

COVID-19 Community Champions

Fortnightly briefing

Wednesday 18 August



Public Health Update

For the latest data, visit the Walsall Council website:

https://go.walsall.gov.uk/covid-19_information/covid-19_data_for_walsall

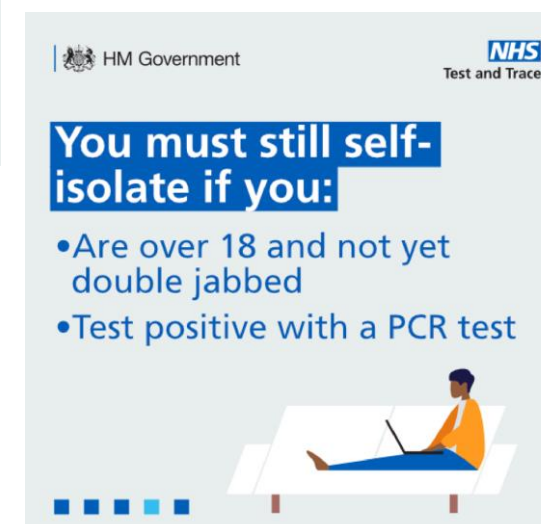
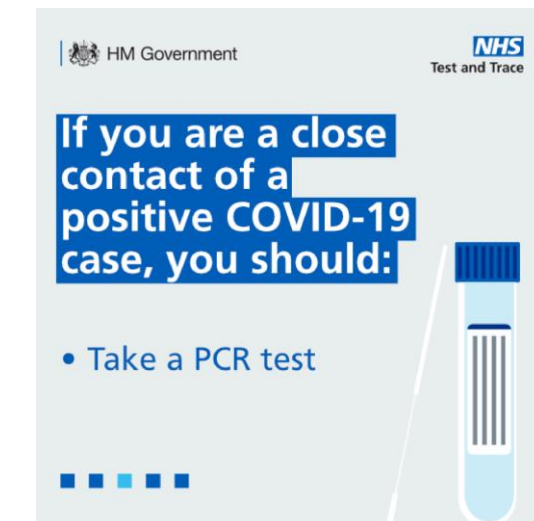
Public Health Update

Changes to Self-isolation Guidance (16 August)

- From 16 August 2021, the rules on self-isolating when individuals are identified by NHS Test and Trace as being a close contact of a positive case have changed.
- The following individuals will no longer be legally required to self-isolate if they are identified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case:
 - Those aged 18 or under
 - Those who have had both of their COVID-19 vaccinations. The second dose must have been given at least two weeks prior to coming into close contact with the positive case.
- Anyone who meets this criteria and has been identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case is strongly advised to take a PCR test to detect the virus and identify any variants of concern. If they test positive for COVID-19 they will then be legally required to self-isolate.
- Those who are over 18 and not fully vaccinated will still need to isolate if they are identified as close contacts. This is to protect themselves and others and stop the virus from spreading.
- **Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms will still be required to self-isolate** and book a PCR test and remain at home until they receive their results.

[COVID-19 - self isolation guidance \(walsall.gov.uk\)](https://www.walsall.gov.uk/covid-19-self-isolation-guidance)

[COVID-19 - self isolation scenarios \(walsall.gov.uk\)](https://www.walsall.gov.uk/covid-19-self-isolation-scenarios)



Public Health Update – Key Messages

Translations are now available

The pandemic is far from over. These are simple clear messages to help us all understand the health behaviours we should be using over the summer.

- If you have [any of the symptoms of COVID-19](#), self-isolate at home and [request a test](#) as soon as possible.
- Get two doses of a coronavirus vaccine.
- Continue to use symptom free testing (lateral flow devices) regularly.
- Continue to wear a face-covering in busy, indoor spaces, shops and on public transport.
- Take particular care when visiting health and social care settings and wear a face covering when doing so
- Use the summer to meet outdoors as much as possible
- When you do meet indoors, keep fresh air moving by opening windows and doors.
- Keep washing your hands or use hand gel and sanitisers when you are out and about.



