

15th September 2021

Re: Covid- 19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan

Dear Parent,

On 14th September, the Government released its [Covid-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan](#).

The Plan's primary strategy is 'Building our Defences through Pharmaceutical Interventions' i.e. vaccines. In terms of schools, this involves offering one dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine to children aged 12 to 15 - [DHSC Press Release](#).

In deciding whether the Covid-19 vaccine should be given to children aged 12 to 15, my understanding is that the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), considered all the current known evidence and concluded that there was only a marginal benefit to children. It therefore deferred the decision to the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) who decided that there were wider issues relevant to children and approved the rollout of the vaccination programme.

It would not be appropriate for me, or indeed any of my staff, to offer a view on whether your child takes up the offer of the Covid-19 vaccine. My advice, as with any medical procedure or pharmaceutical intervention, is to consider the full range of information available and make an informed decision.

Like all school-based vaccination programmes, the vaccine will be administered by healthcare staff with appropriate qualifications who are trained in the vaccination of children and young people. I will, of course, send further information when I receive it.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. N. Houchen
Principal