



To All Headteachers

**Children, Young People and Education**

County Hall  
Sessions House  
Maidstone  
ME14 1XQ

Phone: 03000 414989  
Ask for: David Adams  
Email:  
David.adams@kent.gov.uk  
Date: 27th January 2021

Dear Colleague

As lobbying continues to prioritise school staff for vaccinations, and whilst the current guidance around Covid develops daily, it was probably inevitable some confusion would be introduced into the local vaccination programme. A number of you may have picked up an alert through the KAH WhatsApp on a potential scam email that went to some Sittingbourne schools yesterday morning advising them of the opportunity to access vaccinations for staff in their schools. Following investigation, it transpired that the email was genuine and had come from Swale Primary Care Network as they had school staff down as the next priority group on their reserve lists until new priorities were set by the Government. This led to questions being asked as to whether the national priorities had changed and what the approach to the rollout of vaccinations for school staff across the County would be. Wilf Williams who is the accountable officer for the Kent and Medway CCG confirmed that the invitation should not have been issued and that school staff are not on the priority 2 list at this stage. We are still lobbying for school staff to be given access to the vaccination programme and should the position change, we will let you know.

**Half Term**

Yesterday's daily update from the DfE confirmed that schools will close as usual over February half-term and were not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week.

## **HPV vaccination programme for Year 8 and 9 students**

A number of secondary schools have already worked successfully with Kent and Medway Immunisation Service to deliver the HPV vaccination programme to students in their schools. It is understandable that schools are worried about how they can do this safely alongside their lateral flow testing and whilst they currently only have the children of critical workers and vulnerable students on site and are taking action to reduce risk of transmission of infection. Although the school immunisation programme was suspended at the beginning of the pandemic, NHS England has now agreed to the restoration of the programme as during the COVID-19 outbreak it is important that we continue to provide immunisation services to young people.

Kent and Medway Immunisation Service (KMIS) want to work with you to deliver scheduled vaccines in schools as planned and in order to support you in this are hosting Microsoft Teams Meetings in each Area where schools will be briefed by the Locality Lead Nurse on the logistics of running an in-school vaccination session during Lockdown. The session will explain the process and measures taken to ensure the delivery of vaccines in schools is COVID secure, including examples of service delivery models and feedback from schools they have visited to deliver the vaccination programme during January 2021.

Invitations to secondary schools will be sent out by the Area Education Officer teams. The dates and times for the sessions are:

**North:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb - 9.30am - 10.30am

**South:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb - 1:30pm - 2:30pm

**East:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb - 10am - 11am

**West:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb - 2pm - 3pm

Yours sincerely



David Adams  
**Interim Director of Education**