COVID-19 Vaccinations

Key Focus

We are continuing to try and increase vaccination uptake in;

Locality

- Walsall South, Bentley and Darlaston, Birchills and Leamore

Age range

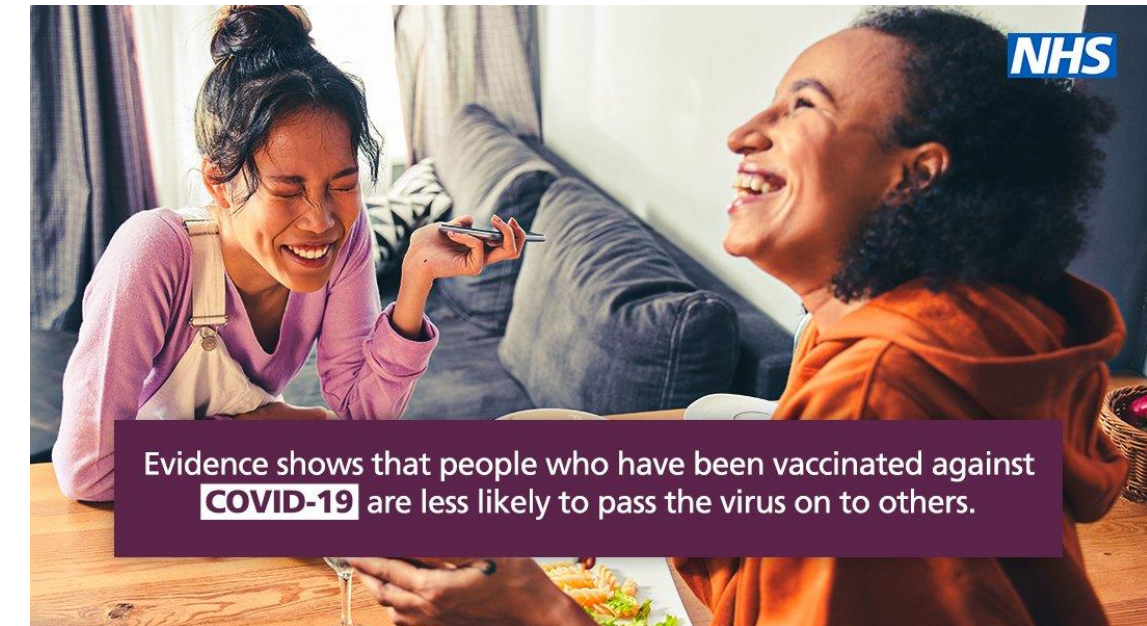
- 1st dose for 18 – 29 and 30 – 39
- Those who are having the 2nd dose aged 30 and over (anyone who had their first vaccine in May is now due)

Ethnicity

- Black, Black African, Black Caribbean community
- Pakistani community
- Bangladeshi community

Other

- Pregnant women



Public Health England

Pregnant?

Have your COVID-19 vaccines!

It is important to have both doses of your COVID-19 vaccine to protect you and your unborn baby.

COVID-19 infection is currently circulating and can be serious for pregnant women.

Thousands of pregnant women have been safely vaccinated in the UK and worldwide.

Call 119 or go online to www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/ to register for your vaccination appointment. You can also attend walk in, mobile or pop up vaccination clinics in your area.

 **COVID-19 immunisation**
Helping to protect you and your pregnancy

COVID-19 Vaccination – CCG update

Update on the COVID-19 vaccination for 16 and 17 year olds

- Young people aged 16 and 17 will be invited to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccination, following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).
- The first dose will provide 80% protection against hospitalisation and protection could be even higher as younger people respond better to vaccines and some will have already had the COVID-19 infection, meaning they will have an even better response to a first dose.
- Young people do not need to contact the NHS – the NHS will call, text, email or send a letter to invite them for their vaccine, which will be the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Parental consent will not be required to be vaccinated.

