Somerset SAINT

(School Aged Children Immunisation Nursing Team)

Dear Parent/Guardian

**COVID VACCINATION FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN BETWEEN AGED 12 – 15 YEARS OLD**

From 1st February 2022 all children aged 12-15 years old will be offered the chance to receive their 1st or 2nd COVID vaccination in their school, please read this letter and refer to key points previously issued by your child’s school.

Research has shown the vaccines help:

* reduce the risk of getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19
* reduce the risk of catching or spreading COVID-19
* protect against COVID-19 variants

You may have previously consented for your child to receive their 1st COVID vaccination in school, unfortunately this consent form is no longer valid and further consent will be required.

Please complete the consent form using the following link <https://saint.somersetft.nhs.uk/coviddose2/2021/west> as soon as possible, this link will close 24 hours prior to the session date. If you are unable to access the online consent form for any reason, please contact Somerset SAINT for assistance. **If there are any changes to your childs medical health within 48 hours of them due to receive the vaccination please email us at** **SomersetSaint@somersetft.nhs.uk****.**

If your child is in either Year 8, 9 or 10 and you have given consent for your child to receive both the HPV and COVID vaccines, please note these will be co-administered by an experienced Immunisation Nurse during the same school based vaccination session.

Each vaccine is consented **separately** so that families can consent for one, both or neither vaccine independently.

We will spend time with each child on the day to make sure they are comfortable whilst receiving the vaccination (which will be given in the arm). If receiving the HPV then this will be given either directly before or after the Covid vaccination.

**Please complete the consent form even if you do not consent to the vaccination.**

The consent form can only be completed by someone with parental responsibility, if you have any queries about whether or not you hold parental responsibility and are therefore able to complete the consent form please contact the immunisation team by email at SomersetSaint@somersetft.nhs.uk.

There is an expectation that the immunisation team will only visit your child’s school once during this program.

Yours sincerely

Somerset SAINT

Chairman: Stephen Ladyman Chief Executive: Peter Lewis

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