

School staff and immunisation

Vaccines are safe and effective and the best way out of the pandemic.

It is easier than ever to get your vaccine and as someone who works directly with young people we are continuing to encourage school staff to get vaccinated.

The vaccine is being offered to 12 - 15 year-olds in school soon, as it has been recommended as a way of decreasing the possibility of lost days of learning at school.

Any staff members that have not yet had their vaccine will be able to get their vaccine when pupils are offered theirs in school.

We encourage any colleague who has not yet been jabbed or is due for a second dose at that time to use this opportunity to get their vaccine, as it offers another form of protection against the virus.

Get vaccinated

At the moment anyone over the age of 16 can walk-up and get their vaccine at a number of testing sites and pharmacies across, Ealing, London and the UK.

In Ealing you can walk up to CP House, Uxbridge Road W5 5TL and get your vaccine.

- No ID
- No NHS number
- No problem

Just walk up and get your jab.

[Find your nearest vaccine centre](#)

[More information on COVID-19 in Ealing](#)

FAQs

Why should I get the vaccine?

The COVID-19 vaccine gives you the best protection against coronavirus. By taking the vaccine, you are not only protecting yourself, you are also protecting those around you. Vaccines can significantly reduce the spread of coronavirus – but only if enough people are vaccinated. If the virus spreads again, it is likely to mean further lockdowns stopping us from getting back to normal for longer.

How do I get the vaccine?

The COVID-19 vaccine is being offered to people most at risk from coronavirus first. If your age group is called and you have not yet had or been offered your vaccine, you need to contact the NHS by calling 119 or going to the NHS website to book your vaccine appointment. If you are not eligible yet, please wait to be contacted. The NHS will let you know when it's your turn to have the vaccine.

Is the vaccine safe?

Yes. The NHS only offers COVID-19 vaccinations to the public once independent experts have signed off that it is safe to do so. The MHRA, the official UK regulator, has said that all approved vaccines have good safety profiles and offer a high level of protection.

Does the vaccine give you COVID?

No. Vaccines are developed by taking parts of the virus itself. However, the parts of the virus in the vaccine cannot reproduce in your body and cannot give you COVID-19.

Could the vaccine be less effective for black people and other minority groups?

No. There is not any evidence that any of the approved vaccines will work differently among different ethnic groups. For both vaccine trials, participants included black/African, Asian and other ethnic groups.

Does the vaccine include pork, gelatine or other animal products?

No. There is no material of animal origin in either vaccine. All ingredients are published in healthcare information on the MHRA's website.

Can Muslims have the vaccine under Islamic law?

Yes. After discussion with experts, the British Islamic Medical Association encourages individuals to take the COVID-19 vaccine as advised by their medical practitioner.

How is the COVID-19 vaccine given?

The COVID-19 vaccine is given as an injection into your upper arm. It is given as two doses. You will have the 2nd dose 8 to 12 weeks after having the 1st dose.

How long does the vaccine take to become effective?

The 1st dose of the COVID-19 vaccine should give you good protection from coronavirus. But you need to have the two doses of the vaccine to give you longer lasting protection.

There is a chance you might still get or spread coronavirus even if you have the vaccine. This means it is important to continue to follow social distancing guidance and, if you can, wear something that covers your nose and mouth in places where it's hard to stay away from other people.

Is the vaccine vegan/vegetarian friendly?

The two approved COVID-19 vaccines do not contain any animal products or egg.

If, and when, further vaccines are approved we will publish information about known allergens or ingredients that are important for certain faiths, cultures and beliefs.

Who cannot have the vaccine?

People who are suffering from a fever-type illness should also postpone having the vaccine until they have recovered.

I'm currently ill with COVID-19, can I get the vaccine?

People currently unwell and experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (cough, high temperature, loss of sense of smell or taste) should not receive the COVID-19 vaccine until they have recovered.

Do people who have already had COVID-19 get vaccinated?

Yes, they should get vaccinated. There is no evidence of any safety concerns from vaccinating individuals with a past history of COVID-19 infection, or with detectable COVID-19 antibody, so people who have had COVID-19 disease (whether confirmed or suspected) can still receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it is their time to do so.

Are there any known or anticipated side effects?

Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them.

Very common side effects include:

- a sore arm where the needle went in
- feeling tired
- a headache
- feeling achy
- feeling or being sick
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As with all vaccines, appropriate treatment and care will be available in case of a rare anaphylactic event following administration.

I have had my flu vaccine, do I need the COVID-19 vaccine as well?

The flu vaccine does not protect you from COVID-19. As you are eligible for both vaccines you should have them both, but normally separated by at least a week.

Will the COVID-19 vaccine protect me from flu?

No, the COVID-19 vaccine will not protect you against the flu. If you have been offered a flu vaccine, please try to have this as soon as possible to help protect you, your family and patients from flu this winter.

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- [Yes](#)
- [Neutral](#)
- [No](#)

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