

SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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Chair of Governors: Susan Dungworth

Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

20 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well and that your children have had a good start to the term. From my point of view I have been very impressed with how the term has started, so thank you to you and your children for all your efforts with that.

You will be aware that this week the decision was made to give a Covid vaccination to children aged 12 to 15 and I am sure that you will have many questions and strong views/opinions on this.

In this letter I will share with you everything that we know and also give you some links to advice and guidance that has come to us as schools and is available for you as parents and children.

Can I make it very clear that the SVF is neutral when it comes to the issue of vaccinations, any decisions or choices are for the government to advise on, and for you as parents and carers to act on how you see fit.

What do we know?

- 1. Schools will be the venue for the vaccinations.
- 2. Schools will issue and collect the consent forms.
- 3. Schools will liaise with medical professionals in relation to organisation of the vaccination site.
- 4. Consent will be needed for the vaccinations to occur.
- 5. The vaccinations will be administered by medical professionals from the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) these are the people who usually administer all vaccinations etc. in schools.
- 6. The SAIS will be the people who you will need to contact if your child has any health issues that you are concerned about in relation to having the vaccine.
- 7. The SAIS will be the people who you will discuss any consent issues with.
- 8. The SAIS will be the people who resolve any disputes between parents and children over the administering of the vaccine.
- 9. The SVF has no role to play in any discussions or decisions regarding consent.

What we do not know.

- 1. We do not know when the vaccine will be given.
- 2. We do not know what ages will be vaccinated first.
- 3. We do not know how you will raise issues with the SAIS but we assume there will be information on the consent forms.
- 4. We do not know how or when the consent forms will be issued.

Below are the links to the information that we as schools have received. This is to be open and honest with you about what we have been told.

There are also links to various documents aimed at yourselves as parents or your children. As soon as I have any more information regarding the vaccinations I will be in contact with you. If you have any questions or queries please do not contact us at school as we know nothing more than I have shared with you. I would suggest you either contact your GP or the SAIS team when the contact details are shared.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-schools/covid-19-vaccinationprogramme-for-children-and-young-people-guidance-for-schools

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-eligible-children-and-young-people-aged-12-to-17

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1017171/PH E_12073_COVID-19_guide_for_all_CYP.pdf

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people/information-for-children-and-young-people-on-what-to-expect-after-covid-19-vaccination

Many thanks for your continued support and I hope everyone has a good weekend .

Yours sincerely

Banes

John Barnes Executive Headteacher

