School Nurses ’Drive through immunisation clinics’

COVID 19 meant that the Isle of Wight School Nursing service was unable to complete the scheduled childhood immunisations in schools prior to enforced closure. Recognising the even more vital need to immunise as many children as possible, the service quickly redesigned and with the support of the Isle of Wight NHS Trust, Isle of Wight Council, 0-19 Public Health Team, liaison with Secondary Schools, parents, children, PHE (COVID guidance) and NHS England, were able to speedily develop Drive-Thro immunisation clinics!

The IOW NHS Trust had access to ‘pods’ with power and hot water and the council were happy to support us in using council carparks.

Parents were contacted via the consent form information; the process was explained and they were given an appointed time.

Our catch up session on the routine child health immunisation programme has worked so well that we were able to use the model to advertise and offer the Y8 HPV in the same way which has been extremely well received by families.

“Thank you so much for today, it was an absolute breeze, no fuss, clear instruction

and quick and efficient service.”

‘’X...was super anxious beforehand but the School Nurses were all so kind and welcoming and they put him completely at ease. Fabulous team’’

It is still early days to analyse quantitative data, however, we confidently do know that immunisation uptake and coverage is much better than it would have been due to the implications and restrictions of Coronavirus.

This innovation has gone ‘viral’ with numerous UK wide children and young people immunisation providers adopting this model of practice as well as other health services such as asthma check up’s for children.

We also know from our stakeholders that confidence in the safety of clinical settings has decreased. Being able to offer open air facilities has gone a long way in addressing some of these issues.