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**Rhaglen Afiechydon Ataliadwy Trwy Frechu
(RAAF)**

Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, Y Deml Heddwch a Iechyd
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(VPDP)**

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Dear Headteacher,

Changes to the childhood influenza vaccination programme

The childhood influenza (flu) vaccination programme is now entering its third year in Wales. I am writing to thank you for your help and support during the first two years of the programme and to update you regarding plans for the 2015-16 flu season, to help you plan for the autumn school term.

The arrangements for the 2015-16 flu season were recently announced by the Chief Medical Officer for Wales, and this year the secondary school flu vaccine pilot will cease in Wales. Therefore children in school year 7 will not be offered flu vaccine in school this autumn. The childhood flu vaccination programme will however continue to roll out in primary schools and we anticipate that children of secondary age will be included again after full implementation in primary schools. Secondary school aged children with a health condition that puts them at increased risk of developing complications from flu infection should continue to obtain their flu vaccine each autumn from their GP in the usual way.

In 2015-16, nasal spray flu vaccine will be offered to all children aged two to six years on 31st August 2015. Older children will be offered flu vaccine in primary school, and two and three year olds will be offered at their GP surgery. Younger children are more vulnerable to flu infection, and more likely to spread the flu virus, which is the reason for the increased focus on younger children this year.

For your advance information only, in response to a large increase in meningococcal disease caused by the Meningococcal group W strain, a programme offering vaccination to all young people aged 13-18 years began in August this year. The current plans are to replace the MenC vaccine (given alongside the teenage booster vaccine in year 9) with the MenACWY vaccine to give additional protection against MenW disease. The programme will also include a two year catch up programme in both GP surgeries and schools with the aim of improving protection for young people and to reduce spread of the disease.

An outline of the plan is as follows however for further detail on local implementation please contact your school nurse.

- For the 2015/16 academic year the MenACWY vaccine will be offered to all pupils in year 9 and year 11

- For the 2016/17 academic year the MenACWY vaccine will be offered to all pupils in year 9 and year 11
- GP surgeries will be expected to offer vaccination to all young people over compulsory school leaving age (year 12 onwards, regardless of whether they are in school or not) and to those areas where there is not a school based vaccination programme in place.

You do not need to do anything at the moment, you will be contacted by your health board in the academic year (2015/16) to discuss how and when the Meningococcal ACWY vaccination programme is likely to be implemented in your school.

We would also like to take this opportunity to ask you to highlight to new parents the importance of their child being up to date with all immunisations when starting secondary school. Around 95% of 11 year old children are fully up to date with MMR vaccine, but 1 in 20 remain vulnerable to measles, mumps and rubella (German measles).

In 2014-15, the schools element of the childhood flu vaccination programme was a great success in Wales with 74.3% of year 7 pupils receiving the vaccine. This could not have been achieved without the invaluable support and hard work of schools and the school nursing service.

Thank you again for your support with delivering this important public health programme.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Jane Dyson
Immunisation Nurse Specialist



Dr Richard Roberts
Head of Programme

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Medi 2015

Annwyl Bennaeth,

Newidiadau i'r rhaglen brechu plant rhag y fflw

Mae'r rhaglen brechu plant rhag y fflw bellach yn dechrau ei thrydedd flwyddyn yng Nghymru. Ysgrifennaf i ddiolch i chi am eich cymorth a'ch cefnogaeth yn ystod dwy flynedd gyntaf y rhaglen ac i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i chi am y cynlluniau ar gyfer tymor y fflw 2015-16, i'ch helpu i gynllunio ar gyfer tymor yr hydref yn yr ysgol.

Cafodd y trefniadau ar gyfer tymor y fflw 2015-16 eu cyhoeddi'n ddiweddar gan Brif Swyddog Meddygol Cymru, ac eleni, bydd cynllun peilot brechu rhag y fflw mewn ysgolion uwchradd yn dod i ben yng Nghymru. Felly, ni fydd plant ym mlwyddyn 7 yn cael cynnig brechlyn y fflw yn yr ysgol yn ystod tymor yr hydref. Bydd y rhaglen brechu plant rhag y fflw yn parhau i gael ei chyflwyno mewn ysgolion cynradd fodd bynnag ac rydym yn rhagweld y bydd plant oed uwchradd yn cael eu cynnwys eto ar ôl ei gweithredu'n llawn mewn ysgolion cynradd. Dylai plant ysgol uwchradd sydd â chyflwr iechyd sy'n cynyddu eu risg o ddatblygu cymhlethdodau wrth gael eu heintio â'r fflw barhau i gael eu brechu rhag y fflw bob hydref gan eu meddyg teulu yn y ffordd arferol.

