

8th October 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

COVID-19 vaccinations - 12 to 18 year olds

I am writing to update you regarding the COVID-19 vaccination programme for 12-18 year olds. We are now able to confirm that COVID-19 vaccinations will be offered in school on Monday 18th October 2021 and Tuesday 19th October 2021. This vaccination will be free of charge and the Government has made it a priority to make it easy for children to access one dose of the vaccine before the winter. The main purpose of the COVID-19 school age vaccination programme is to provide protection to the children who receive the vaccine and it may help to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the wider population.

Participation in the vaccination programme is voluntary. In order for your child to receive a dose in school, we need to seek your consent. Please indicate your consent by filling out [this](#) Google Form by 4pm on Thursday 14th October 2021. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any responses after that point owing to the fact that we must give final numbers to the NHS vaccination team by Friday 15th October 2021.

All children and young people are eligible if they are aged 12 and above on the date of their vaccination. However, any children or young people who have had COVID recently need to wait 28 days from the date of their positive PCR test before they can be given the vaccination. Should this mean they will miss the vaccinations in school on 18th or 19th October 2021, they will be able to ask their GP for the vaccination.

Should your child be aged 12-15 and is in a vulnerable category, and if they have had one dose of the Pfizer vaccine, the NHS can offer a second Pfizer dose (as long as it is 8 weeks apart). Should they have had no doses, they can have a first Pfizer dose at school and their second dose organised and coordinated through their GP.

On the day of the vaccination, your child will be required to wear a face mask when inside the vaccination site (the main school hall). I will write again to parents/guardians who give consent to confirm which day your child's vaccination will take place. On the day of their vaccination, we would recommend wearing Ruislip High School PE kit.

As per the information leaflets shared previously which can be found [here](#), your child may experience some mild side effects for one or two days following their vaccination, such as: having a painful, heavy feeling and tenderness in the arm where they had their injection; feeling tired; having a headache, aches and chills. It is our expectation that mild side effects should not prevent your child from attending school.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the vaccination programme, please do not hesitate to contact the School Aged Immunisations Service (SAIS). The contacts for Hillingdon are: Helen Davis (helendavis1@nhs.net) and Pat Stephens (patriciastephens@nhs.net).

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher