Frequently asked questions

Are all students eligible to be vaccinated?

No, only students aged 16 years and above that are sitting the Higher School Certificate (HSC) this year (or otherwise completing year 12 in 2021), and attend school TAFE or live in one of the Local Government Areas (LGA) of concern are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination at this time.

The nominated LGAs are Liverpool, Fairfield, Canterbury/Bankstown, Cumberland, Parramatta, Blacktown, Georges River and Campbelltown.

Why are these LGAs being given priority?

There are a high number of cases of COVID-19 in the 8 LGAs of concern.

When will other HSC students from other LGAs be eligible to be vaccinated?

Further information on expansion of vaccination initiatives will be communicated by the NSW Government.

How will I get to my vaccination appointment?

Transport will be available to and from Qudos Bank Arena for most schools within the 8 LGAs. NSW Health are organising buses with Transport for NSW to make sure all students arrive at their allocated group time and progress for vaccination as quickly and seamlessly as possible. Schools with less than 10 HSC or Year 12 students will not have scheduled buses and students will be required to make their own way to and from Qudos Bank Arena. There are COVID-safe plans in place for this transportation to ensure your safety and wellbeing.

Those who live in the 8 LGAS, but go to school outside these LGAs will need to make their own way to the Qudos Bank Arena Vaccination Centre.

Why is it important I arrive on time for my appointment?

All appointments have been organized to ensure minimal contact with other schools and other students. The vaccination appointments are booked as a group and attending as a school group will assist to identify you so you can progress for your vaccination as quickly and seamlessly as possible.

My parent or carer wants to attend the appointment with me, is this okay?

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff, numbers are strictly limited within the vaccination site. Parents and carers will not be able to enter the Vaccination Centre with you unless you require special assistance. NSW Health has organised health staff and supervisors to be health staff allocated to students during the vaccination process. If you do require special assistance or have any concerns, please discuss this with your school Principal who will coordinate a suitable plan for you.

Can I use this link to book a vaccination for my family member?

No, these vaccination appointments are being prioritised for HSC students and students completing Year 12 in 2021 only. This link is non transferrable and cannot be shared with friends or family members. Eligibility will be confirmed on the day of your appointment, and those who are not eligible will not be able to receive the vaccine.

Is it safe for me to get the vaccine?

Yes, vaccination is one of the best ways to protect you against COVID-19 and reduce the transmission of the virus. The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine (Comirnaty) as the preferred vaccine for those aged 12 to under 60 years. You can find more information <u>here</u>

Can I leave my area for this vaccination?

Yes, people who live in the Blacktown, Campbelltown Canterbury-Bankstown, Cumberland, Fairfield, Georges River, Liverpool or Parramatta LGAs are allowed to leave their home for a reasonable excuse, including to go out for medical or caring reasons, including obtaining a COVID-19 vaccination.

The NSW Government has published a list of COVID-19 rules for affected LGAs.

Who do I call if I can't book/have issues with booking?

If you require further assistance making your vaccination appointment, please contact 1800 57 11 55.

What vaccine is being offered?

You will receive the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine (Comirnaty) as it is the preferred vaccine for those aged 12 - 18 years. You will need two doses of the vaccine, 5 - 6 weeks apart. Information about your second vaccination will be provided by NSW Health.