



# The William Henry Smith School

8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Families,

## Vaccination of 12-15-year olds

### Current Eligibility

We would like to bring to your attention the government and NHS guidance on Covid-19 vaccinations for children. The vaccine is now available for everyone aged 16 or over, and for some children aged 12-15 who have a higher risk of getting seriously ill from Covid-19 or who live with someone at high risk of catching it. Please see below link for full details of who is eligible:-

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/who-can-get-the-vaccine/>

We are encouraging families to read all available advice and make an informed decision on taking up the offer of a Covid-19 vaccine, including those groups mentioned above. This link maybe helpful to answer possible questions from young people/families regarding the vaccine:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-and-young-people>

### In School Vaccination Consent

Furthermore, the school are currently anticipating and preparing for when the NHS will offer the Covid-19 vaccine for all 12-15-year olds in school settings. It is our understanding that a decision is imminent and that we will soon be seeking consent for this from families and children of 12-15-year olds. School sites will then be used by NHS staff to administer the vaccine.

We would be grateful if you could start to consider whether you and your child wish for the vaccine to be administered when offered and take up the advantage of having this done on school site. The intention is for all those giving consent to receive their first dose before October Half Term and second before Christmas. We have been advised that it will be the Pfizer vaccination that is offered.

Although the NHS will be responsible for seeking consent, if you find it useful to discuss your thoughts and concerns, then our school nurses Andrea Davies and Sara Hill are available to speak to as always.

With best wishes

**Sue Ackroyd**

**Principal**

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