

20/06/2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: COVID-19 Children aged 5-11 years

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has recommended that children aged 5-11 should receive the COVID-19 vaccine. In the past number of weeks Northern Ireland has seen an increase in the number COVID-19 infections. While COVID-19 is usually mild in most children, it can make some children unwell.

Vaccination can reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection both for your child and those around them.

The vaccine for 5-11 year old children contains a third of the dose given to older children and adults. Children will be offered 2 doses of vaccine 12 weeks apart. The two doses should give your child long lasting protection against serious complications of infection including any future waves due to new variants.

You can make an appointment for your child at a children's vaccination clinic in your local Health and Social Care Trust using the online booking system at: <https://covid-19.hscni.net/get-vaccinated>. You may be able to attend without an appointment - see www.nidirect.gov.uk/covid-vaccine

If your child is 4 years old, you can only book an appointment one week before their 5th birthday.

A leaflet with further information on the COVID-19 vaccine for children can be found at: https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/2022-02/COVID-19_Guide_for_parents_of_5-11years. Further information about the COVID-19 vaccine please visit the Public Health Agency website www.publichealth.hscni.net.

Yours sincerely

PHA Immunisation and Vaccination Team