



Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the Chief Medical Officer's advice, all children and young people aged 12-15 are now being offered the opportunity to receive a COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer). The current position is for all children in this age group to receive one dose of vaccine although this will be reviewed.

The vaccine cannot give them COVID-19 and will reduce their chance of suffering from COVID-19 disease. Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective and it takes a few weeks for your body to build up protection from the virus. Some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination, however this should lessen the severity of any infection. Vaccines can cause side effects; most are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them. More details are available in the leaflet 'A Guide for Children and Young People', which can be found by scanning the QR Code or using the web link below.

Schools are being asked to host the vaccination sessions for 12-15 year olds, which means that students will be able to have the vaccine during the school day, if consent is provided. The vaccines will be administered by healthcare staff, following the usual approach to vaccinations that are undertaken at school.

If you would like to discuss the vaccine further please **do not** contact the school, instead contact the Community and School Aged Immunisation Service on:

0300 790 0597 - Essex, Southend, Thurrock

0300 790 0594 - Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes

To ensure your children receives their vaccine, please return the consent form [here](#) by **11th October 2021**.

Yours faithfully,

Essex Partnership Trust Community and
School Aged Immunisation Service

