

Dear Parent or Carer

Important information about vaccination

As you may already be aware the Prime Minister, through his news broadcasts (on advice from the chief medical officer), has raised the national alert level about the COVID Omicron variant, from three to four. Health advice, particularly for those of you living and working with disabled children and young people, is to take up the offer of COVID-19 vaccinations, to ensure that you and your family are all protected. This obviously includes personal assistants who you employ through direct payments.

The NHS has been asked to offer every eligible adult over the age of 18 a booster vaccination by 31st December 2021, which extends to those who have not yet come forward to have their primary vaccination doses.

The NHS will also offer all 12 to 17-year-olds their first and second jabs by the end of December.

Scientists are very concerned about the spread of Omicron due to the speed with which it spreads and because two doses do not appear to provide sufficient protection, threatening a new wave of infections, hospitalisations, and deaths.

Studies show the best way to protect yourself and others is to get a booster vaccination. As such, the NHS have increased their capacity to vaccinate at a rapid pace.

The main message is that a booster dose dramatically improves protection.

All those who are in receipt of social care services, and this includes direct payment support, are being asked to ensure that their personal assistants are fully vaccinated to protect the most vulnerable people and communities.

Vaccination Sites & Transport

All the details for getting COVID-19 vaccinations can be found on the NHS Kernow Clinical Commissioning Group website at: [COVID-19 vaccine information - NHS Kernow CCG - NHS Kernow CCG](#)

For care staff who have difficulty getting to appointments, the 'Vaxi Taxi' service is available and is free for care workers.

Contact Volunteer Cornwall on 01872 265300 to access the service or visit the webpage: [Volunteer Cornwall Transport - Volunteer Cornwall](#)

We would encourage you to share the details of this letter with your personal assistants.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Personalisation Support Team
Children & Family Services
Together for Families