政府總部

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GENERAL GRADES OFFICE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

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10 June 2021

To: Supervisors / Principals of all Secondary Schools, Primary Schools, Special Schools and Schools offering Non-Local Curriculum

Dear Supervisor / Principal,

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Vaccination Arrangements for Primary and Secondary Students

The Secretary for Food and Health approved the lowering of the age limit for receiving the Comirnaty vaccine to age 12 on 3 June 2021, and made further elaboration today (10 June 2021) with the Secretary for the Civil Service and the Secretary for Education. The Department of Health held a press conference yesterday (9 June) with two experts to explain matters on lowering of the age limit for receiving the Comirnaty vaccine to age 12. The Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases under the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, joined by the Chief Executive's expert advisory panel, agreed that the Comirnaty vaccine has a high efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19 disease. Vaccination will be important to protect adolescents against symptomatic COVID-19 disease and to reduce community transmission, as well as to increase the overall community immunity. The Hong Kong Academy of Medicine has also remarked earlier that 3 children out of the about 970 Hong Kong children infected with COVID-19 have got seriously sick. The Academy urges students 12 years and older to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible.

With the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme being extended for adolescents aged 12 or above to receive the vaccination of "Comirnaty" from Fosun Pharma / BioNTech ("BioNTech"), we cordially invite all primary and secondary schools to help facilitate their students to act early as below —

a) Community Vaccination Centre (CVC) through group bookings made by schools

Time slots will be pre-arranged for your school through group bookings each of 20 to 30 persons and several time slots may be reserved. Please note that the Community Vaccination Centre will administer the first dose of vaccine only up to end August.

Your school can make booking for transportation between CVC and school on the vaccination day with our school bus contractor direct. At least two school teachers are required to accompany the students for each school bus and to assist them at the CVC for each time slot. School staff as well as parents and are welcome to go together to CVC that day to receive the vaccination.

b) School outreach

Outreach vaccination service could be arranged to your school for at least 300 persons per visit, with the view of receiving the first dose of vaccine before end August. The arrangements for Special Schools will be separately promulgated.

School is required to carry out some venue set-up and arrange the provision of cleansing services. A list of requirements for outreach vaccination service is attached for reference. School staff, parents and guardians are welcome to receive vaccination together on the vaccination day.

c) Self-arrangement by parents/ guardians and students

Parents and guardians can also make their own bookings at CVCs for their children through the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme website (https://booking.covidvaccine.gov.hk/) direct. Persons aged below 18 should bring along the completed Consent Form to the CVCs for COVID-19 Vaccination.

The preparatory work and timeline, together with invitation email templates to parents / guardians, parent / guardian's consent form, school reply form, is attached for your deployment. Please indicate your choice of CVC group booking or school outreach by returning the school reply form by email to cvp_school@csb.gov.hk as soon as possible for arrangement.

For more information about the Programme in general, please visit the website of COVID-19 Vaccination Programme at https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/. Please contact the School Development Section of your district for enquiries.

Thank you for your support in advance.

Yours faithfully,

(Hermes Chan) for Secretary for the Civil Service