

## Update: 1st February 2022

Dear colleagues,

Children aged five to 11 who could become very poorly if they catch Covid-19 are the latest to be offered the Covid-19 vaccine.

GP practices and hospital specialists are busy identifying eligible children, and parents/carers will start to be contacted this week.

Vaccinations will be by appointment only, therefore parents should not take their children to the borough's walk-in clinics.

Children at risk from serious complications of coronavirus include those who have/are:

- severe neurodisabilities
- immunosuppression
- profound and multiple or severe learning disabilities
- on the learning disability register
- Down's syndrome
- long-term serious conditions affecting their body

The vaccine is also recommended for children living with people who are immunosuppressed. This is to reduce the risk of them passing on the infection to family members.

Please don't contact your GP surgery to ask if your child is eligible for the vaccine in order to keep phone lines free for urgent health matters. Your GP will already know if your child should have the vaccine and you will be contacted.

However, if you believe your child is eligible, and you haven't been contacted after two to three weeks, ring NHS Bolton Clinical Commissioning Group on 01204 462125, 462157, 462028. Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.30pm.

Details of the borough's walk-in vaccination clinics for over-12s and over-16s are below.

If you are one of the 49,000 people in Bolton who haven't yet had their booster, please remember to get your jab! The head of Bolton's Covid-19 vaccination programme will answer some of the questions you may have in a new video (more below).

**Communications and Engagement Team**  
**NHS Bolton Clinical Commissioning Group**



## Partner Update

### Walk-in Covid-19 vaccination clinics

Details of this week's walk-in Covid-19 vaccination sites in Bolton are [in this poster](#), on the [CCG's website](#) and on the CCG's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

If you've had to postpone your job because you've recently had Covid, please remember to get it as soon as you can.

Over-18s must wait at least 28 days from a positive Covid test, or the start of symptoms, to get any dose of the vaccine.

The period is 12 weeks for under-18s. If a child is at high risk (their parents will have received a letter from the NHS), it is reduced to four weeks.

### Vaccine video

Dr Helen Wall, head of Bolton's vaccination programme, will address some of the questions and comments about the Covid jab we have been hearing from local communities.

These include: I've had two doses, I'm fully vaccinated; I've had Covid, I have my own immunity now; is the vaccine safe in pregnancy?

Please look out for the video on our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages in the next few days and share it with your contacts.



### Covid-19 vaccinations in schools

Pupils aged 12-15 are currently being offered their second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine in school.

The programme is being carried out by the Royal Bolton Hospital's school age immunisation service. First doses will also be available for children who didn't get one during the initial schools programme in October.

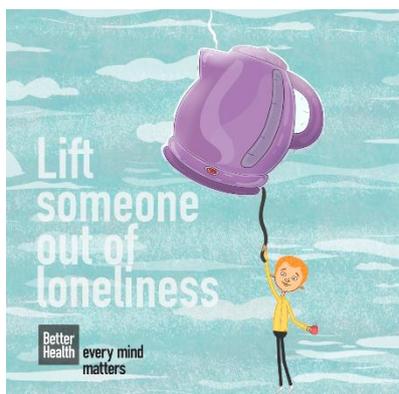
[More information is on the hospital's website.](#)

Pupils who are unable to have the jab in school – perhaps because they have recently had coronavirus – can attend the walk-in vaccination clinics at Avondale Health Centre, Bolton Wanderers, Horwich RMI and Market Place Shopping Centre for their first or second dose. They must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

### Talking about mental health

Talking about your mental health can be difficult. Find out how to make those conversations a little easier with [Qwell's "opening up" videos](#).

Qwell provides free, safe and anonymous support for people aged 26 and over in Bolton. [Find out more.](#)



### **Tackling loneliness**

People are being encouraged to take simple actions to help someone who might be lonely.

Asking if they fancy a cuppa or a walk can make all the difference – and benefit you as well! [Find out more on the Better Health Every Mind Matters website.](#)

### **Colonoscopy confidence**

Bowel Cancer UK has launched the [colonoscopy confidence campaign](#) to explain what a colonoscopy is, why it matters and to encourage people to attend their appointment. People may be anxious if they need to have a colonoscopy to check their bowel or colon, but it is a common procedure. Most people who have a colonoscopy will not have bowel cancer; but, if bowel cancer is detected early, nearly everybody is treated successfully.

### **Take a stand against hate**

Greater Manchester Hate Crime Awareness Week runs from February 7 to 13.

Hate crimes are acts of violence or hostility directed at people because of who they are or who someone thinks they are. This includes verbal and online abuse, physical attacks and criminal damage.

[Find out more about hate crime and how to get help and support if you are a victim or a witness.](#)

If you no longer wish to receive this email then please email [bolccg.communications@nhs.net](mailto:bolccg.communications@nhs.net) and we will remove you from our distribution list.

We will endeavour to keep you updated but as the situation is changing rapidly, you should check the national coronavirus guidance regularly.

The information in this is update correct at the time of issue. It is gathered from a number of sources including Bolton Council, CVS and Healthwatch.

