



*A letter to all parents or carers of 12 to 15 year old pupils at Brent Knoll School*

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **COVID-19 vaccination at school for your child**

Everyone aged 12 and over is being offered a COVID-19 vaccination. 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 avoid missing school.

Children aged 12-15 will be offered two doses of vaccine and we are making it as easy as possible for them to get vaccinated.

As part of this, **the NHS COVID-19 vaccination team is coming to Brent Knoll School on Tuesday 1 February**. Students can receive their 1<sup>st</sup> dose - or their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose, if it has been 12 weeks since the 1<sup>st</sup> dose was administered. The NHS team will be vaccinating those pupils who have consent from their parent or carer. You can give consent by signing the form provided and returning it to school.

Please be aware, however, that any child aged 12-15 who has tested positive for COVID-19 needs to wait 12 weeks before they can receive the vaccine. This means that if your child has tested positive within the 12 weeks before the NHS team's visit, they will not be able to receive the vaccine that day.

### **Not sure about the vaccine?**

It is understandable you may have concerns or questions about the COVID-19 vaccination, either for your child or yourself. You will find a document with answers to frequently asked questions accompanying this letter.

If you have further questions, there are several ways to find out more:

- *Online information session* - join a webinar specifically for parents and carers of Brent Knoll School pupils, running **from 5pm to 6pm on Thursday 27 January**. To join the webinar [click on this link](#)

- *South-east London Vaccine Facts* – the NHS in South East London has established a website with information at [nhsselondonvaccinefacts.com](https://www.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](#) or by calling 07828 499044.

Getting your child vaccinated helps protect their health and wellbeing now and for the future by reducing their risk of COVID-19 infection and reducing their risk of missing school. That is why the Chief Medical Officers have recommended it - and why we are offering it in Lewisham.

With kind regards,

Dr Catherine Mbema, Director of Public Health for Lewisham