Yn 2015-16, bydd brechlyn chwistrell drwynol y fflw yn cael ei gynnig i bob plentyn dwy i chwech oed ar 31 Awst 2015. Bydd plant hŷn yn cael cynnig brechlyn y fflw yn yr ysgol gynradd, a bydd plant dwy a thair oed yn cael ei gynnig yn eu meddygfa. Mae plant iau yn fwy agored i gael eu heintio â'r fflw, ac yn fwy tebygol o ledaenu feirws y fflw, sef y rheswm dros ganolbwyntio mwy ar blant iau eleni.

Er gwybodaeth ymlaen llaw yn unig, mewn ymateb i gynnydd mawr yng nghlefyd meningococaid a achosir gan straen Meningococaid grŵp W, dechreuodd y rhaglen yn cynnig brechlyn i bob person ifanc 13-18 oed ym mis Awst eleni. Bydd y cynlluniau presennol yn disodli'r brechlyn MenC (a roddir gyda'r brechlyn atgyfnerthu i arddedgwr ym mlwyddyn 9) gyda'r brechlyn MenACWY i roi amddiffyniad ychwanegol yn erbyn clefyd MenW. Bydd y rhaglen hefyd yn cynnwys rhaglen dal i fyny dros ddwy flynedd mewn meddygfeydd ac ysgolion gyda'r nod o wella'r amddiffyniad ar gyfer pobl ifanc ac i atal y clefyd rhag lledaenu.

Mae amlinelliad o'r cynllun fel a ganlyn ond am fwy o fanylion am ei roi ar waith yn lleol, cysylltwch â'ch nyrs ysgol.

- Ar gyfer blwyddyn academaidd 2015/16, bydd brechlyn MenACWY yn cael ei gynnis i bob disgybl ym mlwyddyn 9 a blwyddyn 11
- Ar gyfer blwyddyn academaidd 2016/17, bydd y brechlyn MenACWY yn cael ei gynnis i bob disgybl ym mlwyddyn 9 a blwyddyn 11
- Disgwylir i feddygfeydd gynnis brechlyn i bob person ifanc dros oed gorfodol gadael yr ysgol (blwyddyn 12 ymlaen (p'un ag ydynt yn yr ysgol neu beidio) ac i'r ardaloedd hynny lle nad oes rhaglen wedi ei sefydlu ar gyfer brechu yn yr ysgol.

Nid oes angen i chi wneud unrhyw beth ar hyn o bryd. Bydd eich bwrdd iechyd yn cysylltu â chi yn y flwyddyn academaidd (2015/16) i drafod sut a phryd bydd rhaglen frechu ACWY Meningococcaidd yn debygol o gael ei rhoi ar waith yn eich ysgol.

Hoffem hefyd achub ar y cyfle hwn i ofyn i chi amlygu i rieni newydd bwysigrwydd imiwneiddio plant yn llawn wrth iddynt ddechrau'r ysgol uwchradd. Mae tua 95% o blant 11 oed wedi cael y brechlyn MMR llawn, ond mae 1 o bob 20 yn dal yn agored i'r frech goch, clwy'r pennau a rwbela (brech goch yr Almaen).

Yn 2014-15, roedd elfen ysgol rhaglen brechu plant rhag y fflw yn llwyddiant mawr yng Nghymru gyda 74.3% o ddisgyblion blwyddyn 7 yn cael y brechlyn. Ni fyddai wedi bod yn bosibl cyflawni hyn heb gymorth amhrisiadwy a gwaith caled ysgolion a gwasanaeth nyrsio ysgolion.

Diolch unwaith eto am eich cymorth yn darparu'r rhaglen iechyd cyhoeddus bwysig hon.

Yn gywir




Mrs Jane Dyson

Nyrs Arbenigol Imiwneiddio

Dr Richard Roberts

Pennaeth y Rhaglen

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