

South West Public Health

Section 7a Screening & Immunisations Bulletin



Issue 132: 3rd April 2023

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ICARS Newsletter

Please find attached the weekly ICARS newsletter with supplementary documents.

Reminder for 'Back to school' vaccinations - resources for nursery, primary and secondary school starters

Starting or returning to nursery or school is an exciting time for all children. As they will be mixing with lots of children, making sure they are up to date with their routine immunisations gives them the best protection from infectious diseases.

UKSHA has produced reminder postcards which can be sent to parents whose children are due to start in the summer term, as well as posters that you may wish to add to Practice notice boards. There can be many reasons why children have missed out on their vaccines during the pandemic.

Reminding parents now and before their children return for the summer term or start in September gives them time to prioritise making appointments for their child to catch up with their pre-school booster, MMR and make sure they know the signs and symptoms of meningitis and septicaemia. Please find below links to resources for nursery and school settings that you may also find useful -

Posters

[Primary school poster](#)

[Secondary school poster](#)

[Nursery poster](#)

Postcards

[Primary school postcard](#)

[Secondary school postcard](#)

[Nursery postcard](#)

For Information: Cold Chain Best Practice Guidance

As we move towards the spring and summer which brings an increased number of Bank Holidays, we wanted to draw your attention to some key reminders around best practice for cold chain maintenance. Please remember these 5 key points:

1. You are holding **no more than 2 – 4 weeks' worth of stock** at any one time
2. **Fridge temperatures are checked and recorded twice daily** during working days. On weekends and bank holidays this should be done last thing on Friday (or Thursday in the case of Easter weekend) and first thing on Tuesdays.
3. **Data loggers are in place** and confirmed to be working
4. **Fridges are not over full** as this can prevent air circulating properly and increased temperatures
5. **Cold chain incidents should be immediately reported to england.swicars@nhs.net**. We can support with stability information which can prevent unnecessary vaccine wastage

Further Information

Back issues of these bulletins and attachments are available on the NHS England website [here](#). **Please note that if there are no items for your information a GP Bulletin will not be circulated.** If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Integrated Public Health Team at england.swscreeningandimms@nhs.net.