

Buckinghamshire School Immunisation Team

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www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/School-nursing

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Dear Parent/Carer

COVID vaccinations for children and young people aged 12 -15

As you may be aware, NHS England and the Joint Committee on Immunisations and Vaccinations (JCVI) updated their guidance on 29th November 2021 recommended that all children and young people aged 12-15 years should be offered a 2nd dose of Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at a minimum of 12 weeks from the first dose. As such, NHS England and NHS Improvement have requested that the Bucks School-Aged Immunisation Team (SAI) offer this second phase of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in schools, during the Spring term week commencing 10th January 2022.

Vaccination against COVID-19 remains the best way to protect your child and those around them from becoming unwell from this disease.

Normally during the spring term we are administering HPV vaccinations to years 8 and 9. We do not plan to co-administer the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine and HPV vaccinations as we did with Flu and COVID-19 but have arranged two dates to visit each school to allow each vaccine to be administered on a different day. Children who have not yet had their first dose of COVID-19 can also receive this during the COVID-19 session.

COVID-19 vaccination date for all students aged 12-15years **Wednesday 23rd March 2022**

For COVID-19 vaccinations being given in school, parents will need to complete another consent form using this link <https://www.buckschildimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/CovidDose2> and the following school code: **EE139663** no later than midday on **21/03/2022** as the link will close on this date and you will not be able to consent for your child to have the immunisations on this day in school after this time.

The date for the COVID-19 vaccination in your child's school, is in accordance with the 12 week minimum gap between first and second dose COVID-19 vaccine recommended by the JCVI

Parents need to ensure that there is a 12 week gap if their child has tested positive for COVID-19 and receiving the vaccine and also between the first and second doses.

Unlike when we started the COVID-19 vaccination programme in schools in September 2021, children and young people in Bucks will also be able to access the COVID-19 vaccine via pre-bookable appointments on the national booking system [NHS National Booking System](#) or by calling 119 free. For details of which sites are available, please click on this link: [Local COVID-19 vaccination updates | Buckinghamshire CCG](#)

Below is a link to a leaflet explaining the vaccination programme and any possible side effects that may occur following the vaccination:

[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/614242/covid-19_vaccination_-_a_guide_for_children_and_young_people.pdf)

If you require further information about vaccinations, please go to the immunisation websites below:

<http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/School-nursing/immunisations.htm>

[Vaccine Knowledge Project – Oxford Vaccine Group](https://www.vaccineknowledgeproject.org/)

[Vaccinations - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/)

In the rare event that you do not have access to the internet, please contact us and we can complete a consent form with you over the phone.

If you have a **clinical query** about the Covid-19 vaccination programme for 12-15 year olds, please **dial 119 or email BOBCOVID.schoolmmsqueries@nhs.net** . This is a regional helpline and will be able to answer parental queries.

Yours sincerely

Buckinghamshire School Immunisation Team
Buckinghamshire NHS Trust