

Childhood vaccinations

If you are a parent or guardian of a child aged one to five years, please check they are up to date with all their childhood vaccinations and come forward if they have missed any.

It is extremely important that all babies and children receive their routine vaccinations at the right time in order to give them the best start in life.

Diseases like smallpox and polio have been eradicated in the UK thanks to vaccines.



Vaccines for babies under 1 year old

Age	Vaccines	
8 weeks	6-in-1 vaccine	<p>The 6-in-1 vaccine is one of the first vaccines your baby will have. It's given as a single injection to protect your baby against six serious childhood conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• diphtheria• hepatitis B• Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)• polio• tetanus• whooping cough (pertussis).
	Rotavirus vaccine	<p>An oral vaccine against rotavirus infection is given to babies as part of their routine childhood vaccinations.</p>
	MenB vaccine	<p>The MenB vaccine will protect your baby against infection by meningococcal group B bacteria.</p>
12 weeks	6-in-1 vaccine (2nd dose)	
	Pneumococcal vaccine	<p>The pneumococcal vaccine protects against serious and potentially fatal pneumococcal infections. It's also known as the pneumonia vaccine.</p>
	Rotavirus vaccine (2nd dose)	
16 weeks	6-in-1 vaccine (3rd dose)	
	MenB vaccine (2nd dose)	

Vaccines for children aged 1 to 15

Age	Vaccines	
1 year	Hib/MenC vaccine (1st dose)	The Hib/MenC vaccine is a single injection given to one-year-old babies to boost their protection against Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) and meningitis C.
	MMR vaccine (1st dose)	The MMR vaccine protects against three serious illnesses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• measles• mumps• rubella (german measles).
	Pneumococcal vaccine (2nd dose)	
	MenB vaccine (3rd dose)	
2 to 10 or 11 years	Children's flu vaccine (every year until children finish primary school)	The children's nasal spray flu vaccine is safe and effective. It's offered every year to children to help protect them against flu.
3 years and 4 months	MMR vaccine (2nd dose)	
	4-in-1 pre-school booster vaccine	The 4-in-1 pre-school booster vaccine is offered to children from the age of three years and four months to boost their protection against four different serious conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• diphtheria• tetanus• whooping cough• polio.



MMR vaccine

The MMR vaccine is a safe and effective vaccine. Two doses provide the best protection against measles, mumps and rubella for life.

These viruses spread easily between unvaccinated people. They can cause very serious illnesses that are not treatable with medication. They can also lead to serious problems including meningitis, hearing loss and problems during pregnancy. Parents or guardians of children who are not up to date with their two doses of the MMR vaccine should contact their GP practice to book an appointment. It's never too late to catch up.

Flu vaccinations

The children's nasal spray flu vaccine is safe and effective. It's offered every year to children to help protect them against the latest flu virus.

Flu can be a very unpleasant illness for children. It can lead to serious problems, such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

Children can catch and spread flu easily. Vaccinating them also protects others who are vulnerable to flu, such as babies and older people.

Children aged up to 2 years, with a long-term health condition, may be offered a flu injection instead of the nasal spray. Flu injections are safe and effective and are offered as an alternative if the nasal spray vaccine is not suitable.

Your GP practice will invite your child to have their flu vaccine in the autumn.

Covid-19 vaccine

COVID-19 is a very infectious disease that can cause serious illness for children who have an underlying health condition. If your child is vulnerable, they will be offered a COVID-19 vaccination seasonally. Your child's GP or consultant will let you know if your child needs a seasonal COVID-19 vaccination.

You will find more information about vaccinations and other health matters for under 5s at <https://healthforunder5s.co.uk/>

