

Dear Parents/Guardians,

21-088E

25th January, 2022

"2019 Coronavirus Vaccination Programme and Injection Intention Survey"

The Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD) and the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases (JSC) of the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH), in collaboration with the Chief Executive's Expert Advisory Panel (CEEP), announced on 17th January the updated provisional consensus recommendations for the vaccination of children in Hong Kong with the new COVID-19 vaccine. The Joint Scientific Committee and the Expert Advisory Panel did not object to administering the Sinovac vaccine to children aged 5 to 11 and to administering a partial dose of the adult BioNTech vaccine to children in that age group. These adjustments can protect children and adolescents from symptomatic coronavirus infection and are effective in reducing severe illness and mortality rate. Vaccination not only reduces the spread of the virus in the community, but also helps children and adolescents return to normal school and daily life as soon as possible.

The government announced on 20th January that children aged 5 to 11 can receive the Sinovac vaccine starting 21st January; since a special vaccine dilution procedure is required for children to receive the BioNTech vaccine and that an interval of 12 weeks is required to receive the first and the second doses of the BioNTech vaccine, the government will set up community vaccination centers for children aged 5 to 11 to receive the BioNTech vaccine starting 16th February.

Therefore, parents can receive either the Sinovac or BioNTech vaccine through the following methods:

- Subsidized School Vaccines Outreach (Limited to only Sinovac vaccinations) Parents/Guardians can register through the school's arrangements and receive the Sinovac vaccine by doctors from COVID-19 vaccine school outreach services. However, the number of participants must be 150 or more.
- 2. Parents/Guardians can make their own vaccination appointment for students directly through the 2019 Coronavirus Vaccination Programme website (https://booking.covidvaccine.gov.hk/forms/index_tc.jsp). People under the age of 18 must bring the "Consent Form for COVID-19 Vaccination" completed by their parents/guardians to vaccination centers for vaccination. In addition, apart from the consent form, children aged 5 to 11 must be accompanied by an adult family member for vaccination. If your children do not hold a Hong Kong Identity card or birth certificate, please make an appointment and receive vaccination through other channels than the online booking system. For more information please refer to the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme website at https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/zh-HK/programme. (Remarks: Consent form is attached in this circular)

If parents wish to allow your children to participate in the Subsidized School Vaccination Outreach arrangements and receive Sinovac vaccinations at school, please sign and return the reply slip for accounting and awaited reply to relevant departments for arrangements.

| | | Mr. Chan Chun Wah Principal |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| | Reply Slip | (21-088E) |
| Dear Principal, | | |
| I have understood the circular "201 | 9 Coronavirus Vaccination Programme a | nd Injection Intention |
| Survey", and I | | |
| * am interested / am not interest | sted in allowing my child to participate in t | he Vaccination Subsidy |
| Scheme School Outreach arrangeme | ents. | |
| will make appointments for vaccination | on at vaccination centers. | |
| had already completed receiving [#] Sin | novac / BioNTech vaccines. | |
| Date of first vaccination: | Date of second vaccination: | |
| am not interested in receiving Sinov | ac / BioNTech vaccination. | |
| | Class () Student Name | : |
| *Please tick ☑ as appropriate. | Parent's/Guardian's Signature | : |
| [#] Please cross out inapplicable options. | C | |
| Note: Class teachers after collecting the circulars, p | blease give them to Mr. Ho Kim Fai. Date | : |