

9 February 2022

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

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As you know, we have been working hard to keep our school and our community safe this school year. The main purpose of the COVID-19 secondary schools vaccination programme is to provide protection to the children who are vaccinated and to reduce the disruption to face-to-face education.

COVID-19 is a very infectious respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Very few healthy children and young people with COVID-19 infection go on to have severe disease.

The decision to vaccinate is down to you as the parent/guardian/carer, and your child. I understand that you will have questions about the vaccine and the process.

### What will happen next

You are being sent a paper consent form organised by the NHS England School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) for you to complete and link below for additional information leaflet from the NHS. The SAIS team will carry out the vaccinations and manage the consent process. We are expecting the SAIS team to visit Alperton Community School on 8 March 2022 to vaccinate all 12 to 15 year olds who have provided consent.

1. If your child has received a first dose will also be asked to also consent for a second dose of the vaccine.

The SAIS team will generally check that your child still has consent to proceed at the next dose.

**All consent decisions must be returned by Friday, 25 February 2022.**

### What will happen on the vaccination day

The process on the day will be quick and easy. The vaccine will be administered by trained and experienced healthcare staff. Whilst parents/guardians/carers unfortunately can't attend on the day, the SAIS team will do their best to support you and make them feel comfortable child during their vaccination.

If your child is absent on the day of the vaccination or unable to be vaccinated but consent has been given, or if you would prefer to accompany your child during their vaccination, then you will be able to book your child a vaccination appointment at a vaccination centre by visiting [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination).

If you are giving consent for your child to receive their first dose of the vaccine through the school route, then your child will be able to get their second dose of the vaccine [12] weeks later, at a vaccination centre. Appointments can be booked by visiting [www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination).

Thank you for continuing to help keep our school and community safe.

### Further information

- Here you can find answers to your questions as a parent/guardian/carer: [COVID-19 vaccination programme for young people: guidance for parents - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-young-people)
- If your child wants more information, they can find it here: [COVID-19 vaccination: resources for children and young people - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people)

Translations of the information for children and young people are available in [Arabic](#), [Bengali](#), [Brazilian Portuguese](#), [Bulgarian](#), [Chinese](#), [Estonian](#), [Farsi](#), [Greek](#), [Gujarati](#), [Hindi](#), [Latvian](#), [Lithuanian](#), [Panjabi](#), [Pashto](#), [Polish](#), [Romanian](#), [Romany](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tagalog](#), [Turkish](#), [Twi](#), [Ukrainian](#), [Urdu](#) and [Yiddish](#). A [Braille version](#) is also available to order. Translated versions of the parent guidance will be available soon.

Yours sincerely,



Mr G McKenna  
HEADTEACHER

## CONSENT FORM –



COVID 19



### Vaccination consent form for children and young people

The COVID-19 vaccine is being offered to your child either as a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. If your child has already received a 1<sup>st</sup> dose then you will need to use this form for your child's 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. If your child has not yet received their 1<sup>st</sup> dose then you can also use this form to provide consent.

Further information can be found on the DfE website:

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

Please discuss the vaccination with your child, then complete this form by:

Information about the vaccinations will be put on your child's health records.

Child's full name (first name and surname):	Date of birth:
Home address:	Daytime contact telephone number for parent/carer:
NHS number (if known):	Ethnicity:
School (if relevant):	Year group/class:
GP name and address:	

Ask ALL patients ALL questions below and tick if any apply

#### EXCLUSION CHECKLIST – tick any that apply

- Has your child tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 12 weeks (by a lateral flow test or a PCR test)? If so, please provide the date on which your child tested positive: \_\_\_\_\_
- Has the individual experienced major venous and/or arterial thrombosis occurring with thrombocytopenia following vaccination with any COVID-19 vaccine?
- Has the individual had any vaccination in the last 7 days?
- Is the individual currently unwell with fever?
- Does the individual have an allergy to any medications?
- Has the individual ever had an anaphylactic reaction?
- Does the individual take any regular medication if so what? Please list: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the individual have a history of heparin-induced thrombocytopenia and thrombosis (HITT or HIT type 2)?
- Does the individual have a history of capillary leak syndrome?
- None of the above

