



# Trinity Catholic High School

Headmaster: Dr P C Doherty OBE, BA (Hons), DPhil (Oxon), FRSA

Date: 13/10/2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## 1. Vaccinations for 12 to 15 Year Olds:

You will be aware that the Chief Medical Officer for England has recommended the roll out of a single dose of COVID vaccine for young people aged 12-15 as a measure to help mitigate the spread of Coronavirus (Covid-19). Following this decision the NHS have now confirmed that they will be offering the vaccine to all eligible children at Trinity on **29<sup>th</sup> November 2021**. I have attached further information about the vaccine, why this is being rolled out and information as to how you can provide consent for your child to receive the vaccine.

**A response is required – you must accept or decline this vaccination by completing the online form (see attached letter). The link to the e-consent form is also here:**

<https://london.schoolvaccination.uk/covid/2021/redbridge>

I will draw attention to the following important points:

- Please complete the online consent form by **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November**.
- If no consent has been received from parents/carers prior to the day of the vaccination, the child will not receive the vaccination.
- Whilst schools may host immunisation services, they are not responsible for securing parental consent or mediating between parents/carers and children who may disagree about whether or not to consent.
- The in-school vaccination is available only to children aged 12 to 15. If your child is already 16 or prefer to be vaccinated elsewhere, please contact the local vaccination centres who will be able to advise you. If your child is still aged 11 they do not qualify for the vaccine. Sixth Form students should book their vaccination through local centres. 12 to 15 year-olds will not be able to get vaccinated through walk-in centres
- If your child misses school on that day, or for some reason was not able to have the vaccination, we will provide details of other local centres where they can get the vaccination.
- As with all school aged immunisations this is a service being provided and administered by the North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT), with school acting only as a venue. If you have queries or concerns about this please contact the NELFT School Health Team.
- The NHS will be legally responsible for the delivery of the vaccine. Legal accountability for offering Covid-19 vaccines to children and young people sits with the NHS and not with Trinity Catholic High School.
- NELFT teams, who are all trained to spot and manage allergic reactions, will observe children for 15 minutes after they receive their vaccination.

### Main School Office

**Upper Site:** Mornington Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TP Telephone: 020 8504-3419

**Lower Site:** Sydney Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0TB Telephone: 020 8504-8946

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## 2. Letter from Education Secretary and Health Secretary:

Education Secretary Nadhim Zahawi and Health Secretary Sajid Javid have written a joint letter to parents of secondary school students to thank them for all their efforts in keeping education safe for all during the pandemic and talk about the importance of vaccinations and regular testing. The letter provides information on COVID-19 testing and advises that, in response to potential outbreaks, local health teams may advise additional testing and isolation protocols at school. For example, if a student or pupil is identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, they may be asked to take daily lateral flow device (LFD) tests, while they wait for their PCR test result. In this scenario, they should continue to attend school as long as their LFD test results remain negative. Alongside the letter are some frequently answered questions for parents, from Dr Mary Ramsay, Head of Immunisation. A copy of the letter is [available to download here](#).

## 3. Testing over the Half Term Break:

As you know, School will be closed to students on Thursday and Friday next week (21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021) and staff will have 2 important inset/training days before the half term break. It is important that staff, parents and students will continue to take Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests twice-weekly over the half-term break and communicate the outcome to NHS Test and Trace. School resumes on 1<sup>st</sup> November and I strongly advise that staff, parents and students will take an LFD test the night before they return to school. If you do not have sufficient LFD stock for this, please contact the school reception on either site and we will provide you with the tests that you require.

Many thanks for your ongoing support with these important school and public health matters.

Yours sincerely,

Dr P Doherty OBE  
Headmaster

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