

LISSON GROVE AND WOOLWELL MEDICAL CENTRE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND THOSE WITH PARENTAL CONTROL

Enclosed is an invitation to bring your child to the surgery for an immunisation. Following new legislation it is now necessary for parents (or those with parental responsibility) to sign a document consenting to your child having the childhood vaccinations.

The surgery recognises that work commitments mean that parents cannot always attend the surgery with their child and often grandparents attend to perform this important duty. However to ensure that those attending the surgery are acting with parental responsibility, we ask that the following be signed and returned when your child attends for his/her immunisations. A separate form is required for each visit. If the person attending the clinic does not have consent for parental responsibility the procedure cannot be carried out.

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PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY CONSENT DOCUMENT

Childs Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Parents Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____

_____ Date _____

Telephone Number where we can reach you in the event or query _____

I/We have agreed that (please supply name and address of individual to whom you have passed parental responsibility)

can attend and act on our behalf in relation to the immunisation of the above name child. We understand that a member of the surgeries clinical team will provide them with information and details with regard to the immunisation programme and that they will then be asked to sign a document consenting to the childhood immunisation program.

Both consent documents will then form part of your child's medical records and will be accessible to the Healthcare professionals providing this service.

The information above will be used for the purposes of this treatment only.

PATIENT INFORMATION

Who has parental responsibility?

The Children Act (1989) outlines who has parental responsibility:

- The mother of a child automatically has parental responsibility regardless of whether she is married to the father. If the mother is under 16, the GP must establish that she is Gillick competent to make the decision. This will depend on the complexity of the procedure involved.
- A father also has parental responsibility if he was married to the mother when the child was born or they married later. An unmarried father whose child is born before 1 December 2003 does not automatically have parental responsibility but can acquire it by way of a parental responsibility agreement, parental responsibility order (PRO) or a court order. For children born after this date, if the father's name is on the birth certificate, then this acts as a PRO.
- Legally appointed adoptive parents.
- A legally appointed guardian.
- Someone who has a custody order or a residence order for the child.
- A local authority that has a care order but not when the child is being cared for under section 20 of the Children's Act (in voluntary care).
- A local authority or another authorised person who has an emergency protection order for the child.