

Principal:
Emma Robins



21 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to thank you for your support so far this year. We have had a very positive start to the school year and we are very pleased with the way all students have returned to school.

You will be aware that the government has announced that young people aged 12 to 15 in England will be offered one dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. The main purpose of this programme is to provide protection to the children who receive the vaccine and to help to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the wider population.

We expect to receive further information from our local NHS School Age Immunisation Service this week about this programme. This will include detailed information for you and your children. We will share this information with you as soon as it is available.

We expect that guidance will be very clear about the role schools will play. We have been assured that the role of schools will be as it is in other vaccination programmes, i.e. to provide a venue, organise for students to attend the venue and to support the management of consent letters and information to parents. Schools and school staff will play no role in the administration of vaccinations for the processing of consent, both of which are a matter for health professionals.

We are very aware that there is a wide range of views on vaccines in general and the extension of the COVID-19 vaccination programme to 12 - 15 year olds. We respect the right of everyone to hold their own views, but must stress that schools and school leaders play no role in policy decisions such as these which are taken by our elected officials. As schools are rightly expected to maintain political neutrality, we are happy to talk to parents about the logistics of the vaccination programme but are unable to enter discussions about the rights and wrongs of the policy itself.

We will be in touch again as soon as we have further information,

Yours faithfully

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Principal

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