More information and resources:

<https://www.blackcountryandwestbirmccg.nhs.uk/your-health-services/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine-children-young-people>



COVID-19 Vaccination – CCG update

Where to get your COVID-19 Vaccination in Walsall

Across Walsall there are many local vaccination services, GP surgeries, pharmacies, pop-up clinics and vaccination buses where you can get your COVID-19 vaccination.

Saddlers Vaccination Centre, WS2 9NW (16 & 17 year olds can walk-in to this site from Monday 23 August). Open seven days a week, 8am to 7pm, for both first and second doses AZ / Pf

Moxley Methodist Church, 101a High St, Moxley, Wednesbury WS10 8RT (16 & 17 year olds can walk-in to this site)

2pm - 6pm (Friday 20th August 2021) (1st and 2nd Doses of both **Pf**)

10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4.30pm (Saturday 21st August 2021) (1st and 2nd Doses of both **Pf**)

3pm - 6pm (Thursday 26th August 2021) (1st and 2nd Doses of both **Pf**)

9am - 3pm (Saturday 28th August 2021) (1st and 2nd Doses of both **Pf**)

9am - 1pm and 2pm - 6pm (Sunday 29th August 2021) (1st and 2nd Doses of both **Pf**)

Bloxwich Pharmacy, 169 High Street, Bloxwich, Walsall WS3 3LH (16 & 17 year olds can walk-in to this site)

9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (1st and 2nd Doses of both **Pf / AZ**)

- Vaccination buses are touring the borough to offer walk-in vaccinations in a wide variety of locations.
- Or you can book online or call 119 to visit the following locations for your vaccination



- The Black Country and West Birmingham CCG website is routinely updated with information on [COVID-19 Vaccination | How to access your vaccine in the Black Country and West Birmingham \(blackcountryandwestbirmccg.nhs.uk\)](https://www.blackcountryandwestbirmccg.nhs.uk/COVID-19-Vaccination-How-to-access-your-vaccine-in-the-Black-Country-and-West-Birmingham)

Vaccination Bus update

Bus activity:

- **3** buses
- **102 deployments**
- **54 different** locations
- **2100+** vaccinations administered
- Large events:
 - 21-22 August at Walsall Show (Arboretum)
 - Supporting two whg events next week in Darlaston and Palfrey
 - Supporting a community engagement event near to the university on 28 August
 - Agreed a two-week deployment at Walsall College for students
 - Working with the university to provide a vaccination service during Freshers' Week in September
 - Currently putting together the programme of follow-up visits to all locations to offer the 2nd jab

More Information:

- [COVID-19 vaccination bus \(walsall.gov.uk\)](https://walsall.gov.uk) (Find the timetable)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination | How to access your vaccine in the Black Country and West Birmingham \(blackcountryandwestbirmccg.nhs.uk\)](https://blackcountryandwestbirmccg.nhs.uk)



Public Health On-call

Walsall Public Health continue to operate a seven-day COVID-19 advice line for businesses, organisations and education settings.

The phone line is open **8am–6pm Monday to Friday and 10am–2pm on weekends and bank holidays.**

The helpline should be your first point of call if:

- you are notified you have had a positive case in your setting
- you are informed of a confirmed case of COVID-19 by the [NHS Test & Trace service](#)
- you have any questions on infection control to reduce the spread of the virus.

The team will work with you to assess the risks and advise you of what actions to take. By taking this early action they could stop a major outbreak.

Contact the team by email walsall.healthprotection@nhs.net or phone 01922 65 8065.

Project update (1)

OAK TREE TRUST

- An open day has taken place at the Proffitt Street centre. This was very successful with a lot of engagement taking place with local people.
- Oak Tree Trust has also made contact with a youth group that is attached to St Peter's Church. This group has approximately 80 young people on its books and Oak Tree Trust wants to be able to engage with them, provide them with accurate information and help and encourage them to have their vaccination.
- Oak Tree Trust has good contacts within local mosques – they help with social media.
- Re-decorating of the Proffitt Street Centre takes place next week.

Project update (2)

REFUGEE AND MIGRANT CENTRE

- COVID Champions continue their work with RMC clients.
- All clients are engaged on arrival and asked if they want assistance with booking their vaccination or need any information. The vast majority have already had their vaccination.

Project update (3)

NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD (NTCOG)

NTCOG reported a lot of recent activity. They have:

- Made contact with Walsall Seventh-Day Adventist Church, North Street, Walsall to complete questionnaires and have given them an opportunity to share views/stories.
- Have approached the Legacy Church in Corporation Street to offer assistance but are currently still awaiting a response.
- Provided a Champion to support the vaccination bus.
- Been allocated a table at a social event that has been organised by district churches and which is taking place this Saturday in Chuckery. NTCOG will take leaflets, etc. and will engage with those needing information.

NTCOG have tried to reach out to another group on a few occasions but they will continue to try and engage with this group.

Project update (4)

AINA COMMUNITY HUB

Aaina Hub is currently collating information for two stories that will eventually be shared.

They are also recording a podcast. The script is now completed and its content has been approved. They will provide support in editing the final version.

Project update (5)

MULTI-KULTI

Positive messages:

Multi-Kulti's success with online surveys continues, with around a further 50 in recent weeks. This is ongoing.

In addition, they have distributed more than seven boxes of vaccine information leaflets. Multi-Kulti also continues to provide support for vaccination bus deployments.

Learning:

Occasional difficulties have been experienced during vaccination bus support. When faced with challenging individuals, the champions try not to enter into conversation with them. They have learned to be careful how they approach members of the public.

Project update (6)

VERA GROUP

Over the last two weeks, VERA has:

- updated the COVID Champions and their network with the latest information around the vaccination, testing and lockdown restrictions.
- held discussions with community members regarding the importance of continuing to maintain social distancing and wearing a mask.
- been working on a case study/interview for the Walsall for All website (about the role of a COVID Champion and the importance of volunteering).
- continued to complete questionnaires and identify individuals that have experienced some barriers in receiving the vaccine (lack of English, lack of information regarding the process, support with booking process, GP registration etc.).
- informed the network about the location of the vaccination bus.

Project update (7)

MIDLAND MENCAP

Successes:

Midland Mencap have invited learning disability nurses coming to come in to talk to service-users about restrictions, tests, etc. This will continue to happen over the next couple of weeks. The aim is to help service-users to get their vaccination

Learning points:

There are some good opportunities for Midland Mencap to get videos/podcasts out into the public. These will encourage people with learning disabilities to get tested/get their vaccination.

Project update (8)

MOTIVATION HUB

August has been a very busy month at the Hub, with many staff on leave and some service-users having to go into isolation.

Flyers have been sent to the homes of our service-users to share with family and friends.

A COVID coffee morning is being held in September. If there are any other Community Champions that wish to come along and share their COVID experiences, please contact Suzanne.

Motivation Hub have done a short video, which was shared on their social media page. The aim of the video was to make everyone aware that, whilst it is great that restrictions are lifting, we must continue to follow guidelines (masks, temperatures, sanitiser, social distancing) to keep our vulnerable groups as safe as possible.

Some really positive feedback has been received about Motivation Hub's COVID video, which was shared amongst many local services recently.

Resources

Government resources

- [Stage 4 Roadmap](#)
 - BSL video available [here](#).
 - Easy read version [here](#).
- [Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#)
- [Vaccine information for people without an NHS number](#) (translations now available)
- [How to do a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow test at home](#)
- [COVID-19 Health Behaviours - Translations](#)

[Doctors of the World – How to register with a GP and book a vaccine](#)

All of the above resources available in different languages.

