

What to expect after your child's COVID-19 vaccine (jab) Information for parents and carers of 5 to 11 year old children



**This booklet is a guide to help you.
If you are worried about your health
call NHS24 for free on 111.**



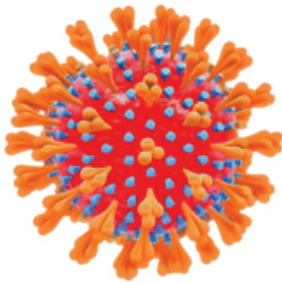
Easy read booklet



What this booklet tells you about



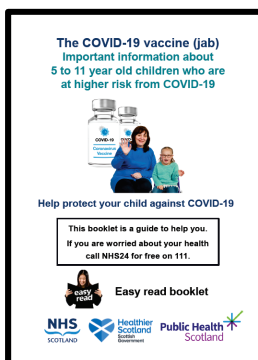
This booklet tells you about what will happen after your child gets the **COVID-19 vaccine (jab)**.



COVID-19 is an illness caused by a **virus**. A **virus** is what we call the tiny germs that cause an illness.

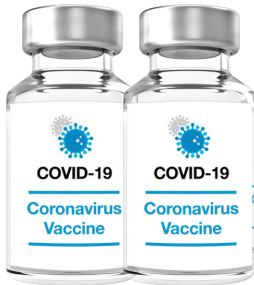


A **vaccine** is a medicine that helps keep people safe and well. You might hear people talk about a vaccine as a jab or an injection.



Read the leaflet called 'Important information about 5 to 11 year old children who are at higher risk from COVID-19' to find out more information.

About the COVID-19 vaccine (jab) and children



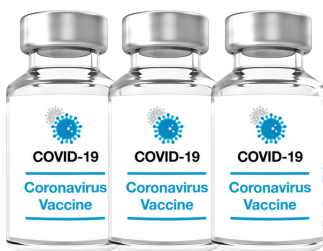
5 to 11 year old children will be offered **2 doses** of the COVID-19 vaccine (jab).



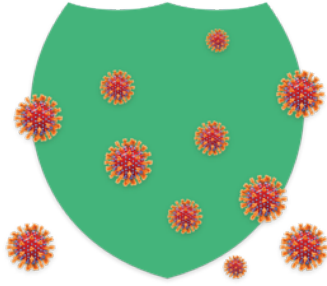
Dose means each time you get the vaccine (jab).



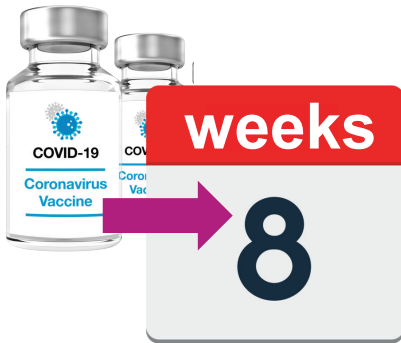
5 to 11 year old children will get their 2nd dose of the vaccine (jab) 8 weeks after they get their 1st dose.



Children with very weak **immune systems** can get a 3rd dose of the vaccine (jab).



Your **immune system** is the way your body protects itself from germs that can make you ill.

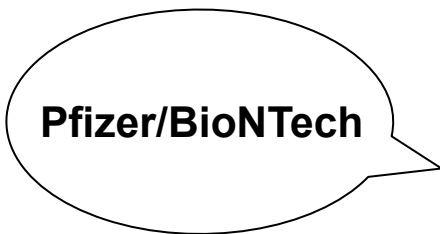


Children with very weak immune systems will get their 3rd dose from 8 weeks after they get their 2nd dose.

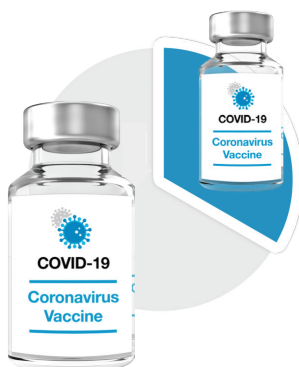


To find out more about 3rd doses, go to this website

nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccinethirddose



The vaccine (jab) for children is called **Pfizer/BioNTech**.

