

# **Covid-19 vaccination: frequently asked questions**



**This document has been produced by Bath and North East Somerset Council for members of the B&NES community.**

# Contents

General.....	2
Vaccine safety .....	5
Booking or changing your vaccination appointment.....	7
Getting to your vaccination appointment.....	9
Preparing for your vaccination appointment.....	10
After your vaccination .....	13
Health and wellbeing .....	16
Fertility and pregnancy .....	19
Translated resources .....	21
Additional support .....	22
Links.....	23

## “Who can get the Covid-19 vaccine?”

Currently, all people aged 16 or over can now get vaccinated against Covid-19.

[The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#)<sup>1</sup> also advises that the Covid-19 vaccination should be offered to children aged 12-15 years old that:

- Have specific underlying health conditions that put them at risk of serious Covid-19 (e.g. severe neurodisabilities, Down’s Syndrome, immunosuppression, multiple or severe learning disabilities)
- Live with someone who is immunosuppressed

To find up-to-date information about who is eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine, please visit the [NHS website](#)<sup>2</sup>.

## “Why should I have the vaccine?”

Catching Covid-19 may lead to long term complications and can be fatal. Having the vaccine means you are much less likely to become ill from Covid-19, [which can cause serious illness and death](#)<sup>3</sup>. A [recent clinical trial](#)<sup>4</sup> found that a single dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech or Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine was 80% effective at preventing admission to hospital with Covid-19.

Moreover, around one in three people with Covid-19 do not have any symptoms, and risk passing it on to others. A [study by Public Health England](#)<sup>5</sup> has found that immunisation with either the Pfizer/BioNTech or Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine reduced the chance of onward virus transmission by 40-60%.

This means that if someone became infected after being vaccinated, they were only around half as likely to pass their infection on to others compared to infected people who weren't vaccinated. Having the vaccine can therefore help you to protect your friends, family, colleagues and those who are vulnerable.

[Analysis from Public Health England](#)<sup>6</sup> has also shown that two doses of the Covid-19 vaccine are highly effective against symptomatic disease and hospitalisation from the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant which, at the time of writing, is the dominant strain of Covid-19 in the UK.

**“How does the vaccine work?”**

The vaccine is injected into a muscle in your upper arm and stimulates the body's immune system to produce its own protection (antibodies) against the Covid-19 virus. For adults 18+, the vaccine is administered in two doses, with your second dose given 8-12 weeks after your first. It's important to have both doses to get the best protection. You should book your second dose at the same time as your first dose.

**“Can I choose which vaccine I have?”**

You cannot usually choose which vaccine you have. Those patients who are allergic to a specific vaccine will be able to receive an alternative. You will only be offered a specific vaccine if you're either:

- pregnant
- aged under 40 and do not have a health condition that increases your risk of getting seriously ill from Covid-19

If either of the above applies to you, you'll only be shown appointments for the Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccine when you [book your Covid-19 vaccination appointments online](#)<sup>7</sup>.

You should have the same vaccine for both doses unless you had serious side effects (such as a serious allergic reaction) after your first dose.

**“How much does the vaccine cost?”**

It is free, and available through the NHS to eligible groups. The NHS will never ask you to pay for your vaccine, share any bank details/passwords or any documents such as a passport or driver’s license.

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or identity theft you should report this directly to [Action Fraud](#)<sup>8</sup> on 0300 123 2040. Where the victim is vulnerable, and particularly if you are worried that someone has or might come to your house, report it to the police online or by calling 101.

**“Will I be forced to get the vaccine?”**

No, the vaccine is not compulsory unless you work or volunteer in a care home.

**“Do I need the vaccine if I’ve already had Covid-19?”**

Yes. The antibodies will start to decline a few months after you had the infection. If you have had Covid-19, the vaccination will strengthen your immunity and make it long lasting. It is safe to have the vaccine if you have had Covid-19.

**“If Black, Asian and people from minority ethnic groups are more at risk from Covid-19, why aren’t they being prioritised for the vaccine?”**

[Evidence from the first and second wave in the UK](#)<sup>9</sup> has shown that people in certain Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups are at higher risk of hospitalisation from Covid-19.

However, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has found that there is no strong evidence that ethnicity by itself (or genetic characteristics) is the sole explanation for [differences in rates of severe illness and deaths](#)<sup>10</sup>. Certain health conditions are associated with increased risk of serious disease, and these health conditions are often overrepresented in certain Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups. As a result, people are being prioritised for their vaccine based on age and underlying health conditions in line with the JCVI guidance.

# Vaccine safety

## **“Is the vaccine safe?”**

All Covid-19 vaccines have been tested extensively in thousands of people across the globe. Every Covid-19 vaccine approved for use in the UK went through the same amount of testing, analysis and regulatory process as all other vaccines before they were approved for use. Each vaccine was tested across tens of thousands of people across a wide range of groups and demographics. The approval process for use in the UK is the same for every vaccine, regardless of who created it. The data from these trials has been independently verified by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, which has approved the use of all vaccines currently being given in the UK. Millions of people have since been given the Covid-19 vaccine and reports of serious side effects, such as allergic reactions, have been very rare. No long-term complications have been reported.

## **“Can we trust a vaccine that’s been developed so quickly?”**

The vaccines have been developed and trialled in the same way as other medicines and vaccines available in the UK, but there are several reasons why they have been developed quickly compared to other medicines, including:

- The different phases of the vaccine trial were run at the same time, rather than one after the other, which sped up the clinical process.
- The data from the trials was shared with the MHRA as soon as it was available, rather than waiting until the end.
- Funding for all of the trials was available at

every stage, so there were no delays often caused by seeking funding to continue.

- Thousands of people were recruited to take part in the clinical trial very quickly, as it was a global effort and many people wanted to volunteer.

**“Were the vaccines trialled on different ethnic groups?”**

Yes, all vaccines that are approved for use in the UK have been trialled on people from a variety of different ethnic groups. There is no evidence that any of the vaccines work differently in different ethnic groups. Out of the participants in the [Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine trial](#)<sup>11</sup>, 82.1% were White, 9.6% were Black or African American, 26.1% were Hispanic/Latino, 4.3% were Asian and 0.7% were Native American/Alaskan native. Out of the participants in the [Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine trial](#)<sup>12</sup>, 75.5% of recipients were White, 10.1% were Black and 3.5% were Asian. Out of the participants in the [Moderna vaccine trial](#)<sup>13</sup>, 19.7% were Hispanic or Latino, and 9.7% were African American.

**“Will the vaccines work with the new Covid-19 variants?”**

There is currently no evidence that the new strains will be resistant to the vaccines we have. Viruses, such as the winter flu virus, often develop into new strains, but these new strains rarely make vaccines completely ineffective. This is being continually monitored.

The [British Medical Journal](#)<sup>14</sup> has said that all UK-approved vaccines are effective against the most common new strains, however stress that they are most effective after the second dose.

# Booking or changing your vaccination appointment

**“How can I book a vaccine appointment?”**

All adults over 18 years old can [book a vaccine appointment through the National Booking service online](#)<sup>7</sup> or by calling NHS 119. Please do not attend a vaccine clinic or large-scale centre without having a booked appointment, or unless it's specifically advertised as a walk in session.

**“I'm not sure about getting the vaccine right now. Can I book in at a later date?”**

If you decide not to have your vaccination now, **you will still be able to book an appointment in future**, depending on availability. Getting the vaccine is the main thing you can do to reduce your risk of death or serious illness from Covid-19 and to protect friends and family – so if you've been offered an appointment, it's highly recommended that you keep it.

**“I'm eligible for a vaccination but the National Booking Service won't let me book an appointment online. What should I do?”**

If you are struggling to find a slot, please be patient. Appointments are becoming available all the time, as vaccine supply allows.

The [National Booking System webpage](#)<sup>7</sup> lists who is currently eligible to book and gives information about what you'll need to do when you book, including making sure you:

- have two doses of the Covid-19 vaccine at two appointments
- book both appointments at the same time
- get the second dose 8-12 weeks after getting your first dose

Please note that the NHS is unable to book appointments via the National Booking System on your behalf.