New Resources - COVID-19 Vaccination

Vaccine information for people without an NHS number

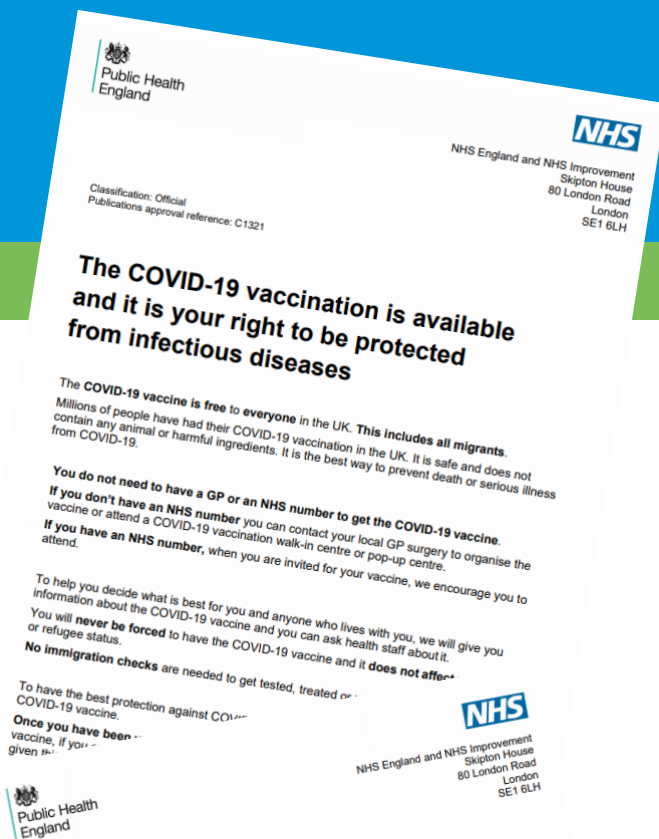
Public Health England (PHE) have published new translated letters and videos for people with no NHS number about how to register with a GP and book a COVID-19 vaccine.

The letter, created by NHS England and NHS Improvement, is now available in 25 languages including Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Polish and Urdu.

Doctors of the World, in partnership with the British Red Cross, have produced translated animated videos with key information on how to register with a GP and book COVID-19 vaccines.

Letters: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-people-without-an-nhs-number>

Videos: https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/translated-health-information/?_gr=how-to-register-with-a-gp-and-book-a-vaccine



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How to register with
a GP and book a
COVID-19 vaccine

Please ensure that all images posted on social media make use of the 'alt text' function, and duplicate any words that appear in a graphic so the same information is accessible to those using screen readers. You should also describe any imagery that appears within this description. Please also ensure that key information is communicated in the post text, rather than relying on a visual asset. You can find further guidance and how to do this for different platforms below and for further advice on writing image descriptions, see here: <https://www.rnib.org.uk/rnibconnect/technology/making-your-social-media-accessible>

New Resources - COVID-19 Vaccination

Young People Vaccines



NHS

DON'T MISS OUT

ON THE GOOD TIMES

DON'T MISS OUT

ON YOUR COVID JABS (X2)

Over two thirds of 18-30 year olds have already had their 1st Covid jab. It's easy to get yours done quickly, so you don't miss out on anything.

Visit nhs.uk/covidvaccination to book yours now or to find your nearest walk-in centre.



NHS

DON'T MISS OUT

ON YOUR COVID JABS (X2)

DON'T MISS OUT

ON BIG EVENTS

Over two thirds of 18-30 year olds have already had their 1st Covid jab. It's easy to get yours done quickly, so you don't miss out on anything.

Visit nhs.uk/covidvaccination to book yours now or to find your nearest walk-in centre.



NHS

DON'T MISS OUT

ON YOUR COVID JABS (X2)

DON'T MISS OUT

ON THE GOOD TIMES

Visit nhs.uk/covidvaccination to find your nearest walk-in centre.