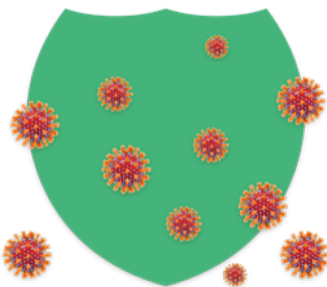


Children will be given a dose that is smaller than an adult dose.

How the COVID-19 vaccine (jab) protects children



The vaccine (jab) protects your child and people around them from COVID-19.



The 1st dose of the vaccine (jab) gives good protection.



The 2nd dose gives protection for longer.



Children who get the vaccine (jab) are less likely to get COVID-19.



If they do get COVID-19, their **symptoms** won't be as bad.



Symptoms are how an illness makes you feel.



The **common symptoms** of COVID-19 are

- a new **continuous** cough.

Continuous means a cough that doesn't stop

- a **fever**. A **fever** is when you feel hot and have a **high temperature**.

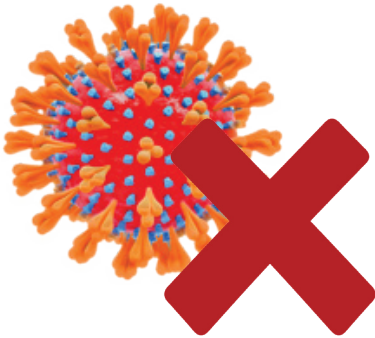
This means you are hotter than 37.8°C

- you can't smell or taste like normal.



Common means symptoms that happen to a lot of people.

Is the COVID-19 vaccine (jab) safe



The vaccine (jab) does not give your child COVID-19.



It helps build up **immunity** against the virus which means your child has better protection against COVID-19.



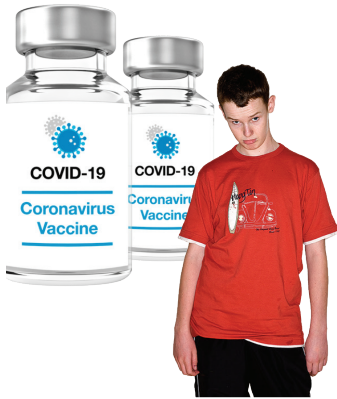
Children cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine (jab).

They can get it before they get the vaccine (jab) and not know they've got it until afterwards.



Millions of doses of the COVID-19 vaccine (jab) have been given to children all over the world.

Side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine (jab)

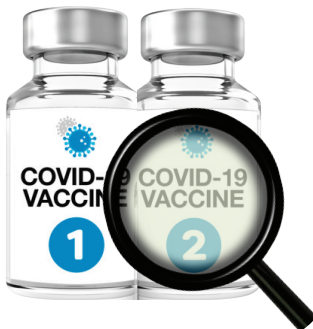


Side effects are how a medicine like a vaccine (jab) might make you feel.



Side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine (jab) are usually **mild**, don't last long and don't happen to everyone.

Mild means they are not bad.



We have found that 5 to 11 year old children who get the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine (jab) are more likely to get side effects after their 2nd dose.



COVID-19 vaccine (jab) side effects usually last for less than a week.

If your child's side effects seem to get worse or you are worried, call **NHS24** for free on **111**.



Common side effects your child might get 1 or 2 days after the vaccine (jab) are

- a sore and heavy feeling in the arm where they got the injection (jab)
- feeling tired
- a headache
- aching muscles
- **chills. Chills** are when your body feels cold and you shiver
- feeling sick
- feeling like they have the flu. They might shiver and shake for 1 or 2 days.



If your child is ill or uncomfortable you can give them a dose of paracetamol, or infant paracetamol if they are under 6 years old.



Always read the label on the bottle or packet. Don't give medicines that have aspirin in them to children who are under 16 years old.