**“I’m away at the time of my second dose, what shall I do?”**

If you need to change your second dose appointment, you can do this via [the National Booking System](#)<sup>7</sup> or by calling 119.

**“I work in a health and social care setting. When will I be receiving the vaccine?”**

Most staff will be invited to receive their vaccine at one of the region’s hospital hubs, however each employer will receive specific details of where and when their teams will be able to be vaccinated. If you are a member of staff, a locum GP or an agency worker, please contact your employer for further information. See [health and social care worker Q&As](#) ([www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-Covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-Covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/)) for more information.

**“Can I still be vaccinated if I am not currently registered with a GP practice? For example, if I am a foreign national or member of the traveller community.”**

Yes, however each person who would like to receive a vaccine must register with their nearest GP practice as a temporary resident as soon as possible.

A temporary registration will last for approximately three months. After this time, a new temporary registration may be required. Anyone in the UK can register with a GP, and you won’t be asked for any proof of address, identity or immigration status. You can [register for a GP here](#): [www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/gps/how-to-register-with-a-gp-surgery/](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/gps/how-to-register-with-a-gp-surgery/).

# Getting to your vaccination appointment

**“Is it possible for transport to be arranged to take me to and from my vaccine appointment?”**

If you're unable to get a lift from friends and family (remember to wear a face covering and to open the windows), public transport is still operating locally. Many of the vaccine sites are situated on, or very near to, major bus routes. First West of England is providing a bus service to and from the large vaccination centre at Bath Racecourse. More information on this route, including ticket prices and timetables, can be found on [the First Group website](#)<sup>15</sup>.

If you need assistance in getting to your vaccination appointment, please call the Community Wellbeing Hub on 0300 247 0050.

**“I'm unable to leave my home. Will I still be able to receive the vaccine?”**

If your GP knows you are housebound and you are in the top four priority groups as set by [the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation](#)<sup>16</sup>, you will be contacted to book your vaccination at home.

Anyone who has not yet received their vaccination and has recently become housebound should contact their GP practice to ensure records are up to date.

# Preparing for your vaccination appointment

**“How long will my appointment take?”**

Appointments vary in time but should take no longer than 30-45 minutes in total. This includes arriving at the venue, asking any questions, getting the vaccine, and for some vaccines you may need to wait for 15 minutes after the appointment so you can be monitored for any reactions (which are very rare).

**“What do I need to bring to my appointment?”**

On the day of your appointment, you will need to bring a face covering (unless you can't wear one for a health reason) and your booking reference number (if your appointment is at a large vaccination centre). It's a good idea to wear clothing that allows easy access to the top of your arm – as this is where the vaccine will be given. If you are attending an appointment to receive your second dose, taking your vaccination card can help make the process quicker and smoother.

**“Can I bring someone with me for support?”**

People are being asked to attend their vaccine appointment on their own unless they need support from a carer. This is to limit the amount of people in the vaccination centre at any one time, to reduce the risk of spreading Covid-19.

**“Will the Covid-19 vaccine hurt? What does it feel like?”**

The injection isn't painful – it's been described as a brief feeling of discomfort. As with other vaccines, [it is common to feel some soreness or tenderness in your arm for a day or two after the Covid-19 vaccine](#)<sup>17</sup>.

**“Can I take my child with me to the vaccination centre?”**

Parents are asked not to bring their children with them to the vaccine centre unless they require assistance, or they cannot access childcare during the appointment.

**“Should I have the vaccine if I’m feeling unwell?”**

You should reschedule your vaccine appointment if:

- You are experiencing any [symptoms of Covid-19 \(including a cough, fever, or change to your sense of smell or taste\)](#)<sup>18</sup>
- You have tested positive for Covid-19
- You have been told to self-isolate following contact with someone who tested positive (unless you are exempt from isolating)

Minor illnesses such as a cold are not reasons to delay vaccination.

If you can’t attend, try and reschedule your appointment as soon as you can. If you made an appointment online, you can log back in to [the national booking system](#)<sup>7</sup> to view, change or cancel your appointment. If you made an appointment with your local GP or hospital you should have been given a contact number to call if you need to reschedule your appointment.

