Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

November 2025

Kia ora, Greetings,

Re: Information for whānau - Immunisations at school for Year 7 & 8 students 2026.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, all tamariki are offered free immunisations as part of the National Immunisation Schedule, regardless of their visa or citizenship status. This includes **tetanus**, **diphtheria**, **whooping cough (Boostrix) at 11 years old**, **HPV (Gardasil) from 9 years old** and measles, mumps, and rubella (**MMR**) from 12 months of age.

In 2026 we are pleased to offer these immunisations to Year 7 & 8 students through the school-based programme at your school. It is your choice whether you consent for none, some, or all immunisations offered at school. These immunisations are also available at general practice and some pharmacies.

What vaccines will be available for your child:

Gardasil 9 gives effective, long-lasting protection against genital warts and nine types of Human Papillomavirus that can cause certain cancers.

Boostrix protects against Tetanus, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

MMR protects against Measles, Mumps and Rubella.

Boostrix and MMR immunisation plays an important part in reducing the likelihood of a whooping cough or measles outbreak in our communities.

Consent to immunise:

We check student immunisation status on the Aotearoa Immunisation Register (AIR). In early 2026 students who are not fully immunised receive a **consent form and information** to bring home. Please read the information provided to decide if you want your child/tamaiti to receive immunisations at school.

- Complete the consent form and return to school. This lets us know whether you give consent or do not consent for each immunisation.
- School will communicate with you the date of our visits to vaccinate students.
- You can **withdraw consent at any time before the immunisation day** by emailing: <u>CA-NPHS-Immunisationphn@tewhatuora.govt.nz</u>

We are here to help - please contact us if you have any questions or would like to speak with a nurse about these immunisations <u>CA-NPHS-Immunisationphn@tewhatuora.govt.nz</u>.

Ngā mihi,

Kate Parfitt

Clinical Nurse Manager Kaiwhakahaere Nēhi

Public Health Nursing, Vision, and Hearing Services Waitaha