



19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I enclose a letter from the Department for Education and Department of Health and Social Care which provides information regarding at home COVID -19 testing and the COVID -19 vaccination programme for 12-15 year olds. Both of these matters are really important as we endeavour to keep as many people healthy and as many children in school as possible during the winter months.


Hopefully the letter will answer any questions you may have regarding vaccinations but we have also established a Frequently Asked Questions page on our website which you may find useful. The vaccinations are planned for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. All parents/carers of children aged 12-15 should complete the enclosed form by 5pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021. If you choose to complete the attached form, this should be returned to the main reception desk at school. Just to reiterate, the deadline for registering for the vaccinations is Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, students not registered by this date will not be able to receive a vaccine in school on the dates above. MCA recognises the issues surrounding vaccinations and understand that the decision to register or not is a family one.

Alternatively you can complete the online consent form by following this link: <https://childcv19immunisationconsent.mft.nhs.uk/> . We will be sharing this link via SMS in the next few days.

We are approaching a half term break at MCA and I would like to encourage families to continue with at home testing throughout this time. Your child should have brought home kits that can see them through this period. When students return to the Academy on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November we will conduct on site assisted testing as another strategy to try and prevent community spread of the virus. We will be using parental consents which have previously been provided. If there is any change to this status, please do let us know.

Thank you for supporting us in driving up our student attendance and punctuality to school over the first half term. A continued focus on attendance will make a huge difference to the wellbeing and academic success for our young people. If there is anything we can do to further support your child with their attendance or their studies, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank for your continued support



Susan Watmough  
Headteacher



Department  
for Education



Department  
of Health &  
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*Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP  
Secretary of State for Education*

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Secretary of State for Health and Social Care*

*39 Victoria Street  
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## **A joint letter to parents of secondary school and college students in England on Covid-19 testing and vaccines from the Secretaries of State for Education and for Health and Social Care**

11<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### **COVID-19 AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN ENGLAND**

We know that children and young people have been hugely affected by the pandemic, both in terms of their education and their ability to socialise and participate in activities that benefit them outside of formal education.

We want to thank you as parents and guardians of secondary school and college students for your support over the last eighteen months. We know this time has been difficult for many of you, as well as for the young people you care for.

As students return to the classroom, we would ask for your continued support to make sure your children are able to stay in face-to-face learning, by encouraging them to:

- test themselves for COVID-19 twice a week, and more frequently if they are specifically asked to do so. This way, we can find individuals who have the virus but are not showing symptoms, and stop them from passing it on to others.
- come forward for the COVID-19 vaccine. This is one of the best things young people can do to protect themselves and those around them.

We know that students have missed a lot of time in school and college since the pandemic started, and that there is no substitute for face-to-face learning. Keeping students in the classroom in the coming months is therefore a Government priority, both for their immediate and longer-term wellbeing.

We know that some of you will be concerned about the health risks to the young people you care for. We want to reassure you that the evidence shows that young people remain at very low risk of serious illness from COVID-19.

However, we need to continue to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Young people who get ill will need to miss school or college, and may spread it to others. That is why we are encouraging you all to support your children to get vaccinated and to continue to test regularly. This will help to detect cases early, reduce spread, and keep students in education.

### **Vaccination**

Vaccines are our best defence against COVID-19. They help protect young people, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on.

The COVID-19 vaccination programme for children aged 12-15 years has now started. Thousands of young people across the country have already taken the opportunity to receive their vaccine. If your child is 12-15 years old, a consent form and information leaflet from the [NHS](#) will be sent home allowing you to provide consent for your child to receive their vaccination at school.

We remind you that 16- and 17-year-olds can book their vaccination through the [National Booking Service](#) or find a convenient [walk-in](#) site. Please do help your 16- and 17-year-olds to book a vaccination if they have not already done so. We would also encourage you to book a vaccination for yourself if you have not done so already, or if you have missed a second dose.

## Testing

We ask that you support and encourage your children to test twice a week at home, every week, with Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests. This will help us reduce the transmission of COVID-19 among our children. Please report and upload test results [online](#), even if they are negative or void, as this allows us to understand the virus and take additional action when needed.

In addition to regular twice weekly testing:

- Children displaying the symptoms of COVID-19 should self-isolate and [get a PCR test](#).
- Children who receive a positive LFD result should isolate and book a PCR test to confirm their result.
- Children who are identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace should take a PCR test and continue to go to school while they wait for their result.
- In response to potential outbreaks, your school, college or local health team may advise additional testing. For example, if your child is identified as a close contact, they may be asked to take daily LFDs, while they wait for their PCR result. In this scenario, they should continue to attend school as long as their LFD results remain negative.

Additionally, please encourage your child to [follow guidance on wearing face coverings](#) in crowded spaces with people they don't know well, for example on school transport.

We know that many of you will have questions or concerns about this, and we understand that. The NHS website ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)) is an excellent source of advice, which we hope will be able to answer many of your questions about testing or vaccination. If not, you can call the 119 service who should be able to help with questions on testing. When you get a vaccination consent form for your child, it will include details of how you can ask further questions of your local teams.

Thank you again for your support.



**RT HON NADHIM ZAHAWI MP**



**RT HON SAJID JAVID MP**



# Pfizer covid-19 vaccination consent form for children and young people

The COVID-19 vaccine is being offered to your child. Your child will receive their first COVID-19 vaccine and you may be notified about the second dose later. The leaflet sent with this form includes more information about the vaccines currently in use. Please discuss the vaccination with your child, then complete this form before it is due. 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:
Name of School	Year group/class:
GP name and address:	

About your child	If Yes, please give details	No
Has your child had a positive Covid-19 PCR test during n the last 28 days?		
Has your child had a covid-19 vaccination?		
Has your child ever had a severe allergic reaction to any substance including antibiotics, food or immunisations?		
Does your child have any diagnosed medical conditions?		
Is your child receiving any form of treatment from his/her own doctor or hospital?		
Has your child received any other injections within the <b>last 6 months</b> including the Covid 19 vaccine? If you are unsure, please contact your GP to confirm		
Has your child received Nasal Flu Vaccine (LAIV) within the last 7 days? If you are unsure, please contact your GP to confirm		
Has your child ever been prescribed an adrenaline auto-injector such as an EpiPen?		
<b>As the parent/carer, please provide your name and contact number below:</b>		
<b>Parent/carer name:</b>	<b>Phone number:</b>	

**If we do not receive the form back and your child requests the Covid-19 vaccine, their competency to consent will be assessed by a nurse and the Covid-19 vaccine may be given**

## Consent for COVID-19 vaccination (Please complete one box only)

**Only the legal parent/guardian can complete this form and by submitting this form you are giving permission for your child to have the Covid-19 vaccination**

<b>I want my child to receive the COVID-19 vaccination</b>	
Signature: Parent/Guardian	
Parents Name:	
Date:	
Tick or cross in the box if you <b>DO</b> want your child to have the vaccination	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>I do not want my child to have the COVID-19 vaccine</b>	
Signature: Parent/Guardian	
Parents Name:	
Date:	
Tick or cross in the box if you <b>DO NOT</b> want your child to have the vaccination	<input type="checkbox"/>

For official use:

<b>Vaccine Batch Number:</b>		<b>Vaccine expiry date:</b>	
<b>Date administered:</b>		<b>Time of administration:</b>	
<b>Site of administration:</b>	<b>Right upper arm</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Left upper arm</b>
<b>Name of vaccine administrator:</b>		<b>Signature of Vaccine administrator</b>	