NHS

The **COVID-19 vaccine** is the best way to protect yourself against new variants of the virus. If you haven't already, book your appointment now at nhs.uk



NHS

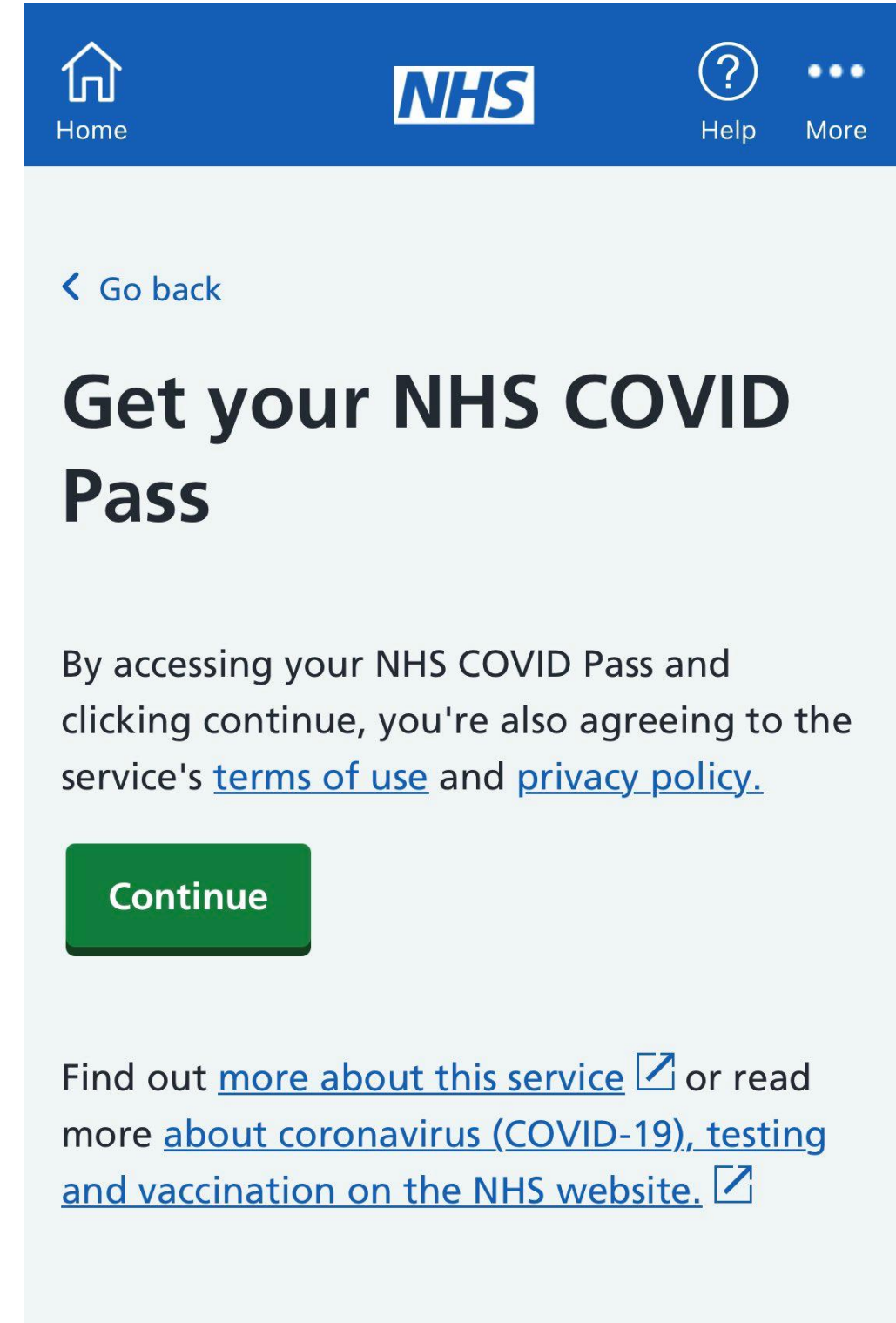
Evidence shows that people who have been vaccinated against **COVID-19** are less likely to pass the virus on to others.

