

Rob Pavey

28 September 2021

Dear parents, carers and students

Covid and Flu vaccinations

This autumn, the NHS is offering both **flu** and **Covid** vaccinations in school. They are two separate vaccinations, which means you can have one and not the other if you choose. You also need to give consent for each one separately.

Flu vaccinations are being offered to every student from **Year 7 to Year 11**.

Covid vaccination is only being offered to **Years 8 to 11**, because it is only approved for children of 12 and above. This means that Year 7 are not being offered it through school in Oxfordshire. Children of 12 in Year 7 will need to contact their GP in order to get a Covid vaccination.

Because there are 2 different vaccinations, you need to give consent twice; once for each vaccination. Below is the letter and consent for the flu vaccination only; **the Covid consent has not yet been shared with us, and we will send it out separately once we have it**. The consent form is electronic, and is linked from the letter.

Halal and kosher vaccination

The flu vaccination is delivered either via a nasal spray (easier and quicker for most children) or via an injection. It is important to note that the **nasal spray is not halal** or kosher: it contains gelatine, which may be derived from pork products. The **injection is halal**, and contains no animal products. If this affects you, you need to choose the injection. Unfortunately, the consent form has not been well designed, and you first need to say 'no' to consent to the nasal spray. You then get the option of the injection, at which point you can say yes. This instruction is repeated on the letter.

Dates of vaccination

Please note that there are 2 different dates:

Flu vaccination - Y7, 8, 9: **13th October**

Flu vaccination - Y10, 11: **19th October**

COVID vaccination - Y8, 9, 10, 11: **19th October**

For Years 10 and 11, both the flu and the Covid vaccinations will be on the same day.

Consent for flu vaccination

The consent letter and flu consent form are attached below. The Covid consent will come later. Giving consent is a personal and a family matter; if you disagree with the vaccination, please simply say that you do not consent. Staff at school will not engage in debates about your family choices.

Rob Pavey
Headteacher