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Dear Parents,

In my previous letter I gave some details regarding the introduction of an immunisation programme developed by The Department of Health to protect girls from HPV infection (human papillomavirus).

The government has now announced the plans for this. The vaccination programme will be aimed at girls aged 12-13 (Year 8) and will begin in September 2008. There will be a catch-up campaign starting in Autumn 2009 and running for two years.

Girls aged 16-18 (Years 12 and 13) will be offered vaccination in 2009/10  
Girls aged 15-17 (Years 11 and 12) will be offered the vaccination in 2010/11

This means the girls currently in Years 12 and 13 will not be included in this catch-up.

The vaccinations will be carried out at school by the school nurses from Haringey Primary Care Trust, and will run alongside the routine vaccinations of all Year 8 girls.

Further details of the programme is given on the Department of Health website. We would be happy to advise parents who may have any queries about the programme or the vaccine itself, or you may wish to speak to your own GP.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Tasnim Franklin  
School Nurse