**“I have a fear of needles – what can I do to prepare for the appointment?”**

Having a fear of needles (trypanophobia) is very common – it affects 1 in 10 people. You may feel anxious, sweaty, nauseous, or faint before or during your appointment. [Try these simple techniques to reduce your fear of needles](#)<sup>19</sup>:

- Practice some breathing exercises before your appointment to help calm your nerves and reduce any anxious feelings.
- Tell the person who is giving you the injection about any worries you have. They will talk to you through the process and make sure you are as comfortable as possible. Chatting to them can also help to distract you from the injection, or you can

do something else to distract yourself, like pinching yourself, or anything else that helps you.

- Try not to tense your arm during the vaccination – the more relaxed you are, the less you will notice the needle.
- Try not to look at the needle. Focusing on a positive memory or an object in the room may help to distract you.
- If you tend to feel faint when you have injections or blood tests, you can practice the 'applied tension technique' – which can help to regulate your blood pressure to avoid fainting. This is how you practice applied tension:
  - o Sit comfortably
  - o Tense the muscles in your arms, upper body and legs for 10 to 15 seconds (until you feel warmth rising to your face)
  - o Relax your muscles and sit normally for 30 seconds
  - o After 30 seconds, repeat the tensing exercise until you feel the warmth in your face again
  - o Repeat the above exercise five times

If you can, you should practice this sequence a few times a day in the week leading up to your appointment. The needle of the Covid-19 vaccination is the same as any other vaccination. It is about one inch in length and will feel very similar to any other vaccination.

# After your vaccination

**“Are there any side effects of the vaccination?”**

Like all vaccines, the Covid-19 vaccine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Most side effects of the Covid-19 vaccine are mild and should not last longer than a week, such as:

- a sore arm where the needle went in
- feeling tired
- a headache
- feeling achy
- feeling or being sick

You can take painkillers, such as paracetamol, if you need to. You may get a high temperature or feel hot or shivery one or two days after having your vaccination, **but if you’ve a high temperature that lasts longer than 2 days, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste you may have caught Covid-19 prior to having the vaccine. It is essential you [stay at home and get a free test](#)<sup>20</sup> as soon as possible. If your symptoms get worse or you are worried, call 111.**

**“Can the vaccine give me Covid-19?”**

**You cannot catch Covid-19 from the vaccine,** but it is possible to have caught Covid-19 and not develop the symptoms until after your vaccination appointment.

The most important symptoms of Covid-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

If you have any of the symptoms, stay at home and [book a free test online](#)<sup>19</sup> or by calling 119.

**“A relative had a bad reaction to the vaccine. Should I still have the vaccine?”**

The vast majority of reactions to the vaccine have been mild and short-term. If someone you know has felt unwell afterwards, that doesn't mean that you will experience the same thing. Serious and life-threatening reactions to the vaccine have been extremely rare, but if there has been one in someone you know it's understandable that you would feel concerned. It would be a good idea to talk it through with your health professional, who may be able to reassure you or offer you a different vaccine instead so don't let this put you off getting the vaccine altogether.

**“Are there any long-term side effects?”**

From the millions of people worldwide who have been vaccinated through the rollout or trials, no long-term side effects have been reported. It is true for every medicine and vaccine produced that you can't be certain long-term effects won't develop. **The risk of long-term side effects is much lower than the risk of Covid-19.**

**“Do I need to continue wearing a face covering after having the vaccine?”**

At present, the Government recommends that all people (regardless of whether they have been vaccinated or not) should continue to wear a face covering in crowded places and on public transport.

If you are vaccinated and develop any symptoms of Covid-19, you must stay at home and [book a free test online](#)<sup>19</sup> or by calling 119.

Everyone must continue to [follow the current government guidelines](#)<sup>21</sup>.

**“How long does it take for me to become immune after having the**

Generally, the protection from the virus starts after 12-14 days. This is because your immune system needs to generate a response, and people's immune systems can vary. You will still

**vaccinations?"**

have a good level of protection after the first dose, so don't worry if you are not invited for the second dose as quickly as you might have hoped. The second dose is important to get the best level of protection, and for longer-lasting protection, so it's really important to go back for your second dose.

