



27 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Vaccinations Update

Further to my email on 14 September, we have now received guidance and paperwork relating to the vaccinations of 12-15 year olds within schools.

The role of the school

Schools are being contacted to host the vaccination sessions for 12-15 year olds. The local SAIS (School Aged Immunisation Service) team has been in contact with us to agree a date for the vaccination sessions and the best approach for implementing the programme in our school.

The SAIS provider will be in school on **Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 October 2021**.

Schools will have 3 primary roles and they are as follows:

1. To provide information to their SAIS provider on which children on their roll are eligible for the vaccine
2. To share the information leaflet (which we have not yet received), consent form and invitation letter (attached) supplied by the SAIS team
3. To provide the space within school, and the time away from the timetable to enable vaccinations to take place

12-15 year olds, not considered clinically vulnerable

The government has stated that all children aged 12 to 15 years are now being offered the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccination.

The School Aged Immunisation Service (SAIS) will be the primary provider of the vaccination programme for healthy 12 to 15 year olds and will be legally and contractually responsible for the delivery of the vaccine. The vaccines will be administered by healthcare staff following the usual approach to school-based immunisation.

Consent

All parents or those with parental responsibility will be asked for consent. A consent form provided by the SAIS team is attached and will be used to seek parental consent for those aged 12-15. Once you submit this form it will go direct to the SAIS and not the school. You will also be provided with a contact number for the SAIS team in case of any queries.

Be The Best You Can Be

If you do not wish for your child to be vaccinated please complete the form and select **No** in Question 17.

If you do not return the consent form and your child wishes to have the vaccine on the day, every effort will be made by the SAIS to contact you to seek your verbal consent. **The school has no role in this process at all.**

The school is only responsible for hosting the immunisation service. We are not responsible for securing parental or child consent, for assessing Gillick competence or mediating between parents and children who may disagree about whether or not to consent. This is the role of registered nurses in the SAIS.

If you have questions about whether to consent to your child getting the vaccine, you should contact the **Community and School Aged Immunisation Service on: 0300 790 0597.**

As COVID-19 is still prevalent in the community and we do still have positive cases that are currently at home self-isolating, can I please remind you to take regular LFD tests at home to help reduce the risk of COVID-19.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Smyrk', written over a faint, illegible printed name.

Ian Smyrk
Headteacher