

School Programme Information on **School Needles** for **Pavee Lackeens** and **Sublas**



PAVEE POINT
TRAVELLER AND ROMA CENTRE



This time of year if your child is in junior infants, they will bring home a letter from school, to ask permission for them to get their 2 needles:

- **4 in 1 needle which protects from diphtheria, polio, tetanus and whooping cough**
- **MMR needle (a follow-up from the 12 months MMR) which protects from measles, mumps and rubella.**

These needles are free and it is really important that all children, including Traveller children, get these needles as it helps protect them from these very serious illnesses.

If your child missed any of their childhood needles, including the MMR, they can still get these needles in junior infants.

It is never too late and some level of protection is better than none at all. Your child can catch-up with any needles they've missed as a baby, through the GP/ GP nurse.

Where will my child get the needle?

- A nurse or doctor from the HSE gives the needles in school.

Free

- Needles are free for children. You never have to pay.



If your child misses the school day

- They can still get the needles.
- The letter you will get, will tell you who to contact to arrange for your child to get the needles. You can also phone your local health office www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/1/lho/

After the Needles

- Your child will have the best protection against measles if they have had 2 doses of the MMR needles.
- Some children may have a sore arm or feel a little tired afterwards, but this will pass quickly.
- The needles **do not** give children sickness. They help the body stay strong and well.
- The needles **do not** cause autism. There is no link between vaccines and autism.

Get more information from trusted sources like your Nurse/Doctor/GP/ Chemist, or visit the HSE website **Vaccines for your child**

Or get in touch with your Traveller Primary Health Care Project and local Traveller organisations : paveepoint.ie/local-and-national-traveller-organisations/