# Childhood Vaccinations

Wondering why vaccinations are recommended? Worried about vaccine side effects?

Have a read of this leaflet, which aims to answer some questions regarding childhood vaccinations!

### **Baby Vaccination Schedule**







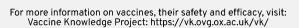






#### About these Vaccines

- The 6-in-1 vaccine is very safe, and provides protection against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, Hib, polio and hepatitis B infections. It is inactivated (killed), and your child cannot get any of these diseases from the vaccine. As a single vaccine, it ensures your child is not injected repeatedly
- The rotavirus vaccine is given orally, and provides protection against rotavirus. This vaccine contains a weakened version of the virus, which will help your baby build immunity against the virus
- The MenB vaccine immunizes your baby against meningococcal group B bacteria. This bacteria is the leading infectious cause of death in babies and children in the UK
- The pneumococcal vaccine is inactivated (killed) and cannot cause the pneumococcal infections it protects against. These infections can cause pneumonia, meningitis and blood poisoning
- The Hib/MenC vaccine is a single injection and is very safe. It is inactivated, and will not cause the diseases it protects against
- The MMR vaccine is very effective and safe, and protects your child against measles, mumps and rubella. It does not cause autism (see below for more information!)







## Why vaccines are beneficial

Benefits for your child:

- · Protects your child against serious diseases
- · Develops your child's immune system

Benefits for the community:

· When enough people are vaccinated, 'herd immunity' develops, which makes it harder for those who cannot get vaccinated to fall seriously ill



#### Vaccine myth-busting

- Vaccines do not cause autism
  - The source below has compiled 10 articles refuting the link between the MMR vaccine and autism: https://vk.ovg.ox.ac.uk/vk/mmr-vaccine
- · Vaccines do not cause allergies



#### Possible side effects

- Side effects can depend on the type of vaccine given
- Common side effects are:
  - Pain or redness at the site of injection

  - Irritability on the day of the vaccine

### Treating side effects

- If your child develops a fever, keep him/her hydrated
- Paracetamol for babies (eg. Calpol) can help with a high temperature
- · Comforting your child after a vaccination can help calm him/her down

