

PETER GIBSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

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Dear Constituents

Thank you for your email about university students receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

As I understand it currently no universities within the UK will require incoming students to receive the COVID-19 vaccine before returning to university in the Autumn. The Department for Education has announced that there are no plans for proof of vaccine status to be required to attend lectures or stay in halls of residence. However, I welcome the views of Ministers to encourage all students to take up the offer of both vaccine doses as well as for universities and colleges to promote the offer of the vaccine, and they are required to conduct risk assessments for their particular settings.

I understand that following careful review by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, the JCVI has recommended that children and young people aged 12 to 15 who live with an immunosuppressed person and all 16 to 17 year olds will now be offered a COVID-19 vaccination. The NHS has been asked to prepare to vaccinate those eligible as soon as possible. The Government has asked the NHS to act on this advice as soon as possible. I am aware that those young people aged 16 to 17 with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious COVID-19 have already been offered vaccination.

I can assure you that the Government will continue to monitor the vaccine programme closely to ensure the safety of adults and children. I firmly believe the vaccine rollout is essential to enabling the country to get back to normal, and for students to experience normal university life again.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to contact me and if I can ever be any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*Yours sincerely
Peter Gibson*

PETER GIBSON MP

Member of Parliament for Darlington

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