



Dear Parents and Carers,

Is your child at higher risk from COVID-19 and have they had their seasonal booster?

The NHS COVID-19 seasonal booster programme launched in September to ensure that people who are at higher risk from coronavirus can top up their protection ahead of the winter. The latest figures show that uptake for children between 5 and 15 who are at higher risk is low across our county.

Parents or carers of children who are at high risk from COVID-19 will have received a letter or text from the NHS / their GP inviting them to bring their child for their booster vaccination.

Children at high risk from the complications of COVID-19 include those with:

- Severe neurodisabilities
- Weakened immune systems (those whose immune systems don't work as well, and those who live with someone who is immunosuppressed)
- Profound and multiple or severe learning disabilities
- Being on the learning disability register
- Down's syndrome
- Long-term serious conditions affecting their body

Your GP will know if your child needs to have the seasonal booster. If you have been contacted about your child being eligible for a seasonal COVID-19 booster, please do come forward to protect them.

The vaccines are safe and effective and give you the best protection against COVID-19. Protection from the COVID-19 vaccine fades over time which is why many people are being offered another dose to stop them getting seriously ill from coronavirus.

As well as being able to book through your GP practice if you have received an invitation, thousands of bookable appointments and several drop-in clinics continue to be open across the county for those eligible. Visit www.nhs.uk/covidvaccine for more information.

Yours sincerely,

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