

## About the COVID-19 vaccine

### What is the coronavirus vaccine?



For information about vaccines and how they work, please see the [vaccines page](#).

### Who can have the coronavirus vaccine?



In England, anyone who is over 5 years old can have the coronavirus vaccine.



Children who were 5 years old on or before 31 August 2022 can also have the coronavirus vaccine.

**If I want to have the coronavirus vaccine, what should I do?**



If you want to have the coronavirus vaccine and have not yet had it, you can:



- book an appointment at a vaccination centre or a pharmacy by looking at the [NHS website](#) or by phoning 119



- find out where there are coronavirus vaccination walk-in centres [on the NHS website](#).



You do not need an appointment to go to a walk-in centre.



You might also be able to book a coronavirus vaccine appointment by phoning your doctor's surgery.



Before you make your appointment, you might want to think about if you want to ask for any **reasonable adjustments**.

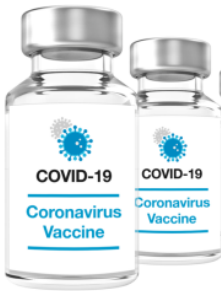


**Reasonable adjustments** are small changes that can help people with a learning disability be treated equally.

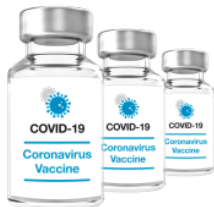


You can find out more about reasonable adjustments on the [reasonable adjustments webpage](#).

## How many injections will I need?



At first, everyone should have 2 doses of the coronavirus vaccine.



If your **immune system** was not working very well when you had your first 2 doses, you will need to have another dose.



Your **immune system** is how your body fights off infections, like a cold or the flu.



Some people will need to have a **booster dose** of the coronavirus vaccine.



A **booster dose** is an extra dose of a vaccine.



For more information about the coronavirus booster vaccine, go to the [coronavirus booster webpage](#).

## **Should I have the vaccine if I have coronavirus or symptoms of coronavirus?**



You should not have the coronavirus vaccine if you have coronavirus, or symptoms of coronavirus.



You should wait:

- 4 weeks if you are aged 18 or over
- 12 weeks if you are aged 5 to 17
- 4 weeks if you are aged 5 to 17 and are more likely to be very poorly if you have coronavirus
- 4 weeks if you are aged 5 to 17 and you live with someone who has a weak **immune system**.

**Are there any other ways to have the coronavirus vaccine if you do not like injections?**



No. You have to have an injection if you want to have the coronavirus vaccine.

**Where can I get help to get the coronavirus vaccine?**



If you need more help to get your coronavirus vaccine or **booster**, speak to your doctor or your local community learning disability team first.



If you would like some more help or advice, you can:



- call the Learning Disability Helpline Monday to Friday on 0808 808 1111



- email us at [helpline@mencap.org.uk](mailto:helpline@mencap.org.uk)



- or [fill in our online form.](#)



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