

School Immunisation Program (SIP)

Communications toolkit for schools

About this kit

This kit is for South Australian schools and educators to help promote the School Immunisation Program (SIP).

In 2024 the SIP will provide free recommended vaccines for student in Years 7 and 10.

Year 7 students are offered diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (dTpa) and human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations, and Year 10 students are offered meningococcal ACWY and meningococcal B vaccinations.

We have included a variety of sample messages, social media content and posters that can be tailored and used as needed to bring awareness of the program to both students and parents.

Including:


- > School newsletter, parent/carers email or web article – page 2
- > Sample SMS messaging – page 2
- > For missed immunisations – page 3
- > Staff newsletter/flyers/notice boards – page 3
- > Social media content – page 4
- > Posters – page 5

Download the communications tools

You can download the visual communication tools via the [SA Health website](#).

If you would like any of the tools tailored for your audience, e.g. using a specific image or language, please email HealthCommunications@sa.gov.au.

Keep up to date

- > www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram
- > Follow us on social media:
 -  facebook.com/SAHealth

Contact the Communicable Diseases team at SA Health

If you have any questions, please speak to your School's Immunisation Program provider or email HealthCommunicableDiseases@sa.gov.au.



School newsletter, parent/carers email or web article

School Immunisation Program – coming soon!

A trained vaccination team will be visiting our school to offer free vaccines to students in Year 7 and 10 through the SA Health School Immunisation Program.

Immunisation consent packs will be going home soon to parents/carers of all Year 7 and Year 10 students.

It is important that you read the information contained in the packs before you give consent for your child to be vaccinated at school.

Year 7 students will be offered:

- One dose of Gardasil®9 vaccine (Human papillomavirus, vaccine)
- One dose of Boostrix® or Adacel® vaccine (diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough booster).

Year 10 students will be offered:

- Two doses of Bexsero® vaccine (meningococcal B, 8 weeks apart as part of state funded program)
- One dose of Nimenrix® vaccine (meningococcal ACWY).

Even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated, please sign and return the consent card to indicate you do not consent.

If you would rather your child be vaccinated elsewhere, and not at the school, please contact **<insert the name of your School Immunisation Program provider>** to make those arrangements for your child at one of their clinics. If you go to your local doctor or participating pharmacy for the vaccinations, they may need to order the vaccines. The vaccines will be free, but your doctor may charge a consultation fee.

For more information and access to resources, including videos for parents, students, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, visit:

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram.

Please note: School Immunisation Program records may be required for future employment or travel.

Sample SMS messaging

- Your child is eligible for free immunisations at our school on **[insert date]**. We have given your child an immunisation consent pack to bring home.
- REMINDER: Please check with your child as immunisation consent cards have been handed out. If you haven't received the immunisation consent pack, please contact the school.
- REMINDER: please return your immunisation consent card by **[insert date]**.
- If you have consented for your child to receive their vaccines, please make sure your child is at school on **<insert date>**.

For missed immunisations

If you have provided consent and your child is unwell or not at school on the vaccination day, the School Immunisation Program provider will send a reminder letter to you with details on where to take your child to receive their missed vaccines.

Staff newsletter/flyers/notice boards

- A trained vaccination team will be visiting our school soon to offer free vaccines to students in Years 7 and 10 through the SA Health School Immunisation program.
- An immunisation consent pack for parents/carers of students in Years 7 and 10 will be distributed in the next few weeks for parents/carers to read, sign and return.
- Please encourage and remind your Year 7 and Year 10 students to get their immunisation consent cards signed in time by their parents/carers.
- Even if a parent/carer from your school does not want their child vaccinated, we ask that all parents/carers sign and return the consent card. This is important as it will indicate that every eligible student has been given the opportunity to get their free immunisations.
- Students in Years 7 are offered free vaccines funded under the National Immunisation Program to protect them from diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, and human papillomavirus (HPV).
- Students in Year 10 are offered free vaccines for both meningococcal B and meningococcal ACWY funded through State and National Immunisation Programs.
- We encourage you to speak with your school immunisation program contact if you have any questions about the program and its delivery.
- If you need help promoting the program to your students, SA Health has prepared a communications toolkit with some sample messaging and resources.
- For more information, including resources and videos, visit:
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram.

Social media content

Social media graphics are available on the [SA Health website](#) to support the promotion of the School Immunisation Program to your school community.

If you have any concerns or require any other resources to help promote the School Immunisation Program, please speak to your school's immunisation program provider or email SA Health Corporate Communications at HealthCommunications@sa.gov.au.



The below sample social media messaging can be used and tailored, as needed.

Announcing that the program is happening soon

To give your child the best protection, make sure they have their FREE recommended immunisations in years 7 and 10.

Immunisation consent packs will be going home to parents/carers of all Year 7 and 10 students very soon.

Please read the information contained in the packs before you give consent for your child to be vaccinated at school.

Even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated, please sign and return the card to indicate you do not consent.

Year 7 students will be offered:

- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine
- diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough (pertussis) vaccine

Year 10 students will be offered:

- meningococcal B vaccine
- meningococcal ACWY vaccine

For more information, visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram.

Reminder about consent packs going out

We have given your child a letter and immunisation consent card (consent pack) to bring home.

Please complete all fields and return the immunisation consent card by **[insert date]**.

Even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated, please sign and return the card to school indicating you do not consent. It is important for SA Health records to show that every student has been offered free immunisations at school.

Your child will only be vaccinated if you complete, sign and return the immunisation consent card indicating 'yes' to immunisation.

If you haven't received the immunisation consent pack, please contact us.

For more information, visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram.

Reminder to return consent cards

Reminder: Please complete all fields and return your immunisation consent card by **[insert date]**.

Your child will only be vaccinated if you complete, sign and return the immunisation consent card indicating yes to immunisation.

If you haven't received the immunisation consent pack, please contact us.

Even if you do not want your child to be vaccinated, please sign and return the card to school indicating you do not want to consent.

For more information, visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram.

Announcing when the vaccination team visit the school

Year 7 and 10 students will be getting their immunisations at school on **[insert date]**.

If you have provided consent and your child is unwell or not at school on the immunisation day, your School's Immunisation Program provider will send a reminder letter to you with details on where to go to receive the missed vaccines.

It is important that students receive all and any missed doses of vaccine as soon as possible while they remain free of charge.

For more information, visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/schoolimmunisationprogram.

Posters

Posters are available on the [SA Health website](#) to support the promotion of the School Immunisation Program in your school community.

If you have any questions about the program, please speak to your School's Immunisation Program provider or email HealthCommunicableDiseases@sa.gov.au.

If you require any additional resources to help promote the School Immunisation Program, please email SA Health Corporate Communications at HealthCommunications@sa.gov.au.