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Cottingham High School
and Sixth Form College



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Dear Parent/Carer,

The Health and Social Care Secretary has announced, following the advice of the Chief Medical Officer, that young people aged 12 to 15 in England will be offered COVID-19 vaccination in school.

Although the public announcement has been made, schools and local public health teams have not yet been provided with any specific details. More information on how the vaccination programme will work, as well as answers to some frequently asked questions, will be included in the guidance for schools from Public Health England and this will be shared with you when it is published.

However, we do know that the role of schools will be the same as in our other established vaccination programmes, primarily:

- to provide information to the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS), the vaccination provider, on which children on roll are eligible for the vaccine
- to share the information leaflet, consent form and invitation letter supplied by the SAIS team with parents/carers and children
- to provide the space within school to enable vaccinations to take place

Schools and school staff will play **no** role in the administration of vaccinations or the processing of consent, both of which are managed by the School Age Immunisation Service.

We are very aware that there are a wide range of views on the vaccination and the extension of the vaccination programme to 12- to 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 and that they 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 write to you again as soon as we are given further information.

Yours faithfully

Loz Wilson
Headteacher

Lizann Lowson
CEO

