

National Vaccination Day

Dear Parents,

Immunization is a safe and effective way to protect individuals from many serious and life-threatening diseases. National Vaccination Day is observed in India on 16 March. It underscores the importance of timely vaccination and acknowledges the dedicated efforts of healthcare professionals and researchers who make immunisation programmes successful. This day marks the launch of India's Pulse Polio Initiative in 1995, which led to the elimination of polio from our country.

Vaccines prepare the body's immune system to recognise and fight specific infections, reducing the risk of illness and complications.

Why Is Vaccination Important?

- It helps prevent the spread of communicable diseases
- Builds strong and long-lasting immunity
- Provides essential protection for children, senior citizens, and people with weakened immunity

Key Immunization Milestones in India:

- Smallpox was eliminated from India in 1979 through nationwide vaccination efforts.
- Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) was added to the national programme in 2016.
- The Measles–Rubella campaign (2017) covered children from 9 months to 14 years.
- Tetanus–Diphtheria (TD) vaccine is now recommended at 10 years, 16 years, and during pregnancy.
- The large-scale administration of COVID-19 vaccines (Covaxin and Covishield) demonstrated India's strong public health response.

Over the years, immunization has played a crucial role in reducing child mortality and controlling many infectious diseases. Ensuring that all vaccinations are taken as per schedule is an important step towards safeguarding individual and community health.

We request all parents to review their child's vaccination records and ensure that their due vaccines are administered on time.

Regards,

Medical Department

Delhi Public School – Bopal, Ahmedabad