

September 2021

School Aged Immunisations Team

Adelaide Health Centre
William Macleod Way
Millbrook
Southampton
SO16 4XE

Dear Parent/Guardian,

www.solent.nhs.uk

COVID-19 vaccination for 12-15 year olds
Years 9 and 11 – 18th October 2021

Actions:

- 1. After reading the letter, and accompanying information, discuss with your child the benefits and risks of the COVID-19 vaccination**
- 2. Complete consent form (2 pages), including NHS Number**
- 3. Sign and date the consent form**
- 4. Return completed consent form to the school at least 48 hours before vaccination session**
- 5. Notify the school of any changes to child's health before the session**

Following the recommendation by the Government, the School-aged immunisation team will be visiting all secondary schools in Portsmouth, Southampton, and on the Isle of Wight over the next six weeks to offer all students in years 8-11 a single dose of COVID-19 vaccine. No vaccines will be administered without valid consent (see consent section for further details).

We plan to visit your child's school on: **Monday 18th October 2021**

Anyone aged 12 to 15 years old is eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine. Pupils in Year 7, who have reached their 12th birthday on the day of the session are able to receive the vaccine. Those children who are 12 years old after the booked session in school will be called at the end of the programme (the end of October) after half term to be offered a vaccination. All children who are 12 years old after the programme has completed will be invited to attend an appointment at a clinic at a later date.

Please note if you have consented to your child receiving a flu vaccination this may be given at the same time as your child's COVID-19 vaccination as per the national recommendation.

Your support helps us protect the health of all the children within your school and the wider community.

Consent process

All parents, or those with parental responsibility, are asked to provide consent and we encourage you to make this decision together with your child/children, and by completing the attached consent form.

In secondary schools, where a consent form has not been completed but the child is mature enough to make the decision to consent, they will be able to do so. We will enable this to happen by inviting the young person to a subsequent planned session. This may be held either at the school if appropriate, or in another vaccination setting and will allow the young person to have a further conversation with the healthcare team and someone with parental responsibility.

The attached paper consent form will need to be completed at least 48 hours in advance of your child's vaccination session to allow time for the clinical nursing team to triage and ensure that your child can receive the vaccination safely. If you do not wish for your child to be vaccinated, a non-

consent can also be provided on the same form. **Please ensure you complete all sections of the form** including NHS Number – the link below can help you find this.

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/online-services/find-nhs-number/>

If your child is unwell, or there is a change in their health status including any new health diagnosis or new medication, please notify your child's school on the day of the session.

Please return the consent form back to the school reception by: **9am on Friday 15th October 2021**

****Please note that if a form is incomplete, we may be unable to give the vaccine at this session. Both sides of the form need to be completed, including the health questions, and the form must be signed and dated.**

If you have any questions you can email the following address - hsiccg.covid.vaccination.enquiries@nhs.net

Please see more detail about the COVID vaccination and what to expect below (please scan QR codes via your smart phone)



[COVID-19 vaccination – A guide for children and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)
[What to expect after your COVID-19 vaccination – Advice for children and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Accessible/Easy read resource and consent form can be found here:



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-easy-read-resources-for-children-and-young-people>

We also attach a pack of frequently asked questions.

Yours faithfully,

Solent NHS Trust School Aged Immunisation Team