Please ensure that all images posted on social media make use of the 'alt text' function, and duplicate any words that appear in a graphic so the same information is accessible to those using screen readers. You should also describe any imagery that appears within this description. Please also ensure that key information is communicated in the post text, rather than relying on a visual asset. You can find further guidance and how to do this for different platforms below and for further advice on writing image descriptions, see here: <https://www.rnib.org.uk/rnibconnect/technology/making-your-social-media-accessible>

COVID-19 Vaccination

NHS COVID-19 Pass

- The [NHS COVID Pass](#) allows you to confirm your COVID status and evidence that you are at lower risk of transmitting to others through full vaccination, a recent negative COVID-19 test, or proof of natural immunity
- **This is your COVID-19 status.**
- You may be asked to show your pass to travel abroad, or at events and venues in England asking for proof of your COVID-19 status.
- You can get your COVID-19 pass by;
 - Digital
 - [The NHS App](#) (you must be registered with a GP) This is different to the NHS COVID-19 app
 - NHS website
 - Paper copy (you do not need to be registered with a GP)
 - Request online
 - Phone 119



The screenshot shows the NHS COVID Pass service page. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with a home icon labeled 'Home', the NHS logo, a help icon labeled 'Help', and a more options icon labeled 'More'. Below the navigation bar, there is a light blue background with a 'Go back' link. The main heading is 'Get your NHS COVID Pass'. Below the heading, there is a paragraph of text: 'By accessing your NHS COVID Pass and clicking continue, you're also agreeing to the service's [terms of use](#) and [privacy policy](#).' Below this text is a green 'Continue' button. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text: 'Find out [more about this service](#) or read more [about coronavirus \(COVID-19\), testing and vaccination on the NHS website](#).'

New Resources

What the NHS COVID Pass letter tells you: translated versions and alternative formats

The NHS COVID Pass letter you receive will be in English. You can get information about what the letter tells you in other languages and alternative formats. However, you'll still need to show the original English letter to demonstrate your COVID status, for example when travelling abroad. You do not need your letter in a language to match the country you're intending to travel to.

Translated versions

Read [translated versions about what the NHS COVID Pass letter tells you](#).

Easy read

Read an [easy-read guide about what the NHS COVID Pass letter tells you](#).

Braille and large print

You can get a [Braille or large print version of the NHS COVID Pass letter via the NHS website](#) or by calling 119 (select the 'NHS COVID Pass service').

Audio format

You can get an [audio version of the NHS COVID Pass letter via the NHS website](#) or by calling 119. Your letter and the audio file on a CD will be sent directly to you. It should arrive within 7 working days.

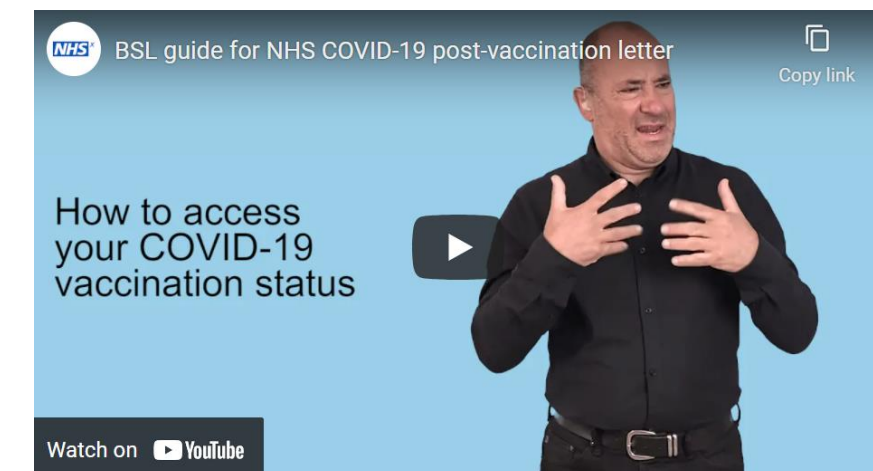
British Sign Language (BSL)

[Watch a video](#) about the NHS COVID Pass letter in BSL, not including personal details.

