

18th March 2022

Dear Education and Childcare colleagues,

Ref: Living with COVID-19 Phase – Education and Childcare Staff

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your extraordinary efforts over the last two years. Your dedication and innovation through this extremely challenging period, ensured continued delivery of quality education and support to the children.

We also send our gratitude to staff members who have received their [COVID-19 vaccination and boosters](#). This has helped in significantly reducing the transmission and risk to staff and children.

On Monday 21 February, the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the government's COVID-19 response '[Living with COVID-19](#)' as we learn to live with COVID-19 in the long term. Face to face, high quality education for all children remains our priority.

The benefits of COVID-19 vaccination to your school/setting, staff and children are:

- Protection of children and staff, particularly those who are vulnerable
- Minimising the significant disruption to children's education and learning
- Reducing the risk of serious illness from COVID-19

The vaccination offer is evergreen, so whether you need your 1st, 2nd or booster vaccine it is not too late to get yours. You can book your vaccination or find your nearest walk-in centre at the [Birmingham and Solihull Vaccination Centre website](#).

For those who are yet to receive their COVID-19 vaccine, we strongly encourage you to consider the impact this decision may have on your colleagues and children.

For more information on COVID-19 you can visit the [NHS website](#) or speak to a trusted health professional.

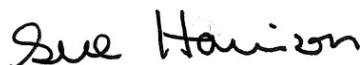
Again, thank you for all that you do to protect Birmingham.

Best wishes



Dr Justin Varney

Director of Public Health



Sue Harrison

Director for Children and Families