

Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I get my child vaccinated?

COVID-19 is usually mild in most children, but it can make some children unwell. With the increasing spread of Omicron and the rate of transmission it is vitally important for your child to be vaccinated to protect them and others from this variant and gives good protection against your child getting seriously ill. Vaccinating children can also help stop the spread of COVID-19 to other people, including within schools.

My child didn't have a first dose, can they still have one?

Yes, your child can have a first dose during this programme either at school or at a vaccination centre, so long as they are eligible.

Can my child who has just turned 16 years old still have their second dose?

Yes, they can. You can book an appointment or attend a walk-in centre.

My child has had COVID-19 in the last 12 weeks, or has COVID-19 now. What should I do?

According to the latest JCVI guidance, children who have tested positive for coronavirus should not have a vaccine until 12 weeks have passed since their infection or positive test. This is to ensure they receive the maximum benefit from the vaccine. We will still be offering vaccines to this age group in 12 weeks time, so please don't worry — they'll be able to get vaccinated at a local vaccination centre once they're able to do so.

Is the vaccine safe for children?

Yes. Millions of children around the world have had a COVID-19 vaccine. The independent Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has confirmed the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine is safe and effective for children aged 12 to 15, following an extensive review of the safety, quality and effectiveness of the vaccine in this age group. The vaccine continues to be closely monitored to make sure it is safe and effective.

My child has underlying health issues/is under the care of a specialist. Can they receive the vaccine now?

There are very few children who cannot have the vaccine, and pupils who fall into this category will be screened for suitability. We do however recommend arranging to speak to your GP surgery or your child's consultant to get tailored advice — as they know your child's condition best. Please let Vaccination UK know when completing your consent form if you have spoken to your child's GP or consultant.

These options are not suitable for me - is there any other way that my child can receive their 2nd dose?

Vaccination UK want to support parents/carers to get their children vaccinated however we can. If the above options are not suitable for you, please contact them using the query form (click on the link below)

[Children's Vaccination Query Form](#)

A member of their team will be in touch to advise on how you can secure a COVID-19 vaccination for your child.

I've still got questions - where can I find more information?

There are a range of resources available to support parents and children in getting their COVID-19 vaccinations. Here are a few links to some guides you may find helpful:

- [Guidance for parents on the vaccination programme for children and young people](#)
- [Guidance for young people aged 12-17](#)
- [Guidance for at-risk children and young people aged 12-15 \(simple text\)](#)

Alternatively, you can contact Vaccination UK for more information on any aspect of vaccinations for children and young people.

Any **consent related queries** can be forwarded to the following Vaccination UK email address:
covid@v-uk.co.uk