Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust
Howard Court
14 Tewin Road
Welwyn Garden City
AL7 1BW

February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Thank you for your continued support in keeping friends and family safe in the fight against coronavirus.

Due to recent new national requirements, we have contacted your child's school to discuss the urgent rescheduling of our next visit, to complete the vaccinating of all eligible 12-15 year olds ahead of half term. See below the new date and we look forward to visiting your school in the near future.

The COVID-19 vaccination reduces the chance of suffering from COVID-19 and reduces the severity of symptoms in those who do become infected with the virus. The Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisations (JCVI) and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have now advised a second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine for young people aged 12 to 15-years, 12 weeks after the first dose. The Community and School Aged Immunisation Team (CSAIS) will deliver the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination in all secondary schools in Hertfordshire and East Anglia with the support of Vaccination UK. A team of nurses will visit your child's school on:

> **School name: Mildenhall College Academy**
> **Session date: February 16, 2022**

Under very rare circumstances, we may have to change the date of our visit at very short notice, but please rest assured we will do our utmost to avoid this happening.

The team will require you to consent for a first dose if your child has not already received the vaccine, or re-consent for a second dose. To complete the consent form (for either first or second dose please click this link https://forms.hct.nhs.uk/CovidConsent/eForm and complete the form. It is important to discuss and complete the consent form with your child. **If your child has already had two doses of the vaccine, please do not consent again.**

You will need this unique code number EE139867 which identifies your child's school.
The electronic link will close at Noon on February 15, 2022.

If you have difficulty completing the form or have any queries regarding this vaccination, please call 0300 555 5055

Please use the following link to find your child's NHS number, https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/online-services/find-nhs-number/

Your child cannot be vaccinated if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the 12 weeks prior to the date of our visit.

This service is provided by Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust and covers Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk.

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www.hct.nhs.uk

Alternatively, if you miss the deadline for consenting for your child to have their vaccination at school, should you wish to have your child vaccinated sooner than our planned visit (if they are eligible), or if your child will miss out on the vaccination when we visit because they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 12 weeks, you can book to visit any local vaccination site by using this link: Book or manage a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination - NHS (www.nhs.uk).

There are also many walk-in opportunities please check at the following websites:

Herts and West Essex Vaccine information for young people | A Healthier Future
Suffolk and N. E. Essex: SNEE NHS COVID-19 Vaccination Service (sneevaccine.org.uk)
Cambridge and Peterborough: The Vaccinators | COVID-19 Vaccination Centres | Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
Norfolk and Waveney: Getting your Covid vaccine in Norfolk and Waveney

Your child can get a 1st dose at a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site from the day they turn 12. They can get a 2nd dose if it's been 12 weeks since their 1st dose. The following national Grab-a-Jab website may also be useful to find a walk-in site: Find a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site

Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective, and it takes a few weeks for the body to build up protection from the vaccine. Some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination, but this should lessen the severity of any infection. The vaccine cannot infect people with the COVID-19 virus. Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them. For further information regarding the COVID-19 vaccination, please visit www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination.

Please make sure on the day of immunisation your child is well and encourage them to eat breakfast.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Hertfordshire and East Anglia Community School Aged Immunisation Service

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