional time depending on the demand.

Information packs for these vaccination programmes are currently being prepared and will be distributed to schools in the coming weeks.

I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in the delivery of these vaccination programmes. The HSE vaccination teams will work with you to ensure these take place as efficiently as possible.

Should you or any parents require further information please visit [www.immunisation.ie](http://www.immunisation.ie) or contact your local immunisation office (phone numbers overleaf)

Yours sincerely



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Dr Kevin Kelleher  
Assistant National Director of Health and Well-Being - Health Protection, Health Promotion & Child Health  
Medical Registration Number 19719

## Contact phone numbers for HSE Local Health Immunisation Offices

Local Health Offices by county or area	Phone Number	
	4 in 1	MMR Catch up
<b>Carlow</b>	056 7784496 056 7784495	056 7784495 056 7784531
<b>Cavan</b>	049 4373149	049 4373149
<b>Cavan - West Cavan</b>	071 9155148	071 9155148
<b>Clare</b>	065 6868022	065 6868022 065 6868039
<b>Cork - North Cork</b>	022 58700	022 58736
<b>Cork - North Lee</b>	021 4273087	021 4921775
<b>Cork - South Lee</b>	021 4923214	021 4923214
<b>Cork - West Cork</b>	028 40419	028 40419
<b>Donegal - Buncrana</b>	074 9361044	074 9361044
<b>Donegal - Dungloe</b>	074 9521343	074 9521343
<b>Donegal - Letterkenny</b>	074 9123753	074 9123753
<b>Donegal – Donegal Town</b>	074 9721074	074 9721074
<b>Dublin North</b> (areas covered Artane(part), Coolock, Darndale, Edenmore, Raheny, Kilbarrack, Howth, Sutton, Baldoyle, Portmarnock, Malahide, Swords, Lusk, Rush, Skerries, Balbriggan and Naul)	01 8164259	01 8164259
<b>Dublin North Central</b> (areas covered Ballymun, Drumcondra, Whitehall, North inner City, Fairview, Clontarf and Donnycarney)	01 8467289 01 8467097	01 8467289 01 8467097
<b>Dublin North West</b> (areas covered Cabra, Phibsborough, Finglas, (Part) Glasnevin, Castleknock, Blanchardstown, Mulhuddart and Smithfield)	01 8975139	01 8975100
<b>Dublin South</b> (areas covered Dun Laoghaire, Blackrock, Stillorgan, Cabinteely, Foxrock, Dalkey, Shankill and Loughlinstown)	01 2365248	01 2365246 01 2365244 01 2365247
<b>Dublin South City</b> (areas covered South Inner City, Ringsend, Rathmines, Terenure, Churchtown and Rathfarnham)	086 3837416	01 4156501
<b>Dublin South East</b> (areas covered Baggot St, Ranelagh, Donnybrook, Dundrum, Churchtown, Ballinteer Leopardstown and Sandyford)	01 2680419	01 2680419
<b>Dublin South West</b> (areas covered Crumlin, Drimnagh, Tallaght, Templeogue and Firhouse)	01 4141390	01 4141390 01 4141393
<b>Dublin West</b> (areas covered Clondalkin, Ballyfermot, Palmerstown, Lucan, Inchicore and Rathcoole)	01 6206313 01 6206461	01 6206313 01 6206461
<b>Galway</b>	091 546180	091 546180
<b>Kerry</b>	066 7195682 066 7195683	066 7195683
<b>Kildare</b>	045 907929 045 907935	045 907937 045 907938
<b>Kilkenny</b>	056 7784496 056 7784495	056 7784495 056 7784531
<b>Laois</b>	057 9359559	057 8692500
<b>Leitrim</b>	061 483990	071 9155148
<b>Limerick</b>	061 483058	061 483935
<b>Limerick - East Limerick</b>	071 9155148	061 483058
<b>Longford</b>	044 9395076	043 3339705
<b>Louth</b>	042 9332287	042 9332287
<b>Mayo</b>	094 9042218	094 9042217
<b>Meath</b>	046 9021595	046 9021595
<b>Monaghan</b>	047 30484	047 30484
<b>Offaly</b>	057 9359559	057 9359544
<b>Roscommon</b>	090 6637545	090 6637545

Local Health Offices by county or area	Phone Number	
	4 in 1	MMR Catch up
<b>Sligo</b>	071 9155148	071 9155148
<b>Tipperary - North Tipperary</b>	067 46416	067 46416
	067 46410	067 46410
<b>Tipperary - South Tipperary</b>	052 6177329	052 6177329
<b>Waterford</b>	051 846772	051 8462909
	051 846705	051 842964
<b>Westmeath</b>	044 9395076	044 9395076
		090 6477115
<b>Wexford</b>	053 9243290	053 9243290
		053 9243289
<b>Wicklow</b>	0404 60643	0404 60643
		0404 60691
<b>Wicklow - West Wicklow (areas covered Baltinglass, Blessington and Dunlavin)</b>	045 907929	045 907937
		045 907935

### Primary Schools Immunisation Programme Schedule 2013/2014

Immunisations	Recommended Age	Target Population	Delivery of Vaccinations 2013/2014
4 in 1 + MMR2 (MMR1 given at 12 months)	4 to 5 years (2 injections)	65,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSE delivered to children in junior infants in 30 LHOs (Local Health Offices)</li> <li>GP delivered in 2 LHOs*</li> </ul>
MMR catch-up 2013/2014	Age 4-12 years (1 injection )	500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSE delivered to children in senior infants to sixth class.</li> </ul>

\* Donegal and Sligo /Leitrim

Please note that for vaccination sessions to take place the HSE teams will require

- Use of a large room such as a hall/indoor sports court. In choosing this area it would be very useful if there was a separate entrance and exit.
- Hand-washing facilities
- Tables and chairs for vaccinating teams (depending on size of school and vaccinating team)
- Chairs or mats for one class of students at any one time
- A liaison member of staff or a designated student to call students from class at the appropriate time for vaccination and return them to class in an orderly way after vaccination