



Dear Student,

**Did you know that as a Year 13 student you can protect yourself against meningitis and septicaemia? Book an appointment with your GP for a free vaccination.**

Meningococcal disease is not common but potentially life-threatening and can cause meningitis (inflammation of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning).

As a Year 13 student you may have received a meningococcal vaccination a few years ago (in Year 9 or 10) which will have given you protection against meningococcal C. You now need to receive a vaccination to protect you against meningococcal W. It is very important that you receive the vaccine as older teenagers are most at risk with an increasing number being diagnosed with the disease. This disease can cause meningitis and septicaemia that can kill in hours and those who recover can be left severely disabled.

Make sure you book an appointment with your GP as soon as possible; you may already have received an invitation from them. If you are going to university in September, make sure you get vaccinated before you go.

For more information please talk to your parents/carers or staff at your school, or visit <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/men-acwy-vaccine.aspx>

Yours sincerely

L BRUNT

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*High quality care for all, now and for future generations*