

We are all encouraged, however, by the dramatic effect of booster jabs, which increase protection above 70%, and hope that this third dose will be just as good at preventing serious illness, caused by Omicron as by Delta.

We believe cases are doubling every 2 to 3 days, so **please** come forward for a booster when texted or called.

Please ensure your contact details are up-to-date.

We are working down age groups as fast as we can, starting with older patients, those with comorbidities, or those who are pregnant.

All boosters at the surgery will be the **Pfizer** vaccine, as this has shown to be the best at increasing immunity.

Guidance now is to offer a **booster 3 months** after a second dose to **ALL adults over 18** (not within a month of a positive COVID test).

COVID Vaccinations for 16-17 year olds

Healthy 16 and 17 year olds will now be offered a **second dose** of vaccine **3 months** after their first dose, however we cannot give this second dose until 3 months after a positive COVID test.

This gap is **8 weeks** if they are considered **immunosuppressed** or **live with someone who is immunosuppressed**.

Adult immunosuppressed patients

A **third dose** should be administered at least 8 weeks after a second dose.

The terminology used initially was confusing, as their third dose was labelled as a 'third primary dose' **not** a 'booster'. This is because this cohort of patients may not have as strong of an immune response to the vaccine.

We will now give a **fourth dose** - the '**booster**' - **3 months** after the **third dose**, to try to boost protection.

We will be contacting patients in this group when they are due, but if you believe you have been left out, or have, for example recently joined this cohort, please contact us.

Telephone: 02038835708

Email: swlccg.macmillanwaysurgery@nhs.net

Booking for COVID Vaccinations

It is possible to book for COVID vaccinations via the NHS National Booking Service - www.nhs.uk/book-a-coronavirus-vaccination/do-you-have-an-nhs-number or by ringing **NHS 119**.





2021 has been a challenging year for everyone.



We thank patients for their positive feedback - lovely comments on NHS Choices or Google or to our inbox really help to keep us going and boost staff morale.

We are committed to continuing to offer boosters and the best care we possibly can, and we wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a much better, pandemic-free, healthy 2022.

Get boosted!

Stay safe!

With best wishes,

Penny Smith Senior Partner

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