

September 2021

Dear parent/guardian,

### COVID-19 Vaccination for 12-15 year olds

Following the recommendation by the Government, the School-aged immunisation team will be visiting all secondary schools in Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight over the next 6 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: **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Anyone aged 12 to 15 years old is eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine. Therefore, pupils in Year 7, who have reached their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday will be called at the end of the programme, after half term.

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 children, 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. If this is the case, the young person will be given the vaccine in a scheduled school session where possible or will be invited to attend a further appointment at school or vaccination centre after further discussion and consideration with parents or those with parental responsibility if appropriate.

The attached paper consent form will need to be completed at least 24 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, then non-consent can also be provided on the same form.

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 your school by **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

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 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/91111/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-children-and-young-people.pdf)

[What to expect after your COVID-19 vaccination – Advice for children and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/91112/what-to-expect-after-your-covid-19-vaccination-advice-for-children-and-young-people.pdf)

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>

If you have any questions at all, or if you are unable to complete the consent form, please contact the School Aged Immunisation Team via email:

Portsmouth - [snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-ports@nhs.net](mailto:snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-ports@nhs.net)

Southampton - [snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-soton@nhs.net](mailto:snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-soton@nhs.net)

Isle of Wight [snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-iow@nhs.net](mailto:snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-iow@nhs.net)

Yours faithfully,

**Solent NHS Trust School Aged Immunisation Team**