Updated guidance about vaccination requirements for students on healthcare courses

On Monday 31 January the Government announced that it was launching a consultation into the revised <u>regulations</u> which required anyone who is working, including students on placement, in a CQC regulated service in England to evidence they have received a complete course of an <u>approved Covid-19 vaccine</u>, subject to limited exceptions, by no later than 1 April 2022.

Alongside the launch of the consultation the <u>Government announced</u> the 1 April 2022 deadline is no longer applicable.

What does this mean?

The Government announcement means that even if even if a student is not fully vaccinated by 1 April 2022 they can now continue with your placement in a CQC regulated service. **They will not need to transfer to a different course.**

The importance of vaccination against Covid-19

We would still strongly encourage all students to consider becoming fully vaccinated. <u>Vaccination</u> is a key mitigation to protect you and others against Covid-19. Many fewer fully vaccinated people become unwell and hospitalised due to Covid-19.

You may have questions about becoming vaccinated – <u>watch our short video</u> where Neve Ricketts, Vice President Student Activities talks to local GP, Dr Gemma Moore (Ombersley Medical Centre) about vaccinations.

If you would like further information about vaccinations, please speak with your course leader or personal academic tutor. If you need help in <u>accessing a vaccination</u>, please get in touch with <u>Firstpoint</u>.

The implications of not being vaccinated against Covid-19

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students on courses with CQC placements will have a Covid-19 risk assessment score set at 'red'. Without being fully vaccinated they are at an increased risk of contracting, and becoming unwell, from Covid-19.

If, following consultation, the Government decides not to revoke the regulations these student may be unable to undertake or complete a future placement because they have not been fully vaccinated.

In such circumstances, the University may have to terminate the student's place on their regulated health course because they will not be able to demonstrate the necessary learning outcomes. The University may, however, offer to transfer the student to a non-regulated course, where reasonably possible.