



8 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

## COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE

I am writing to confirm that the College has received further information about the Government recommendation that all students aged 12 to 15 years old should be offered the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccinations.

Virgin Care, the company employed to administer the flu and COVID-19 vaccinations, has notified us of when these vaccinations are planned to be offered. Ivybridge Community College has been provisionally scheduled to commence from 1 November 2021. From this date, Virgin Care will then administer vaccinations only to those students from whom their parents/carers have given consent.

Two vaccinations are to be offered to students, the Flu vaccine will be a nasal spray and the other will be the COVID-19 vaccine. Some parents may be comfortable consenting to the Flu vaccine only and not the COVID-19 vaccine, some parents may be comfortable with their child receiving both vaccines on the same day and other parents may not want their child vaccinated at all. It is entirely the judgement of the parent what you consent/do not consent to. No child will be vaccinated without the consent of their parent/carer.

Virgin Care, via schools, will be in contact with you soon to explain the process, the rationale for the vaccine and give you access to the consent forms.

As a College, we are not medically qualified and our staff will not offer any advice or seek to influence any student or family about the advantages and potential risks of a Pfizer/BioNTech vaccination.

More information on the COVID-19 vaccine, the vaccination programme and how it will work, as well as answers to some frequently asked questions, is included in the [Public Health England](#) guidance for schools. If more details arrive, we will keep you fully informed. All enquiries regarding vaccinations should be directed to [Virgin Care](#) and not the College.

Please be assured that we will do our utmost to ensure that the vaccinations have minimal impact on Teaching and Learning.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson  
Principal

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