



04 January 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian

COVID-19 vaccination for children aged 12 to 15 years of age

I am writing to inform you that we will soon be offering the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccination in school, as well as a further opportunity for children to receive their first dose. I would like to ask if you wish to give your consent for your child to receive this vaccine.

The main purpose of the COVID-19 school age vaccination programme is to provide protection to the children who receive the vaccine, to prevent complications following COVID 19 infection and reduce disruption to children's education. Vaccination may also help to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the wider population.

This vaccination will be free of charge. During the vaccination delivery we will maintain the range of measures we have in place to keep your child safe from COVID-19.

If you choose to consent, we will schedule the vaccination appointment within the school day. Consent forms should be signed by a person with parental responsibility for the child. Please discuss the vaccination with your child and anyone else who has parental responsibility for your child.

Please indicate your consent by returning the attached form to a member of staff **within 2 school days** of the issue of this letter. Please ensure that the details you complete on the consent form match the details on your child's medical record.

If we do not receive a signed form, **we will not take self-consent from your child in the school setting** but may attempt to contact you to discuss further. If you do not want your child to have the vaccination, please return the form having ticked the disagree box.

If your child in year 7 is not yet 12 years old on the day we attend your child's school, we will be unable to vaccinate your child. You can, however, provide consent in advance of their birthday. Children who have recently tested positive for COVID-19 should wait 12 weeks before being offered the vaccine. Second doses can be offered 12 weeks after each child received the first dose. If your child can't be vaccinated when we attend their school, we will provide further opportunities to access the vaccine outside school. Please see the following (regularly updated) webpage for details <https://www.stockportccg.nhs.uk/news/covid-19-vaccination-options/>.

Further information about the vaccine can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-eligible-children-and-young-people-aged-12-to-17>. If you have any questions about this vaccine that aren't answered on the website, please telephone 0161 474 5912 for further advice.

Best wishes,

Jennifer Connolly
Director of Public Health
Stockport Council