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11th January 2022

Dear parents/carers,

Re: COVID vaccination of students at The Phoenix Collegiate on 21st January 2022

At the end of last week, we were contacted by the NHS to say that the school vaccination process for students aged 12-15years old will commence again on Friday 21st January. In the paragraphs below, I have highlighted some of the key information around this process.

Can I again please stress that **this is a process that is being conducted solely by external professional NHS staff**. The Dudley group NHS foundation trust will be legally responsible for the delivery of the vaccine. Legal accountability for offering Covid-19 vaccines to children and young people sits with the Dudley group NHS foundation trust and not with the school.

Schools are merely providing the venue and collecting consent forms. Therefore, if you do have any questions can you direct them to Dudley group NHS foundation trust, and not us as a school. If you do have queries we have been asked to direct you to Tipton Sports Academy Covid-19 Vaccination Centre, Wednesbury Oak Road, Tipton Sports and Leisure Centre, DY4 0BS. Contact number – 0121 796 1504.

The Dudley group NHS foundation trust will be offering second dose of the vaccination for those eligible, and also first doses to anyone who missed out last time either through absence, COVID, age, or previously declined the vaccine. If your child has had COVID-19 they should wait 12 weeks after a positive PCR test to have any COVID-19 vaccines.

Please inform us if you have sent a consent form in for your child to be vaccinated but then decide to get them vaccinated prior to the vaccination clinic being held at school. A vaccine will have been allocated to your child that day and will be wasted if this isn't communicated prior to the visit.

What should I be receiving with this letter?

Alongside my letter you will also have the consent form itself. This letter goes into detail about all aspects of the procedure and provides links for further reading should you want more information. **I urge you all to read this alongside your child.**

When does the consent form need to be in?

Tuesday 18th January by 10am. The NHS have made it very clear that they need this time to process consent and plan for the numbers who will be receiving the vaccine on the day.

Who will be conducting the vaccination?

A team of 18 medical professionals and admin staff will be on site for the day. They will organise the event and conduct the vaccinations.

My child is in Y7. Will they get a vaccination?

If your child is 12 on the 21st January then yes they will be eligible. If they are 11 years old then they will not be able to receive a vaccination.

My child is over 16 but hasn't yet had the vaccination. Will they be eligible?

Yes, they can get the vaccination as part of this series. You just need to complete the consent form.

What about consent? Is this from a parent, or child?

In this series of vaccinations, the NHS will only vaccinate if there is consent from parents. If the child is 16 then this can come from the child.

What about after care following the vaccination?

Each child will be given a leaflet following their vaccination which will provide all of the information they need around after care. The NHS are confident that side effects of the vaccination will be minimal and therefore if your child is absent from school after the event we have been advised that it will be coded as 'ill' on their attendance and unauthorised.

What do I wear?

We have been requested to ask your child to either wear a short-sleeved shirt or wear a vest or t shirt under their normal shirt to help with privacy when vaccinating. **All students will be expected to be in full school uniform as normal on the day.**

What if my child is absent on the day?

For any children absent on the vaccination day it is advised that they access one of the organised drop-in clinics and centres locally. These can be found on the NHS website.

Yours faithfully,



Mike Smith
Head teacher

