



# COVID-19 Young people and vaccines Toolkit

## Overview

Younger people are at risk of spreading COVID-19 unknowingly and also at risk from serious illness.

Vaccines are our first line of defence against COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 is to get fully vaccinated.

Parents can [book COVID-19 vaccinations online](#) for their 12-15 year old children. Walk in sites are also available. You can find your nearest one [here](#).

There is a helpful [NHS COVID-19 vaccine guide for young people](#) available to download or read online.

### Key messages

- Younger people are at risk from COVID-19 and can pass on the illness to loved ones such as family and friends.
- Vaccines prevent serious illness, deaths and hospital admissions.
- Encourage young people in your communities to have a jab.
- Walk in centres are now available for younger people to get their free vaccine.





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## How to vaccine can protect you and your loved ones

The COVID-19 vaccines approved for use in the UK have met strict standards of safety, quality and effectiveness.

Vaccinated people are far less likely to get COVID-19 and even more unlikely to become seriously ill, to be admitted to hospital, or to die from it.

You or your child can get a first dose from a [walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site](#) if you live in England and are aged 12 or over.

### How you can help

- Use the [new assets from Public Health England for younger people](#) to let them know about the benefits of the vaccine.
- Let people know they can find their nearest walk in vaccination centre online [here](#).
- Share the [NHS COVID-19 vaccine guide for young people](#) with your networks.
- Download vaccine explainer videos [here](#) and post them to your networks on social media.





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## Children 12 to 15

The NHS has started to [roll out the COVID-19 jab to school children aged 12 to 15](#), as part of the biggest vaccination drive in health service history.

Almost three million children in this age group are eligible for one dose of the Pfizer vaccine.


Jabs have started in schools across the country.

In line with standard practice for vaccinations in schools, consent letters have been sent to parents and guardians with information on the COVID-19 vaccination.

Families do not need to contact the NHS to arrange their child's vaccine. Schools and providers will be in touch.

### How you can help

- Share the [information for parents](#) from the NHS with your networks.
- Provide people with the latest information on vaccines by sharing a link to the [COVID-19 vaccines NHS page](#).
- Post [videos on vaccines for 12 to 15 year olds](#) to your networks.



**Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

## Vaccination programme for children and young people

**Guidance for parents**


This autumn all young people aged 12 to 15 years are being offered the first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 is a very infectious respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Very few healthy children and young people with COVID-19 infection go on to have severe disease.

**Why should I have my child vaccinated?**

The UK's Chief Medical Officers all agree that while COVID-19 is typically mild or asymptomatic in most young people, it can be very unpleasant for some and one dose of the vaccine will provide good protection against severe illness and hospitalisation.

Vaccinating 12 to 15 year olds should also help to reduce the need for young people to have time-off school and reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 within schools.

The COVID-19 secondary schools vaccine programme should therefore provide protection to young people and reduce the disruption to face to face education. This will help to keep young people emotionally well and happier and this was an important consideration for the Chief Medical Officers.





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## Video assets for those aged 12 to 15

### How you can help

- Post the explainer videos on this page to your networks. The videos, from left to right, cover the benefits of the vaccine, consent and the rollout of the vaccination programme for this age group.  
Download them [here](#).







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## Social media assets

### How you can help

- Use the [new assets from Public Health England for younger people](#) to let them know about the benefits of the vaccine and other COVID-19 advice such as regular testing.

### Rapid Covid-19 testing twice a week will help us stay ahead of the virus

Report your test result each time, whether it's positive, negative or void.

Test at home, report online and keep life moving.

[www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)





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## Explainer videos

### How you can help

- Download and post this [video explaining the benefits of the vaccine](#) to your networks.
- [Share a NHS video](#) explaining that the COVID-19 vaccines have gone through thorough testing and is safe to use.
- Share [videos in various languages by NHS workers](#) explaining the vaccine.
- Post the [vaccine explainer videos](#), with medical student Priya, to your networks.





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## Misinformation

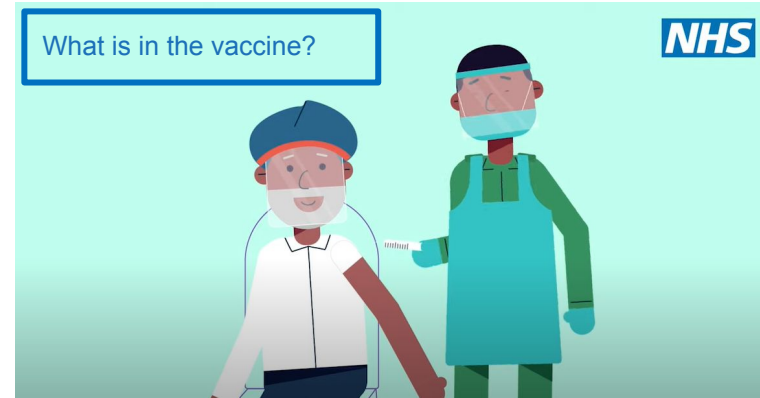
Sharing false information about the COVID-19 vaccine can be dangerous.

Inaccurate claims can circulate quickly. You can stop the spread of misinformation by checking the accuracy of information before passing it on. The Government has a [social media campaign to tackle false vaccine information](#).

Check before you share information and [signpost to the NHS](#)

### How you can help

- [Share the video](#) to the right by actor Jason Forbes who tackles some common myths about the vaccine.
- [Watch and share the YouTube videos](#) on what is in the vaccine and how it works







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## Safer behaviours

The best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 is to get fully vaccinated. People who are fully vaccinated should continue to follow safer behaviours and actions set out in the guidance on how to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

The behaviours and actions encouraged to prevent the spread include:

- **Let fresh air in when meeting indoors.** Meeting outdoors is safer;
- **Wear a face covering** in crowded and enclosed settings where you come into contact with people you don't normally meet;
- **Get tested, and self-isolate if required;**
- **Try to stay at home if you are feeling unwell;**
- **Wash your hands** with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day; and
- **Download and use the NHS COVID-19 app** to know if you've been exposed to the virus.

Information and [assets are available in community languages](#).

### How you can help

- Download assets from the [Public Health England Resource Centre](#) to help with COVID-19 messages.

