Year 13: meningitis and septicaemia
TAKE ACTION NOW

Did you know that as a Year 13 student you should now book an appointment with your GP to protect yourself against meningitis and septicaemia?

Meningococcal disease is a rare but life-threatening disease caused by meningococcal bacteria. Meningococcal bacteria can cause meningitis and septicaemia and both diseases are very serious and can kill.

As a Year 13 student you may have received a meningococcal vaccination a few years ago (in

Year 9 or 10) which will have given you protection against meningococcal C. You now need to receive a vaccination to protect you against meningococcal W. It is very important that you receive the vaccine as older teenagers and young people are most at risk. It is being offered in response to a rapidly growing increase in cases of a highly aggressive strain of meningococcal W. This disease can cause meningitis and septicaemia that can kill in hours, and those who recover may be left severely disabled. The vaccine also protects against three other meningococcal groups too – A, C and Y.

Make sure you book an appointment with your GP as soon as possible; you may already have received an invitation from them. If you are going to University in September, make sure you get vaccinated before you go.

For more information please talk to your parents/carers or staff at your school.