



your child's

GROWTH

measuring chart



A message from Hon Greg Hunt MP

Looking after your children is the most important thing for any parent but childhood immunisation levels fell to just 53 per cent by 1996 - lower than third world countries.

That's why the Federal Coalition Government introduced a new, practical plan when first elected in 1996. And it's working. More Australian children are now protected from preventable diseases like measles, whooping cough and German measles. Immunisation levels have increased from 53 per cent to around 90 per cent. And there's still more work being done.

The Federal Coalition Government has also taken action to protect older Australians by providing free flu vaccines to those aged 65 and over - part of the National Influenza Vaccine Programme. It's a sad fact that in 1996, influenza and resulting conditions such as pneumonia claimed the lives of over 1,600 older Australians. I urge all local residents aged 65 and over to take advantage of this programme by making a vaccination appointment with their GP.

I'm proud to be part of a government that is actually delivering some practical things to help out local families. If I can be of assistance to you in these or other matters, please give me a call.

Regards,

greg hunt

Immunisation - protecting our children

There are two reasons for immunising everyone in Australia:

1. Immunisation is the safest and most effective way of giving protection against the disease. After immunisation, your child is far less likely to catch the disease if there are cases in the community. The benefit of protection against the disease far outweighs the very small risks of immunisation.
2. If enough people in the community are immunised, the infection can no longer be spread from person to person and the disease dies out altogether. This is how smallpox was eliminated from the world, and polio has disappeared from many countries.

Immunisation Hotline
1800 653 809

Information on the internet
www.health.gov.au/pubhlth/immunise

eat lots of fruit

drink lots of water

play lots of sport

hop, skip and jump - have fun!

dance to music



At the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre which will benefit from over half a million dollars in Commonwealth funding.

A special community newsletter from

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Member for Flinders

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