

Secondary School Immunisation Program



Merri-bek
City Council

In 2026 Merri-bek City Council Immunisation Service will visit your child's secondary school to administer vaccines due in Year 7 and Year 10. The school vaccines are free of charge and don't require Medicare to be eligible.

What's on offer?

For Year 7 students*:

1. Human papillomavirus virus (HPV) vaccine (Gardasil) is a single dose that offers protection from the virus which causes some cervical, genital, anal and throat cancers, and some genital warts.
2. Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough vaccine (Boostrix or Adacel). This is a booster dose to top up the protection they got from their last dose (likely aged 4 or 5 years old).

* Both vaccines are highly recommended. You can consent to one or both vaccines.

For Year 10 students^:

1. Meningococcal ACWY vaccine (MenQuadfi) offers protection from 4 strains of meningococcal disease (A,C,W & Y).

^The Meningococcal B vaccine is highly recommended for this age but for most of the population isn't free. Your school will let you know if we're offering it at your child's school and payment will be made in advance online. It can also be accessed through your local Council community sessions, the doctor and some pharmacies.

More general vaccine information: [Immunisation in secondary schools - Better Health Channel](#)

How will I consent?

You will complete your YES or NO consent **online**. In the leadup to our visit the school will send you the consent link. The link will have vaccine information, translations and will allow you to consent to the vaccines. Once consent is complete you will receive an email. This will also allow you to log back in and change consent once it's submitted if needed.

What happens on the day?

On the day your child will come with their class and teacher to a designated spot at the school to receive their vaccines. Their details will be verified along with the consent you have supplied before any vaccine is administered. Only students with a YES consent will be immunised. Following their immunisation students are offered a lollipop and seated in an observed area for 15 minutes before returning to class. Post immunisation information will be emailed to the consenting parent.

Can we have the secondary school vaccines elsewhere?

Yes, secondary school vaccines and additional paid vaccines can be accessed through your local council, doctor or some pharmacies if you prefer. If you have other children who missed their vaccines in year 7 and 10, they can have them as catch ups. Merri-bek City Council immunisation appointments can be made at www.merri-bek.vic.gov.au (search immunisation appointment)

Are secondary school vaccines compulsory?

The secondary school vaccines are highly recommended but not compulsory.

Questions?

Please email us at immunisation@merri-bek.vic.gov.au or call 92401111.

Most families return a yes consent for vaccines given at school. Vaccines are a safe and effective way to protect your child and your community. Merri-bek City Council Immunisation Service is happy to offer you the opportunity to have your child immunised with the secondary school vaccines in the school environment.