Guidance

What your NHS COVID Pass letter tells you (English, text only)

Updated 20 July 2021



New Resources

COVID-19 vaccinations and pregnancy poster and social media cards

A set of 4 posters aimed at pregnant women encouraging them to have both of their COVID-19 vaccinations are now available. There is a set of social media cards to go with these posters and they can be downloaded and shared on social media and websites.

An [easy-read version of this leaflet](#) is available for people with a learning disability and their carers.

[British Sign Language videos](#) are available to view.

A [Braille version](#) of this leaflet is available to order.

Paper copies of this leaflet are available to order for free or download in the following languages:

[English](#), [English large print](#), [Albanian](#), [Arabic](#), [Bengali](#), [Bulgarian](#), [Chinese](#), [Estonian](#), [Farsi](#), [Greek](#), [Gujarati](#), [Hindi](#), [Latvian](#), [Lithuanian](#), [Panjabi](#), [Polish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Brazilian](#), [Romanian](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Turkish](#), [Twi](#), [Ukrainian](#) and [Urdu](#).



Public Health England

Pregnant?

Have your COVID-19 vaccines!

It is important to have both doses of your COVID-19 vaccine to protect you and your unborn baby.

COVID-19 infection is currently circulating and can be serious for pregnant women.

Thousands of pregnant women have been safely vaccinated in the UK and worldwide.

Call 119 or go online to www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/ to register for your vaccination appointment. You can also attend walk in, mobile or pop up vaccination clinics in your area.

COVID-19 immunisation
Helping to protect you and your pregnancy

Public Health England

NHS



A guide to COVID-19 vaccination

All women of childbearing age, those currently pregnant or breastfeeding

You must read this before you go for vaccination

Find out more at nhs.uk/CovidVaccine

The COVID-19 vaccines available in the UK have been shown to be effective and to have a good safety profile. These vaccines do not contain live coronavirus and cannot infect a pregnant woman or her unborn baby in the womb.

COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has advised that pregnant women should be offered COVID-19 vaccines at the same time as people of the same age or risk group. In the USA, around 90,000 pregnant women have been vaccinated mainly with Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and no safety concerns have been identified.

Evidence on COVID-19 vaccines is being continuously reviewed by the World Health Organization and the regulatory bodies in the UK, USA, Canada and Europe.

Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are the preferred vaccines for pregnant women of any age who are coming for their first dose.

Anyone who has already started vaccination and is offered a second dose whilst pregnant, should have a second dose with the same vaccine unless they had a serious side effect after the first dose.

Is COVID-19 disease serious in pregnancy?

Although the overall risk from COVID-19 disease in pregnant women and their new babies is low, in later pregnancy some women may become seriously unwell and need hospital treatment.

Pregnant women with COVID-19 have a higher risk of intensive care admission than women of the same age who are not pregnant. Women with COVID-19 disease are also 2-3 times more likely to have their babies early than women without COVID-19.

Pregnant women with underlying clinical conditions are at even higher risk of suffering serious complications from COVID-19.

Risk factors for pregnant women

If you have underlying medical conditions such as:	Or if you are
• immune problems	• overweight
• diabetes	• over the age 35
• high blood pressure	• in your third trimester of pregnancy (over 28 weeks)
• heart disease	• of black and asian minority ethnic background
• asthma	

You are at more risk from COVID-19 than women of the same age who are not pregnant.