



June 21, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Now that the CDC has recommended COVID-19 vaccinations for children from 6 months to 5 years old, **we encourage you to have your child vaccinated** to protect themselves, your family, and the community.

While COVID-19 is generally less serious for children than for older adults, children can become infected, and some may get very sick or suffer serious complications. Children can spread COVID-19 to others. The COVID-19 vaccine has been shown to be safe and effective against infection, serious illness, hospitalization, and death.

Please speak to your child's doctor to make an appointment and raise any questions or concerns you have about the vaccine and your child.

Families may feel most comfortable getting their youngest children vaccinated by their primary care provider, but retail pharmacies are also able to vaccinate children ages 3 and above. More information, including safety information and helpful questions and answers, is available at www.mass.gov/CovidVaccineyoungkids

As a reminder:

• The COVID vaccine is free for all, and no ID or insurance is needed to be vaccinated.

Getting your family vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones. We appreciate your help to keep our community safe and healthy.

Margret R. Cooke Commissioner Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Jeffrey C. Riley Commissioner Department of Elementary and Secondary Education