**"When will I receive my second dose?"**

You will receive your second dose vaccination 8-12 weeks after your first. When you book your vaccinations via [the National Booking System](#)<sup>7</sup>, you will be asked to book your second dose at the same time as the first.

# Health and wellbeing

“Is the vaccine compatible with my religion?”

Yes. This vaccine is for everyone and it has been tested among different populations all over the world. The British Islamic Medical Association recommends all Muslims have the vaccine and has produced position papers on [the Pfizer/BioNTech](#)<sup>22</sup> and [Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccines](#)<sup>23</sup>. The [Muslim Council of Britain](#)<sup>24</sup> has supported these position statements, and Imams across the UK have confirmed that all the varieties of the vaccine are halal. See [this video where Mohammed Gamal, the Imam at Bath Mosque](#)<sup>25</sup>, talks about why we should get vaccinated for Covid-19.

The British Sikh community has also supported the vaccine, [as have Hindu leaders](#)<sup>26</sup>.

Faith leaders from the Church of England, Anglican, Methodist, Salvation Army, Baptist, Pentecostal, Evangelical and Black majority churches have pledged their support to [the ‘Give Hope’ campaign](#)<sup>27</sup> which aims to share information about the Covid-19 vaccine and dispel any misinformation.

The [Catholic church has also supported the vaccine](#)<sup>28</sup>.

More than 80 Jewish doctors in the UK have signed a letter to confirm that the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine does not contain any ingredients that are not kosher. The Pfizer/BioNTech, Oxford/AstraZeneca and Moderna vaccines have all been purchased by the Israeli government. Orthodox Jewish groups including [the Orthodox Union and the Rabbinical Council of America](#)<sup>29</sup> have also encouraged their community members to get vaccinated.

The Chief Rabbi, Ephraim Mirvis, has also issued a video explaining that it is important to have the

Covid-19 vaccine to protect yourself and others around you. A [video of the Chief Rabbi can be viewed here](#)<sup>30</sup>.

**“What’s the link between the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine and blood clots?”**

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has issued guidance after reports of extremely rare adverse events (blood clots and low platelet count) associated with the first dose of Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine. To date and overall, just over 10 people develop this condition for every million doses of Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine given. This is seen more often in younger people and tends to occur between four days and four weeks following vaccination.

The Committee has weighed the balance of benefits and risks and advises that prompt vaccination with Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine far outweighs the risks of adverse events for people aged 40 years and over and those with underlying health conditions that put them at greater risk of severe Covid-19 disease.

It recommends that **people aged under 40 years are offered either the Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccine where possible**, but states that individuals may wish to make an informed decision to take up the offer of an Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine to receive earlier protection.

The JCVI recommends that everyone who has had a first dose of Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine should still be offered and have a second dose, irrespective of their age.

For more information about blood clotting and the Covid-19 vaccination, [Public Health England have produced a patient leaflet](#)<sup>31</sup>.

**“Can I have the vaccine if I have food allergies or carry an epipen?”**

Any person with a previous history of allergic reactions to the ingredients of the vaccine should not receive it. However, people with other allergies, such as food allergies or those that require you to carry an Epipen, can have

the vaccine. Serious allergic reactions are rare. If you do have a reaction to the vaccine, it usually happens in minutes. Staff giving the vaccine are trained to deal with allergic reactions and treat them immediately.

**“What are the ingredients of each of the vaccines that have been approved for use in the UK?”**

The Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) provides detailed information about the ingredients of each of the three vaccines which have been approved for use in the UK on the gov.uk website.

**None of the approved vaccines contain any animal, meat or egg products.**

The Oxford/AstraZeneca uses a harmless, weakened form of an adenovirus (a different virus that also has the ‘spike’ protein on its surface). The virus was grown in human embryonic stem cells. These stem cells weren’t taken directly from a human embryo – they are copies of stem cells which originally date from the 1970s. The vaccine itself does not contain any embryonic cells.

The [Pfizer/BioNTech](#)<sup>32</sup> and [Moderna](#)<sup>33</sup> vaccines do not contain any alcohol. The [Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine](#)<sup>34</sup> contains a very small amount of alcohol (ethanol), which is less than what is found in natural foods or bread. This is not enough to cause any noticeable effects. The vaccines are suitable for people of all faiths.

