**NHS Highland and Argyll and Bute HSCP   
Vaccination FAQs**

**COVID boosters and third doses**

**How are COVID boosters / third doses being delivered?**

* In Argyll and Bute: the Health and Social Care Partnership Vaccination Team are delivering these with the exception of those registered at the following GP Practices - Coll, Colonsay, Jura, Tiree, Bute, and the three practices on Islay. People will be contacted by letter or phone call to advise what they need to do to book their appointment.
* In Highland: many in NHS Highland will be invited by their GP to attend for their COVID vaccine. In some areas NHS Highland has taken responsibility for delivery and is organising clinics and in those areas we will invite everyone eligible to an appointment by letter. You can also [book an appointment on the national online portal.](https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/book-a-flu-or-coronavirus-booster-vaccination) Only a limited number of portal booking clinics are currently available but more clinics will be added regularly so please check back if you don’t find anything suitable.

For both Highland and Argyll and Bute this will include those who are clinically at risk, and the severely immunosuppressed.

**Do I have to book an appointment for my COVID booster online?**Some appointments are available for online booking but you will be advised of booking arrangements in the letter you receive.

**I am frontline NHS/social care/prison service staff and eligible for a COVID booster, how can I access one?**  
You can schedule an appointment by emailing [**nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot**](mailto:nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot) or [book an appointment on the national online portal.](https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/book-a-flu-or-coronavirus-booster-vaccination)

**Are you offering COVID boosters to people aged 40-49?**We will be offering boosters to this age group by appointment and appointments will soon be available to book online.

**COVID first and second doses**

**How are COVID vaccinations being delivered to 12-15 year olds?**COVID vaccination clinics are taking place. Clinic location will vary but they will either take place in or near schools. You must have a completed consent form.

**My 12-15 year old child missed their COVID vaccination. Where can they get a new appointment?**You can reschedule an appointment by emailing [**nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot**](mailto:nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot).

**How are COVID vaccinations being delivered to 16-17 year olds?**Where possible we will offer access at the school clinics for this group: this will be communicated on a case by case basis. You can also [register online for a first COVID vaccine](https://www.nhsinform.scot/covid-19-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/registering-for-a-coronavirus-vaccine). This age group does not require a consent form.

**How are first and second COVID vaccinations being delivered to people aged 18+?**Anyone still waiting to get their first vaccine can [register online for a first COVID vaccine](https://www.nhsinform.scot/covid-19-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/registering-for-a-coronavirus-vaccine). More clinics will be added regularly.

We are sending out appointment letters to people due second doses. You can also attend any drop-in clinics publicised as being available for second doses. We are working with national services to make appointments for second doses available to book online.

**Flu**

**How are flu vaccinations being delivered to school-age children?**This vaccine is being delivered at schools. You will receive notification from your school.

**Are 16-17 year olds eligible for flu vaccination?**If you are still in school then you can receive this vaccine in school. If you have left school this age group is not eligible for the flu vaccine unless you have one of the eligible health conditions.

**How are flu vaccinations being delivered to 18-50 year olds with eligible health conditions?**   
This age group is not eligible for the flu vaccine unless you have one of the eligible health conditions. If you do:

* In Argyll and Bute: GP practices are delivering the flu vaccine.
* In Highland: many in NHS Highland will be invited by their GP to attend for their flu vaccine. In some areas NHS Highland has taken responsibility for delivery and is organising clinics. We will invite everyone eligible to an appointment by letter. You can also [book an appointment on the national online portal.](https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/book-a-flu-or-coronavirus-booster-vaccination) More clinics will be added regularly.

**How are flu vaccinations being delivered to people aged 50yrs+?**Everyone aged 50+ is eligible for a flu vaccination this year.

* In Argyll and Bute: GP practices are delivering the flu vaccine.
* In Highland: many in NHS Highland will be invited by their GP to attend for their flu vaccine. In some areas NHS Highland has taken responsibility for delivery and is organising clinics. We will invite everyone eligible to an appointment by letter. You can also [book an appointment on the national online portal.](https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/book-a-flu-or-coronavirus-booster-vaccination) More clinics will be added regularly.

**I am non-frontline NHS staff, how can I book a flu vaccination?**You can [book an appointment on the national online portal.](https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/book-a-flu-or-coronavirus-booster-vaccination)

**General questions**

**What if I can’t make the appointment I am offered?**You can reschedule your appointment by emailing [**nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot**](mailto:nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot) or [book an appointment on the national online portal.](https://www.nhsinform.scot/flu-vaccine/invitations-and-appointments/book-a-flu-or-coronavirus-booster-vaccination) We add clinics to the portal regularly, so please check back if you cannot find a suitable appointment at first.

**How can people who are housebound access vaccination?**People who are registered with their GP as being housebound will be contacted and vaccinated at home. If you receive an appointment to attend a clinic and cannot attend because you are housebound, please email [**nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot**](mailto:nhsh.covidvaccine@nhs.scot) or call our Hub on 01463 705531.

**Why isn’t NHS Highland offering more drop-in clinics?**Drop-in clinics work best in areas with a lot of people, where a single large clinic can be filled easily. We are running some drop-ins in such areas, or in cases where we are able to set up a clinic at short notice when letters may not arrive in time. In remote and rural areas, smaller clinics filled by appointment or run by GP practices are a better way of using clinic capacity effectively without people having to travel too far.

**Why isn’t my GP practice offering vaccinations?**Not all practices in Highland have the capacity to offer vaccinations on top of their usual workload. Nationally, vaccinations are moving towards being health board-led as part of the GP contract, except in remote and rural areas where GP practices may still be best-placed to reach people.

**Why are appointments on the national portal only in Inverness?**We are trialling the portal system starting with Inverness clinics and will add a wider range of locations shortly.