

17 September 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians

Young people aged 12 to 15 to be offered a COVID-19 vaccine – update

As you will no doubt be aware, the government has now approved the universal vaccination of children and young people aged 12 to 15 years against Covid-19. This means our pupils will be offered one dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

The main purpose of the COVID-19 childhood vaccination programme is to provide protection to the children who receive the vaccine, help reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the wider population and help reduce further educational disruption.

From what we have been told so far, the plan is for all healthy school-aged children aged 12 to 15 to primarily receive their Covid-19 vaccination in school. However, we have been assured that our role will be as it is in other vaccination programmes, ie to provide a venue, organise the throughput of students, and send out consent letters to parents. The vaccine itself will be administered by healthcare staff with appropriate qualifications who are trained in the vaccination of children and young people.

At this stage, this is as much as we know, but please be assured that we will provide an update to you when more information is available to us and we have had the time here in school to determine what this will mean for us here at Priory.

School Covid Protocols – update

Just a reminder that, should a pupil receive a positive LFD test, they need to self-isolate and take a PCR test. They can of course return to school if the PCR test is negative.

Should a pupil develop any of the main Covid-19 symptoms, a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste, they need to take a PCR test, begin self-isolation and not come into school. Again, they can return to school if the PCR test is negative.

Should your son or daughter be a close contact of someone who has tested positive, and they live in the same household (brother, sister, mum, dad etc), to limit the potential impact on other pupils in school, we kindly ask that your child takes a PCR test and stays at home until the PCR result is known. This is irrespective of the child having no symptoms or having a negative LFD test. Again, they can return to school if the PCR test is negative.

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Should your son or daughter be a close contact of someone who has tested positive, and they do not live in the same household (friend, sat next to in class etc), they can continue to come into school, but we kindly ask that your child continues to maintain the twice weekly LFD test as a minimum and follow the track and trace advice they may be given should you be contacted by them.

I hope this goes some way to clarifying how things are presently, but please do get in touch should you have any further queries or questions relating to these aspects.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr M Eastham
Headteacher