

Dear Parent/Guardian of Mazenod College Students in Years 10, 11 & 12,

RE: Meningococcal ACWY Secondary School Vaccine Program

In 2017 the Victorian Secondary School Vaccine Program will offer free meningococcal ACWY vaccine to students in Years 10, 11 and 12. The vaccine provides protection against four strains of meningococcal disease (ACWY) and is administered as a single dose.

Local councils will deliver the vaccine program and schools are responsible for distributing information and consent cards to parents/guardians of students in Years 10, 11 and 12.

The *Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009* authorises secondary schools to provide their local council with student and parent/guardian contact information for any student scheduled to receive a vaccination.

What information goes to local council?

Schools provide the following basic student and parent/guardian contact information:

- Student name, gender, date of birth, year level, class, language(s) spoken at home.
- Parent/guardian names, phone numbers, email and postal addresses.

Why do schools provide this information?

- To ensure all students in Years 10, 11 and 12 have the opportunity to access free meningococcal ACWY vaccination at school.
- To improve communication with parents/guardians regarding their child's vaccination needs.
- To reduce the administrative burden on school staff to follow-up consent cards.

What do I need to do?

1. Your information will be provided to Monash Council in June 2017. If you do not wish for your details to be provided, please advise the school in writing before 7 June 2017.
2. Read the information provided on your child's consent card and complete all sections, regardless of whether you consent for your child to be vaccinated as part of the school-based program.
3. Detach the card with all fields completed, and return to school by next Monday May 29th.

For further information please go to the following links:

- <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/complainschool.aspx>
- <http://www.betterhealthchannel.com.au>
- <http://www.immunehero.health.vic.gov.au/parents>

Students in Years 11 & 12 will receive their vaccination on Thursday 17th August and Year 10 students on Tuesday 24th October. Students will be given consent cards at school today (24/05).

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact the College nurses on 8561 1159

From Mr Tony Coghlan