**“I’m suffering from ‘Long Covid’ should I get vaccinated?”**

If you are suffering from ‘Long Covid’ and you are eligible for a vaccination, you should discuss this with your GP or another healthcare professional who will be able to advise you on whether or not to get the vaccine.

# Fertility and pregnancy

**“If I am pregnant, trying for a baby, or breastfeeding, what are the guidelines?”**

If you are planning to become pregnant, you are still able to have the vaccination. You do not need to avoid becoming pregnant afterwards. There have been [no specific safety concerns identified with any brand of Covid-19 vaccines in relation to pregnancy](#)<sup>35</sup>.

The JCVI has advised that women who are currently pregnant should be offered Covid-19 vaccines at the same time as people of the same age or risk group. However, the committee has said that **pregnant women should preferably receive the vaccines that have been produced by either Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna**. This is because they've been more widely used during pregnancy in other countries and no safety concerns have been identified.

Pregnant women who commenced vaccination with Oxford/AstraZeneca, however, are advised to complete with the same vaccine.

Pregnant women can now book through the national booking service and will be directed to vaccination centres offering Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna in their local area in line with JCVI Guidance.

You can also speak to your GP practice or maternity service if you have any questions about the Covid-19 vaccine, or you can talk to a healthcare professional at your appointment.

**“I’m breastfeeding, should I get vaccinated?”**

Although there is no data on the safety of Covid-19 vaccines in breastfeeding or breastfed infants, the vaccines are not thought to be a risk to breastfeeding infants. [The JCVI has recommended](#)

[the vaccine can be received whilst breastfeeding](#)<sup>36</sup>.

This is also recommended by the World Health Organisation.

The [latest Covid-19 vaccine advice if you are breastfeeding can be found on the gov.uk website](#)<sup>37</sup>.

**“How do I specify that I’m pregnant when I use the National Booking System?”**

The booking system will only offer you appointments with a vaccine that is appropriate based on your age. If you are under 40 years, it will only offer appointments with an alternative to the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine. If you are 40 years or above, the system will ask you if you are pregnant before offering you an appropriate appointment.

**“Can any of the Covid-19 vaccines affect fertility?”**

There is [no evidence to suggest that Covid-19 vaccines will affect fertility](#)<sup>38</sup> and you do not need to avoid pregnancy after vaccination. The vaccine cannot give you or your baby Covid-19.

The [Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists \(RCOG\) and the Royal College Midwives \(RCM\) issued a joint statement](#)<sup>39</sup> to provide reassurance around the misinformation that has been shared about the impact of Covid-19 vaccines on fertility.

# Translated resources

For information about the Covid-19 vaccine in alternative languages, please see the following links:

- [Covid-19 vaccination guide for older adults](#)<sup>40</sup>
- [What to expect after vaccination](#)<sup>41</sup>
- [Why you are being asked to wait](#)<sup>42</sup>
- [Women of childbearing age, currently pregnant or breastfeeding](#)<sup>43</sup>
- [Covid-19 vaccine information videos from the NHS](#)<sup>44</sup> explain how the vaccine is given and give clear evidence that the vaccines work and are safe. Available in Arabic, Bengali, Gujarati, Igbo, Nepali, Polish, Punjabi, Romanian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu and Yoruba.

The BBC have also created video content about the Covid-19 vaccine in five South Asian languages (Urdu, Punjabi, Sylheti, Tamil, Gujarati):

- [Vaccine explainer](#)<sup>45</sup>
- [Vaccine Q&A](#)<sup>46</sup>
- [Vaccine myths busting](#)<sup>47</sup>
- [Vaccine scams](#)<sup>48</sup>
- [Is the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine safe?](#)<sup>49</sup>
- [Vaccines and pregnancy](#)<sup>50</sup>

# Additional support

For more information about Covid-19, please [visit Bath and North East Somerset Council's Covid-19 webpages](#)<sup>51</sup> or [go to the Gov website](#)<sup>21</sup>.

