



Guidance

# Chapter 5: immunisation

Updated 27 March 2019

Immunisations should always be checked at school entry and at the time of any vaccination. Parents should be encouraged to have their child immunised and any immunisation missed or further catch-up doses required should be organised through the child's GP. The national schedule changes periodically so it is important to check the [NHS website](#) for up to date details. Alternatively, the school health service can advise on the latest national immunisation schedule.

Children who present with certain risk factors may require additional immunisations. Your local community NHS health team can provide further information if required.

## Staff immunisation

It is important that all staff are up to date with the current immunisation schedule (see above). In addition to this, the following risk areas should be considered:

### Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B vaccine is not recommended for routine school or nursery contacts of an infected child or adult. Hepatitis B vaccine is, however, recommended for staff who are involved in the care of children with severe learning disability or challenging behaviour, and for these children, if they live in an institutional accommodation<sup>1</sup>. In such circumstances, it is the responsibility of the employer to finance the vaccine programme<sup>2</sup>.

# Rubella

Women of childbearing age should check with their GP that they are immune to the rubella (German measles) virus. Those who are not immune should be immunised with MMR vaccine. The vaccine should not be given during pregnancy.<sup>1</sup>

## References

1. [www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book) ↵ ↵<sup>2</sup>
2. [www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/service-provision/hepatitis-b-immunisations](http://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/service-provision/hepatitis-b-immunisations) ↵

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