



July 2019

Dear Doctor/Practice Nurse

Meningitis and MMR vaccination for students

Your patient has been offered a place at Durham University for the forthcoming year and I am writing to ask for your help in ensuring that she/he is up-to-date with vaccinations before arriving in Durham.

As you will be aware meningococcal meningitis can be a serious problem in communities such as ours. We would therefore be grateful if you would offer this vaccination in line with the meningitis (ACWY) vaccine catch-up programme for first year university students under the age of 25.

In Durham over recent years, in common with other universities and colleges, we have had outbreaks of measles and mumps amongst students. The associated illness and the need for isolation and suspension from studies and exams have caused significant distress and disruption. It would appear that this situation has arisen because some students received only one dose of MMR and their immunity has now declined. Current advice is that they should receive two doses. I would be grateful for your help in providing a second dose to your patient before she/he comes to Durham.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Dale".

Mr Sam Dale
Director of Student Support and Wellbeing