If you have any doubts or queries about the Covid-19 vaccination, [the B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group have a list of frequently asked questions](#)<sup>52</sup>. There is an option at the top of the page to translate these FAQs into other languages.

If your query is not listed on the webpage above, or if you have any other Covid-19-related questions, please email the Public Health team at Bath and North East Somerset Council at [public\\_health@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:public_health@bathnes.gov.uk) or call the team on 01225 395500.

If you need any support e.g. with employment, income, housing then please contact the Community Wellbeing Hub by emailing [BATHNES.thehub@virginicare.co.uk](mailto:BATHNES.thehub@virginicare.co.uk) or call 0300 247 0050. The Hub is open from Monday to Friday 9am until 5pm.

# Links

1. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-advice-on-priority-groups-for-covid-19-vaccination-30-december-2020](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-advice-on-priority-groups-for-covid-19-vaccination-30-december-2020)
2. [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/who-can-get-the-vaccine/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/who-can-get-the-vaccine/)
3. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/phe-monitoring-of-the-effectiveness-of-covid-19-vaccination](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phe-monitoring-of-the-effectiveness-of-covid-19-vaccination)
4. [www.bmj.com/content/373/bmj.n1088](http://www.bmj.com/content/373/bmj.n1088)
5. <https://khub.net/documents/135939561/390853656/Impact+of+vaccination+on+household+transmission+of+SARS-COV-2+in+England.pdf/35bf4bb1-6aded3eb-a39e-9c9b25a8122a?t=1619601878136>
6. [https://khub.net/web/phe-national/public-library/-/document\\_library/v2WsRK3ZIEig/view/479607266](https://khub.net/web/phe-national/public-library/-/document_library/v2WsRK3ZIEig/view/479607266)
7. [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/)
8. [www.actionfraud.police.uk/covid19](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/covid19)
9. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-phase-2-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-programme-advice-from-the-jcvi/jcvi-interim-statement-on-phase-2-of-the-covid-19-vaccination-programme](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-phase-2-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-programme-advice-from-the-jcvi/jcvi-interim-statement-on-phase-2-of-the-covid-19-vaccination-programme)
10. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/892376/COVID\\_stakeholder\\_engagement\\_synthesis\\_beyond\\_the\\_data.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892376/COVID_stakeholder_engagement_synthesis_beyond_the_data.pdf)
11. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-pfizer-biontech-vaccine-for-covid-19/information-for-healthcare-professionals-on-pfizerbiontech-covid-19-vaccine](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-pfizer-biontech-vaccine-for-covid-19/information-for-healthcare-professionals-on-pfizerbiontech-covid-19-vaccine)
12. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca/information-for-healthcare-professionals-on-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca/information-for-healthcare-professionals-on-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca)
13. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-moderna/information-for-uk-recipients-on-covid-19-vaccine-moderna](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-moderna/information-for-uk-recipients-on-covid-19-vaccine-moderna)
14. [www.bmj.com/content/373/bmj.n1346](http://www.bmj.com/content/373/bmj.n1346)

# Links

15. [www.firstbus.co.uk/bristol-bath-and-west/plan-journey/vaccination-centre-travel-guide](http://www.firstbus.co.uk/bristol-bath-and-west/plan-journey/vaccination-centre-travel-guide)
16. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020)
17. [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/)
18. [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/main-symptoms/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/main-symptoms/)
19. [www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/resources/patient-information/all-patients/overcoming-your-fear-of-needles.pdf](http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/resources/patient-information/all-patients/overcoming-your-fear-of-needles.pdf)
20. [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)
21. [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)
22. <https://britishima.org/pfizer-biontech-covid19-vaccine/>
23. <https://britishima.org/covid19-vaccine-az/>
24. <https://mcb.org.uk/resources/coronavirus/#vaccine>
25. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa1Mcg4OwY0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fa1Mcg4OwY0)
26. [www.hindu counciluk.org/2021/01/19/supporting-nationwide-vaccination-programme/](http://www.hindu counciluk.org/2021/01/19/supporting-nationwide-vaccination-programme/)
27. [www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/news-and-statements/bishops-and-church-leaders-target-covid-vaccination](http://www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/news-and-statements/bishops-and-church-leaders-target-covid-vaccination)
28. [www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/update-on-covid-19-and-vaccination/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/update-on-covid-19-and-vaccination/)
29. [www.ou.org/assets/Guidance-re-Vaccines.pdf](http://www.ou.org/assets/Guidance-re-Vaccines.pdf)
30. [www.thejc.com/news/uk/chief-rabbi-it-is-a-religious-imperative-to-get-vaccinated-1.510488](http://www.thejc.com/news/uk/chief-rabbi-it-is-a-religious-imperative-to-get-vaccinated-1.510488)
31. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/976880/PHE\\_COVID-19\\_AZ\\_vaccination\\_guide.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/976880/PHE_COVID-19_AZ_vaccination_guide.pdf)
32. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-pfizer-biontech-vaccine-for-covid-19/information-for-uk-recipients-on-pfizerbiontech-covid-19-vaccine](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-pfizer-biontech-vaccine-for-covid-19/information-for-uk-recipients-on-pfizerbiontech-covid-19-vaccine)

