

26th Oct 2015

**Gold Coast Hospital
and Health Service**

Dear parents/guardians of Year 8 students,

In July/August of this year I wrote to you via your school to seek your views on the current school immunisation program for Year 8 students by completing a short online questionnaire. I am writing to you again to invite parents who have not yet had the opportunity to take part in the review to complete the survey before it closes towards the end of November 2015.

All parents of Year 8 students attending Gold Coast Schools have been invited to take part in this review and so far our response rates in individual schools have varied between 2% and 40% of parents. The review is important as the Gold Coast has been declared to have the second lowest school program coverage in the whole of Australia. We need to hear from parents about how to improve it for them.

We would like to thank those parents who have already completed the survey as we have already implemented some changes for next year's program because of their feedback.

We are still interested in receiving views from parents' who have not yet taken part about their experience with the program, even if their child did not receive any vaccines through the school.

Those students who are currently receiving their vaccines at school this term are provided with information about the survey to take home with their immunisation record. The survey takes no more than 10 minutes to complete, and consists of tick-box questions that can be completed on a smartphone, tablet or computer.

Your participation in the survey is voluntary and anonymous. Your responses to this survey will be kept confidential. You will not be identified in any report and any contact details you provide will be stored securely.

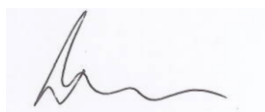
To take part in the survey, please visit the web address or scan the QR code below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/yr8-school-immunisation>



If you have any concerns or would like further information, please contact me on (07) 5687 9000, or Paul.VanBuynder@health.qld.gov.au

Thank you for your participation,



Professor Paul Van Buynder
Staff Specialist Public Health
Gold Coast Public Health Unit

Level 7, 16-30 High Street, Southport 4215
Telephone +61 7 5687 9000
Facsimile +61 7 5687 9114
<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/goldcoasthealth/>
ABN 82 616 992 416