



Star

29<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope that you and your family are well.

As you will be aware, all young people aged 12 to 15 years of age are being offered the first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. 16 and 17 year-olds have been offered the vaccine since the summer.

I am writing to urge all parents and young people to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

There are considerable benefits to getting our children vaccinated:

- Getting vaccinated does not guarantee that our children will not become infected. However, they will be less likely to get infected and less likely to infect others (particularly our vulnerable elderly) if they do catch COVID-19.
- If infected, vaccinated children are less likely to fall seriously ill or develop long COVID-19 symptoms.
- Vaccinating our children will make it more likely that learning will not be disrupted this winter.

For more information on the vaccine, please read this leaflet for parents (<https://bit.ly/2WGr5zN>) and ask your child to read this leaflet for young people (<https://bit.ly/2ZMCYVS>).

I am aware that some parents may have heard or read concerns about the vaccine. However, these claims are often false or significantly overstate the side effects of the vaccine. If you have any worries, please seek advice from your doctor rather than accept information online from unknown sources.

Getting vaccinated is not mandatory, but I would encourage all students to take part in order to help protect all of our learners, staff and families. Along with the other protective measures your child's school is taking, these jabs will help students to remain in school safely.

Thank you for your support and understanding with this – we really appreciate it.

Yours sincerely,

Sir (Mufti) Hamid Patel CBE  
Chief Executive