# Links

33. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-moderna/information-for-uk-recipients-on-covid-19-vaccine-moderna#contents-of-the-pack-and-other-information](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-moderna/information-for-uk-recipients-on-covid-19-vaccine-moderna#contents-of-the-pack-and-other-information)
34. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca/information-for-uk-recipients-on-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulatory-approval-of-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca/information-for-uk-recipients-on-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca)
35. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/980176/PHE\\_11920\\_COVID-19\\_vaccination\\_pregnancy\\_v4.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/980176/PHE_11920_COVID-19_vaccination_pregnancy_v4.pdf)
36. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-women-of-childbearing-age-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-women-of-childbearing-age-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding)
37. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-women-of-childbearing-age-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding/covid-19-vaccination-a-guide-for-women-of-childbearing-age-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding)
38. [www.britishfertilitysociety.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Covid19-Vaccines-FAQ-1\\_3.pdf](https://www.britishfertilitysociety.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Covid19-Vaccines-FAQ-1_3.pdf)
39. [www.rcog.org.uk/en/news/RCOG-and-RCM-respond-to-misinformation-around-Covid-19-vaccine-and-fertility/](https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/news/RCOG-and-RCM-respond-to-misinformation-around-Covid-19-vaccine-and-fertility/)
40. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-guide-for-older-adults?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=288a85e3-0758-4ce9-afd0-e50d33c0c9fd&utm\\_content=weekly](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-guide-for-older-adults?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=288a85e3-0758-4ce9-afd0-e50d33c0c9fd&utm_content=weekly)
41. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-what-to-expect-after-vaccination?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=3cad4e52-a3ca-46be-91e1-d1d6d957eb82&utm\\_content=weekly](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-what-to-expect-after-vaccination?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=3cad4e52-a3ca-46be-91e1-d1d6d957eb82&utm_content=weekly)
42. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-why-you-are-being-asked-to-wait?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=d5ec70a7-be08-447c-8c3b-03130a6bf279&utm\\_content=weekly](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-why-you-are-being-asked-to-wait?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=d5ec70a7-be08-447c-8c3b-03130a6bf279&utm_content=weekly)
43. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=05c60417-903f-456b-92ac-63a511930914&utm\\_content=weekl](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-women-of-childbearing-age-currently-pregnant-planning-a-pregnancy-or-breastfeeding?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=05c60417-903f-456b-92ac-63a511930914&utm_content=weekl)

# Links

44. [www.england.nhs.uk/london/our-work/covid-19-vaccine-communication-materials/](http://www.england.nhs.uk/london/our-work/covid-19-vaccine-communication-materials/)
45. [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-55171293](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-55171293)
46. [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-55279549](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-55279549)
47. [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-55864332](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-55864332)
48. [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56018508](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56018508)
49. [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56498507](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56498507)
50. [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-57515924](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-57515924)
51. <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/coronavirus>
52. <https://bswccg.nhs.uk/news-events/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination>

**This document has been produced by  
Bath and North East Somerset Council for  
members of the B&NES community.**

---

**Bath & North East  
Somerset Council**

---

Improving People's Lives