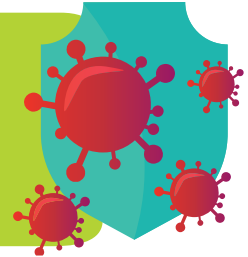# Getting the Coronavirus vaccine

A visual story explaining what happens when I'm invited to get the Coronavirus vaccine.

Coronavirus is a disease that has spread around the world. It has made some people very unwell.

Scientists have recently created a vaccine for the Coronavirus. This helps the body to fight the virus.

A vaccine is a type of medicine that protects you from catching an illness. There are less diseases around the world because of vaccines.

If I'm over 16, I will be invited to get the Coronavirus vaccine this year.
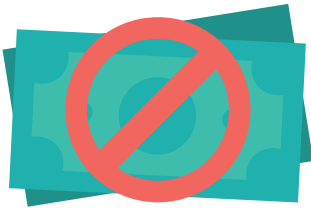
When it is time for me to have my vaccine, I will get a call, text, letter or email from the NHS inviting me.

But I do not have to get the vaccine if I decide I do not want it.

NHS
CONSENT
☐ YES
☐ NO

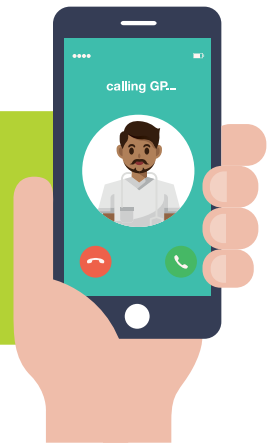**NHS**
Book your vaccine appointment here ▶

I can book my appointment online and my invite will tell me how to do this.
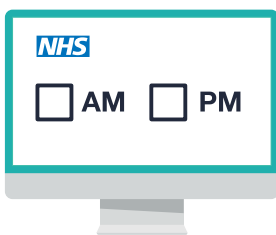
I will not have to pay for my vaccine.

If I have any serious allergies, I should check with my doctor whether it is safe for me to get the vaccine.

I can get my vaccine in a number of places like a pharmacy, GP surgery or a centre.

I will think about where is best for me. For example, at a bigger venue I may have to wait longer for my appointment as there will be more people waiting.
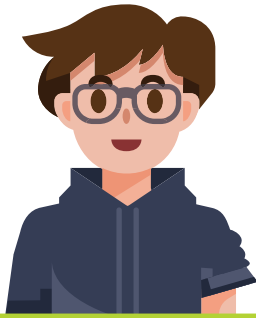
If I'm worried about my vaccine I may want to book an appointment at the start or the end of the day.

On the day of my appointment I will arrive at my given time.

I can bring my health passport with me to help express my individual needs to the person giving me my vaccine.

When I am ready for my vaccine, I will need to sit down and roll up my sleeve.

The vaccine will be given through a small injection in my arm. I may feel a small prick but it will not hurt.
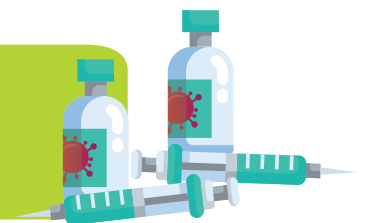
I can ask the person giving my vaccine if I can see the equipment first. This might make me feel more relaxed.

I will try and sit very still when I am ready for my injection. I can listen to music or look away if I am feeling scared.
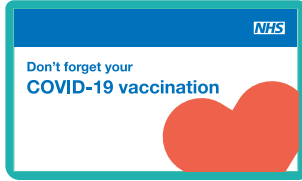
After I have had the injection, I will need to wait for 15 minutes. This is so the person giving my vaccine can make sure that I'm well enough to travel home.

I will need two injections of the vaccine over the course of 12 weeks for lasting protection.

When I've had the first injection, I will be told where and when to go for my second injection.

I will be given a record card with my next appointment written on it. This will be in three to 12 weeks time.

I'll keep my card safe and make sure I go to my second appointment to get my second injection.

I may feel some side effects when I have the vaccine, these are nothing to worry about.

My arm may feel heavy or sore where I had the injection.

I may feel achy or like I've got the flu.

I could feel tired or have a headache.

It can take a few weeks for the vaccine to protect me so it's important that I continue to social distance and wear my mask.

Having the vaccine makes me less likely to get very ill from Coronavirus.

We are
Ambitious about Autism

Ambitious about Autism is the national charity
for children and young people with autism.

We provide services, raise awareness and
understanding, and campaign for social and
policy change. Through TreeHouse School,
The Rise School and Ambitious College,
we offer specialist education and support.

Our ambition is to make the ordinary possible
for more children and young people with autism.

Contact us

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