



**Australian Government**  
**Operation COVID Shield**

Name  
Principal  
School  
Address

email@

Dear Principal

We are writing as the Chief Medical Officer and Coordinator-General of the National COVID Vaccine Taskforce to thank you for your help to date supporting the national vaccine rollout and to seek your assistance to improve COVID-19 vaccination rates amongst school children.

Australia is one of the most highly vaccinated countries in the world. Around 95 per cent of Australian adults are fully vaccinated. Over 50 per cent of 5 to 11 year old children have received a first dose. This is ahead of vaccination rates in other countries but there is more we can do to ensure our children and our community stays protected.

As leaders in your community, we are seeking your support to promote and encourage uptake of COVID-19 vaccines by children. In addition to supporting children to receive first doses, we also want to remind children and parents that may now be due for their second dose; available 8 weeks after the first.

COVID-19 vaccines are a safe way to protect children, their families and friends from getting sick. Currently two vaccines are available – Pfizer for 5-11 year olds and Moderna for 6-11 year olds.

Vaccines reduce potential disruptions to learning, allowing children to continue to attend school and extracurricular activities. Vaccines have been through a rigorous testing and approval process and it is critical that we stress to parents the safety of getting a vaccine.

Schools are a key foundation in strong and connected communities. I am hoping for your support to promote COVID-19 vaccines to the parents of children attending your school. I have attached a fact sheet and a draft letter which could be distributed to parents. The Vaccine Clinic Finder can be used to book a vaccination appointment for children, and more resources are available on the Department of Health website at: [www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/who-can-get-vaccinated/children](http://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/who-can-get-vaccinated/children)

We would be greatly appreciative for your assistance in reaching out to your school community to promote COVID-19 vaccination. Thank you for your continued efforts to keep the community safe.

Lieutenant General John Frewen DSC AM  
Coordinator-General  
National COVID Vaccine Taskforce

Prof Paul Kelly  
Chief Medical Officer

Dear Parent,

I am reaching out prior to the end of first term to encourage and remind you all to book a COVID-19 vaccination for your child.

Over 50 per cent of all children aged 5 to 11 have now received a first dose, with many now due for a second dose (eight weeks after the first). In particular as we approach school holidays and the weather cools down, it is important to take steps to minimise the impact of COVID-19. Vaccines are a safe and effective way to protect your child, and the community.

The Department of Health website provides a number of resources with further information about seeking COVID-19 vaccination. Attached is a Fact Sheet which you could use to have a conversation with your child. Further resources are also available at:

[www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/who-can-get-vaccinated/children](http://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/who-can-get-vaccinated/children)

Vaccines are widely available across the country at general practices, state-run clinics and Aboriginal Health Services. You can find a participating clinic and make an appointment by visiting the Vaccine Clinic Finder at: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/booking>

Thank you for your efforts to keep your child and the wider school community safe.