



DEPTFORD GREEN SCHOOL
EDWARD STREET, NEW CROSS
LONDON, SE14 6AN
TEL: 020 8691 3236

E-MAIL: info@deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk
WEBSITE: www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk

Dear Parent/Carer,

COVID-19 vaccination – Update (Change of Date)

Vaccinating children and young people 12 years and over to reduce the risk of school absence

As you may have read, everyone aged 12 and over is being offered a COVID-19 vaccination. This follows the Chief Medical Officer's guidance that the risks of vaccination are outweighed by the benefits of reducing potential damage from further school absence and loss of education.

A recent survey suggested one in two children aged 10-15 years feel they have fallen behind in education, with two in three feeling under pressure to catch up. We know many of our children and young people in Lewisham have been impacted by school closures and isolating at home. Vaccination is the most effective way to protect against COVID-19 and so getting your child vaccinated is the best way to keep them safe and not miss school.

Vaccination of children and young people at Deptford Green School

The NHS will run a day-long vaccination clinic at Deptford Green School to tie in with school hours on **Tuesday 23 November**. Please note that the NHS team will only be able to give the vaccine to students who are 12 years or older on that day.

Your consent will be sought in the same way as for other vaccines normally delivered at school. It's really important that you have a conversation with your child about consent for the vaccine. The nurse will discuss the COVID-19 vaccine with your child at their appointment and will be able to answer any questions they may have.

Students aged 16 or 17 will also be able to receive their vaccination on 22 November if they request it, but they will not need parental consent.

As for other vaccines, if your child is going to receive the COVID-19 vaccine that day, please ensure they have a proper breakfast, including a drink, before coming to school.

Please click on this link to access the eConsent:

<https://app.schoolscreener.com/Portal/#/Lewisham/imms/li12/100740>

Finding out more

We understand that you may have concerns or questions about COVID-19 vaccination, either for your child or for yourself. There are a number of ways to find out more:

- *South-east London Vaccine Facts* – The NHS in South East London has established a website with information at nhsselondonvaccinefacts.com.
- *Lewisham vaccination helpline* - You can also book a free, impartial and confidential conversation with a Lewisham healthcare professional in one of over 200 languages. Book online at <https://modality.simplybook.it/v2/> or by calling 07828 499044.

With kind regards,

Dr Catherine Mbema,

Director of Public Health for Lewisham





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