



Department
for Education

COVID-19 12 to 15 vaccination programme funding for schools

Conditions of Funding

February 2022

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WITHDRAWN

Introduction

Healthy 12 to 15 year olds in England are now being offered two doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, 12 weeks apart. These vaccinations are available through school immunisation services or by booking through the national booking service to attend a vaccination site outside of school hours.

At this critical point in the vaccine programme, it is particularly important that schools and immunisation teams work closely together to maximise effectiveness of the vaccination programme.

We will provide schools with a one-off payment to support schools in hosting vaccinations and ensuring that the COVID-19 vaccine is accessible to pupils.

As a condition of this funding, schools are asked to ensure they have a single point of contact to liaise with School Age Immunisation Service and local health teams, as was the case with the previous phase of the vaccine rollout.

Expiry or review date

This guidance will be kept under regular review.

Who is this publication for?

This guidance is for:

- State-funded secondary (not including specialist 16-19 establishments, sixth forms or Further Education settings)
- State-funded middle deemed secondary and all-through schools with 12-15 year old pupils
- State-funded special schools (with 12-15 year old pupils),
- Independent special schools (with 12-15 year old pupils), pupil referral units (with 12-15 year old pupils), alternative provision academies (with 12-15 year old pupils)

Scope

These grant conditions relate to the allocation schools will receive to support the costs associated with the 12-15 vaccination programme.

Specifically, schools must have a single point of contact to liaise with School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) and local health teams and to help facilitate the in school programme, as was the case with the previous phase of the vaccine rollout.

Information on how schools and the single point of contact should work with their SAIS teams can be found in the “how to” guide for schools available on the secondary schools and colleges document sharing platform.

Where schools have no further SAIS visits planned, we would expect funds to be used to distribute vaccination materials, signpost pupils to the out of school vaccination sites and consider hosting a professional led Q&A for parents.

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Eligibility

The following institution types will be eligible for this funding:

- State-funded secondary schools (not including specialist 16-19 establishments, sixth forms or FE)
- State-funded middle deemed secondary and all-through schools with 12-15 year old pupils
- State-funded special schools (with 12-15 year old pupils),
- Independent special schools (with 12-15 year old pupils), pupil referral units (with 12-15 year old pupils), alternative provision academies (with 12-15 year old pupils)

Other independent institutions (with fee-paying pupils and students) are not eligible for this funding.

Further education providers are not eligible for this funding.

The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) will only provide funding to institutions which engage with the vaccination programme and with SAIS teams/ local health teams as necessary to ensure 12-15 year old pupils have access to COVID-19 vaccination.

Institutions will have discretion on how specifically they spend this funding to support the vaccination programme beyond the stipulation that a single point of contact must be in place. The expectation is that institutions should engage with this scheme immediately, aligning with SAIS visits and incurring expenditure as appropriate, in advance of receiving this funding in April 2022.

Allocations

All schools will receive £1000 plus an additional £1.14 per pupil aged 12-15 as based on the published [January 2021 school census figures](#), where these are available for a school in scope.

The flat rate of £1,000 reflects a payment for a member of staff to lead on supporting the programme and some additional headroom to cover incidental costs that schools may incur. The largest schools will receive around £2500 and the smallest schools just over £1,000.

Payments

The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) will process payments to schools on behalf of NHS England. Payments will be made to schools in April 2022.

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Variation

These conditions of grant may be altered at any time. Participating institutions will be notified of this through existing channels.

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Recovery of funding

This funding is being provided under section 14 to 16 of the Education Act 2002 and we reserve the right to audit the expenditure. We will seek to recover funding that has been paid in error.

The recipient must notify DfE immediately through the [ESFA enquiry form](#) where it becomes aware of any instance of error, suspected fraud or financial irregularity in the use of the funds.

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Monitoring, assurance and data requirements

NHS England have a responsibility to make sure that public funds are properly managed in line with the conditions attached to the funding.

NHS England reserve the right to check that funds have been spent appropriately. We may adjust an institution's allocation if an institution has not engaged with their School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) or local health teams.

NHS England and the Department for Education reserve the right to request assurance of this grant funding and will provide further details as necessary.

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Further information

Books, other documents and records relating to the recipient's accounts shall be open to inspection by the Secretary of State for Education and by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

The Comptroller and Auditor General may, under Section 6 of the National Audit Act 1983, carry out examinations into the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the recipient has used its resources in discharging its grant-aided activities.

Schools shall provide information as may be required by the NHS England to determine whether it has complied with these conditions.

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