



12-15 COVID-19 VACCINE

Frequently asked questions



Who made the decision?

- Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) decides if any medicine is clinically safe
- Joint Committee on Vaccine and Immunisation (JCVI) make recommendations about the use of all vaccines and immunisations
- Chief Medical Officer (CMO) is a doctor and is the most senior government advisor on anything to do with health
- Ministers are responsible for final decisions



How is the decision made?

- MHRA confirms that the Pfizer vaccine is safe for 12-15 yr olds
- JCVI looks at risk of COVID-19 and risk of vaccine on the physical health of individual children and the people they live with
- CMO makes recommendation about vaccine for impact on other aspects of life (eg missing school) and on wider communities
- Ministers decide based on this advice



Answering some common questions

- **Are there side effects of the vaccine?**
Children might have side effects like other vaccines. If they last longer than a few days you should call NHS 111.
- **Will the COVID-19 vaccine be given at the same time as other vaccines?**
It is safe to get the COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines close together.
- **Is the vaccine required?**
The vaccine is not mandatory. It is a discussion and decision for parents and children.
- **What happens if the vaccine isn't taken at school?**
We will have clinics outside of school for children who are not at school or miss the opportunity to get vaccinated at school.
- **Can you get COVID-19 from the vaccine?**
No, there is no COVID-19 in the vaccine – you can't get COVID-19 from the vaccine.





THE PROCESS

Parents/carers get an email to ask if it is ok for their child to have the COVID-19 vaccine



Parents/carers and children have a discussion together about having the vaccine



If 'YES', then return the form ticking yes



If 'NO', then return the form ticking no*



Have the vaccine on the day it is offered in the school



If the form is not returned then it is assumed that the child cannot have the vaccine



If your child/children have side effects (aches and pains) use normal pain relief. If side effects last more than a few days, call NHS 111

* Your school might contact you if you've not returned your form to see if you need any help or have any questions

Questions? Ask your school for someone to speak to or speak to your GP

People at the Heart of Everything We Do