**CAUTION CHECKLIST – tick any that apply**

- Has the individual indicated they are, or could be pregnant?**
- Has the individual informed you they are currently or have been in a trial of a potential coronavirus vaccine?**
- Is the individual taking anticoagulant medication, or do they have a bleeding disorder?**
- Does the individual currently have any symptoms of Covid-19 infection?**
- None of the above**

**I want my child to receive the COVID-19 vaccination**

Name:

Signature:  
Parent/Guardian

Date:

**I do not want my child to have the COVID-19 vaccine**

Name:

Signature:  
Parent/Guardian

Date:

If after discussion, you and your child decide that you do not want them to have the vaccine, it would be helpful if you would give the reasons for this on the back of this form.

Ask for the [What to expect after your COVID-19 vaccination leaflet at gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people). It will tell you about the side effects and how to report them to the Yellowcard scheme at [yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk](https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk).

OFFICE USE ONLY						
Date of COVID-19 vaccination		Site of injection (please circle)		Batch number/ expiry date	Immuniser (please print)	Where administered ( hub, PCN, GP etc)
First		L arm	R arm			
Second		L arm	R arm			



UK Health  
Security  
Agency



# COVID-19 vaccination

## A guide for children and young people



Find out more at [nhs/CovidVaccine](https://nhs.uk/CovidVaccine)

# This leaflet explains the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination programme for eligible children and young people.

## **What is COVID-19 or coronavirus?**

COVID-19 is a very infectious respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Very few children and young people with COVID-19 infection go on to have severe disease.

There is no cure for COVID-19 although some newly tested treatments do help to reduce the risk of complications.



The NHS is offering COVID-19 vaccine to children and young people aged 12 to 17 years. Young people at greater risk of serious illness if they catch COVID-19 will need 2 doses of vaccine, 8 weeks apart. All other young people will be offered 2 doses of vaccine 12 weeks apart.

## **Are you at risk from COVID-19 infection?**

The children and young people at greater risk include those living with serious conditions such as:

- cancers (such as leukaemia or lymphoma)
- diabetes
- serious heart problems
- chest complaint or breathing difficulties, including poorly controlled asthma
- kidney, liver or a gut disease
- lowered immunity due to disease or treatment (steroid medication, chemotherapy or radiotherapy)
- an organ transplant
- a neurodisability or neuromuscular condition
- a severe or profound learning disability
- Down's syndrome
- a problem with your spleen, eg sickle cell disease, or you have had your spleen removed
- epilepsy
- serious genetic problems
- other serious medical conditions as advised by your doctor or specialist.

Your specialist or GP will tell you if you need the COVID-19 vaccination.

For most children and young people COVID-19 is usually a milder illness that rarely leads to complications. For a very few the symptoms may last for longer than the usual 2 to 3 weeks. The vaccination will help to protect you against COVID-19.

Currently the vaccine licensed for children and young people is the Pfizer vaccine. This is what you will be offered.

## **Will the vaccine protect me?**

The COVID-19 vaccination will reduce the chance of you suffering from COVID-19 disease. It may take a few weeks for your body to build up some protection from the vaccine. You should get good protection from the first dose. Having a second dose should give you longer lasting protection.

Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective – some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination, but this should be less severe. Further information is available on symptoms on [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk).

The vaccines do not contain organisms that grow in the body, and so are safe for children and young people with disorders of the immune system. These people may not respond so well to the vaccine but it should offer them protection against severe disease.

## **What about giving consent?**

You will probably want to share information about the vaccine with your parents and discuss it together.

If you are being offered the vaccination at school, you may be given a consent form that your parent/guardian should sign giving permission for you to have the vaccination.