Some children might have swollen glands.
This means they might have a sore lump in
their neck or armpit.



Your child might have swollen glands for
about 10 days.
If they have swollen glands for more than
10 days, talk to your doctor.

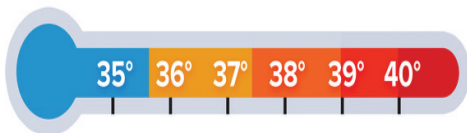
Fever after the COVID-19 vaccine (jab)



Your child might get a fever after they get
the vaccine (jab).
This is a common side effect.



If your child's face feels hot when you touch it and looks red, they might have a fever.



You can check your child's temperature with a **thermometer**.

A **thermometer** is a tool that measures how hot or cold something is.

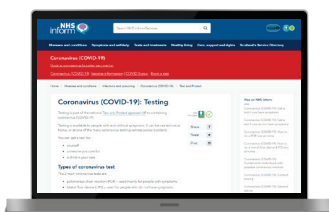


Your child should **self-isolate** and do a **COVID-19 test** if their fever

- lasts for more than 2 days
- starts more than 2 days after they get the vaccine (jab).



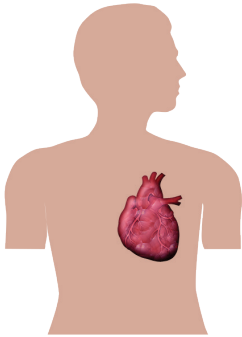
Self-isolate is when you stay at home because you have or might have COVID-19.



To find out more about **COVID-19 tests**, go to this website

nhsinform.scot/testing

Other more serious side effects



A very small number of adults have had problems with their heart after their vaccine (jab).

These problems are called **myocarditis** and **pericarditis**.



These problems have mainly happened to younger males in the first few days after their 2nd dose of the vaccine (jab).

Most people have got better.



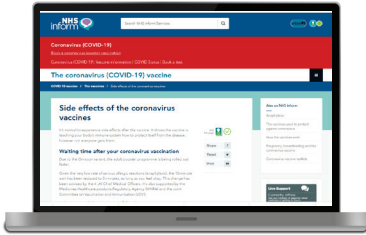
Talk to your doctor straight away if your child gets any of these side effects

- a pain in the chest
- finding it hard to breath
- feeling like their heart is beating faster.



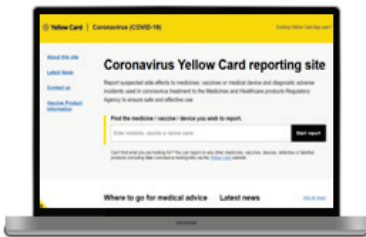
If your child had serious side effects after the COVID-19 vaccine (jab), you should talk to your doctor.

About your child's side effects



If you want to find out more about side effects, go to this website

nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccinesideeffects



You can tell **The Yellow Card Scheme** about your child's side effects. This helps us learn about the vaccine (jab). Go to this website

coronavirus-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk

or call this phone number

0800 731 6789

After your child's COVID-19 vaccine (jab)



Your child can go to school after they get the vaccine (jab).



After your child gets their vaccine (jab), it is important to still follow the latest rules about COVID-19.

How to find out more



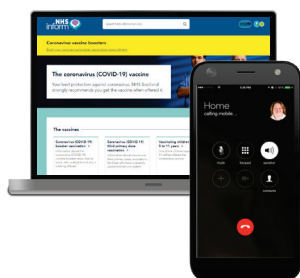
If you want to find out more about the COVID-19 vaccine (jab), go to this website

www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine

or call this phone number

0800 030 8013

Open from 8am to 8pm every day.



If you want this booklet in a different format like Braille, audio, or another language, send an email to

phs.otherformats@phs.scot



This booklet is written by
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1 South Gyle Crescent
Edinburgh EH12 9EB

The information in this booklet was correct when we wrote it.

For up to date information go to this website

www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccinechildren