

1 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the announcement of vaccinations for 12 to 15 year olds, the local health team are planning to be on site on Monday 18, Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 October to offer the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine at the same time as the annual flu vaccine.

We plan to offer the vaccine as follows:

Date	Year Group				
	7	8	9	10	11
Monday 18 October	All tutor groups	All tutor groups			
Tuesday 19 October			All tutor groups		11S, 11P1, 11P2
Wednesday 20 October				All tutor groups	11T, 11Y1, 11Y2

Children who are 12 years old and over on the day the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) team visits, will be offered a Covid-19 vaccination as part of the in-school vaccination programme. For those under the age of 12, they will be offered a flu vaccination only.

Some points to clarify from the UK Health Security Agency:

- The programme will be delivered by an NHS commissioned School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) team. At St Katherine's, vaccines will be delivered by Sirona Care and Health.
- The SAIS 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 SAIS and not with St Katherine's School.
- Whilst schools may host immunisation services, they are not responsible for securing parental consent or mediating between parents/carers and children who may disagree about whether or not to consent.
- Consent forms will be shared shortly before the vaccination clinic.
- If no consent from parents/carers has been received prior to the day of the vaccination, the child will not receive the vaccination(s).
- For any children absent on the vaccination day (or for Year 7s who turn 12 later), there will be catch-up arrangements in place within the community.
- SAIS teams, who are all trained to spot and manage allergic reactions, will observe children for 15 minutes after they receive their vaccination.
- 12-15 year-olds will not be able to get vaccinated through walk-in centres.

For further information about the Covid-19 vaccination programme in schools, please refer to:

[COVID-19 vaccination – A guide for children and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/781219/covid-19_vaccination_-_a_guide_for_children_and_young_people.pdf)

[COVID-19 vaccination: a guide for eligible children and young people aged 12 to 17 – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-eligible-children-and-young-people-aged-12-to-17)

[COVID-19 vaccination programme for young people: guidance for parents – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-young-people-guidance-for-parents)

For further information about Sirona Care & Health and the vaccination clinics, please visit:

<http://www.sirona-cic.org.uk/contact-sirona/>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Humphreys', written in a cursive style.

Justin Humphreys

Headteacher