The school immunisation team will be able to answer any questions you may have.



## Common side effects

Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these are mild and short term, and not everyone gets them. With the vaccine we use in under-18s, side effects are more common with the second dose.

Very common side effects include:

- having a painful, heavy feeling and tenderness in the arm where you had your injection. This tends to be worst around 1 to 2 days after the vaccination
- feeling tired
- headache
- general aches, or mild flu like symptoms

You can rest and take paracetamol (follow the dose advice in the packaging) to help make you feel better. Although feeling feverish is not uncommon for 2 to 3 days, a high temperature is unusual and may indicate you have COVID-19 or another infection. Symptoms following vaccination normally last less than a week. If your symptoms seem to get worse or if you are concerned, you or your parents can call NHS 111.

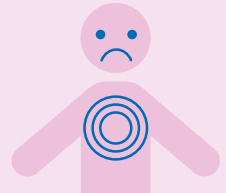
## Less common side effects

Recently, cases of inflammation of the heart (called myocarditis or pericarditis) have been reported very rarely after COVID-19 vaccines.

Most of these cases have been in younger men and usually a few days after the second vaccination. Most people recovered and felt better following rest and simple treatments.

**You should seek medical advice urgently if you experience:**

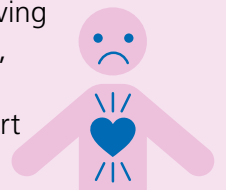
chest pain



shortness of breath



feelings of having a fast-beating, fluttering, or pounding heart



## Keep your record card safe

If you or your parents or carers do seek advice from a doctor or nurse, make sure you tell them about your vaccination (show them the vaccination card, if possible) so that they can assess you properly.



Don't forget your  
**COVID-19 vaccination** **NHS**

**Make sure you keep this record card in your purse or wallet**

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccination or what to do after your vaccination, see [www.nhs.uk/covidvaccine](http://www.nhs.uk/covidvaccine)

**COVID-19 immunisation**  
Protect yourself.

The graphic features a stylized heart shape containing a crown and a syringe, with the NHS logo in the top right corner.

You or your parents and carers can also report suspected side effects to vaccines and medicines online through the coronavirus Yellow Card scheme.



[coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk](http://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk)

## Can you catch COVID-19 from the vaccine?

You cannot catch COVID-19 from the vaccine but it is possible to have caught COVID-19 and not have the symptoms until after your vaccination appointment. The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

If you have the symptoms above, stay at home and arrange to have a test.

## What to do next

Your record card will show the details of the first dose. You will be offered a second dose after 8 or 12 weeks.

You will be advised on the right timing for your second dose to help give the best, and longest lasting protection for you.

## If you are not well when your appointment is due

You should not attend a vaccine appointment if you are self-isolating or waiting for a COVID-19 test. Ideally you should wait 12 weeks after having a positive COVID-19 test or at least 4 weeks if you are at higher risk.

## How is COVID-19 spread?

COVID-19 is spread through droplets breathed out from the nose or mouth, particularly when speaking or coughing.

It can also be picked up by touching your eyes, nose and mouth after contact with contaminated objects and surfaces.



## You MUST still follow any national or local restrictions and:

where advised wear a face mask



wash your hands regularly



open windows to let fresh air in



follow the current guidance



[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

## Further information

You or your parents should read the product information leaflet for more details on your vaccine, including possible side effects, on the Coronavirus Yellow Card website.

You can also report suspected side effects of vaccines and medicines through the Yellow Card scheme. You can do this online by searching Coronavirus Yellow Card or by downloading the Yellow Card app. [coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/productinformation](https://coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/productinformation).

Further information is available from [nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/](https://nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/)



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This leaflet is also available as an Easy Read version, simple text, in braille, as an audio version, a BSL video and in Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Bulgarian, Chinese, Estonian, Greek, Gujarati, Hindi, Panjabi, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese Brazilian, Romany, Romanian, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, Twi, Ukrainian and Urdu paper copies.

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