

Office of the Medical Officer of Health
19-21 Broad Street | St Helier
Jersey | JE2 3RR

Tuesday, 8 February 2022

Dear parents, carers and students aged 16+,

I want to begin by thanking you for your continued understanding and patience as we change the way we manage COVID-19.

To ensure the vaccine is as accessible as possible, the vaccination team will be re-visiting secondary schools and colleges to administer first, second and, if 16 +, booster doses of the Pfizer/BioNtech vaccine to students aged 12 years old and above.

We will be re-visiting schools starting **Friday 11 February**. The proposed schedule is attached to this letter.

The vaccine is not mandatory and parental consent is required for children aged 12 to 15 years old. Please see the enclosed consent form which must be completed and returned to your child's school/college as soon as possible and before nurses are scheduled to visit your child's school for vaccination. Children aged 16 and above can complete the consent form for themselves.

Parents who consent to their child receiving the vaccine are asked to remind their child to bring home the vaccine card that will be given to them by the nurse after vaccination.

Students aged 12 to 17 who have had a positive PCR test result must ensure that 8 weeks or more have passed since the date of the test. Students aged 18 must ensure 4 weeks have passed since the date of the test. If the required number of weeks have not passed, the vaccine will not be administered, in keeping with JCVI advice.

It is important to check if your child is eligible for their first or next dose by referring to the interval table below. For more information, visit gov.je/vaccine

Age (not at-risk)	Eligible for	Wait between doses	Wait between doses if you've had a positive PCR test
12 to 15	2 primary doses	8 weeks	8 weeks
16 to 17	2 primary doses plus a booster dose	8 weeks (booster 12 weeks after second dose)	8 weeks
18+	2 primary doses plus a booster dose	4 weeks (booster 12 weeks after second dose)	4 weeks

Please share this letter with your children under 16 years old, as you feel appropriate.

COVID-19 vaccination for 12 to 15 year olds

Young people aged 12 to 15 years old are being offered two doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, following advice from the four UK Chief Medical Officers.

Two doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine for 12 to 15 year olds has been approved by the UK's medicines regulator, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), who said it is safe and effective to give the vaccine to this age group.

Vaccinating even more 12 to 15 years old keeps children safe and minimises disruption in schools. Just one dose of vaccine reduces the risk of infection in children by approximately 50%.

Jersey's Children's Commissioner is very supportive of the decision to offer vaccination to 12 to 15 year olds in schools and has worked on a Childs Right Impacts Assessment which considers the rights and perspectives of 12 to 15 year olds.

Parents wishing to attend a vaccination appointment with their child are still able to go to Fort Regent. Walk in appointments remain available.

Vaccination for 16 to 18 year olds

Young people aged over 16 years old are being offered two primary doses and a booster dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, following advice from the four UK Chief Medical Officers. This has been approved by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

If you have not yet had your first dose, it is not too late to get it now. If you have already received your first dose, please check if you are now eligible for your second or booster dose by referring to the interval table at the top of this letter.

Students aged 16 and over can self-consent by completing the consent form themselves. This must be returned to school before nurses are scheduled to visit for vaccination.

What we ask of you:

- **Please read the enclosed leaflets**
- **Note the school vaccination timetable on this letter** which confirms when nurses will be administering the vaccine at your child's school or college
- **Return the consent form to school before nurses are scheduled to visit** so we know whether you want or don't want your child to have the vaccine. This will also save the school having to contact you

If you change your mind after returning your child's consent form to school, you will still be able to make changes to the form. It is your responsibility to make those changes before nurses are in school to vaccinate.

Thank you again for your continued support in our fight against COVID-19.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Muscat', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr Ivan Muscat MBE, Deputy Medical Officer of Health

A video from Dr Ivan Muscat for young people can be found here: <https://youtu.be/rwLggCEh1k>

Watch the Ask the Experts panel session for young people here: [LIVE: Ask the Experts:12-15 years - YouTube](#)

School vaccination schedule:

School	Date
Haute Vallee	Friday 4 March
La Sente	Tuesday 15 February
Beaulieu	Tuesday 15 February
De La Salle	Friday 11 February
Jersey College for Girls	Wednesday 16 February
Grainville	TBC
Victoria College	Wednesday 16 February
Le Rocquier	Thursday 17 February
Le Quennevais	Thursday 17 February
Highlands College	Thursday 17 February
Hautlieu	Friday 4 March
Mont à L'Abbé	TBC