

Covid-19 vaccination programme: Stakeholder briefing

Thursday 19 August 2021



Gill May,
Director of Nursing and
Quality

“As we continue to provide adults over the age of 18 with their all-important second doses, our vaccination centres are also turning their attention to children and teenagers, who are now eligible to be vaccinated against coronavirus.

“In just a few days, we have managed to vaccinate approximately 10 per cent of all those who are either 16 or 17-years-old across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire.

“This number will only go up over the next few days, with more of our vaccination centres, including Bath Racecourse and Salisbury City Hall, as well as smaller sites in Melksham and Devizes, now offering the vaccine to these young people.

“We know that some areas in our region, including Swindon, are currently without a vaccine centre that can provide the jab to 16 and 17-year-olds.

“However, we expect this to change by the end of this week, with both the Great Western Hospital and the Steam Museum commencing their vaccinations of 16 and 17-year-olds, but we do kindly ask our communities for their patience as we work to bring the vaccines to where they are needed.

“While it may seem from the outset that vaccinating children is no different from vaccinating adults, there are many processes, particularly relating to safeguarding, that need to be followed and applied.

“We have also begun to vaccinate younger children, aged between 12 and 15-years-old, who have specific underlying health condition or are living in a household where someone has a weakened immune system.

“Some of the children in this age group will be vaccinated at home, due to their medical condition, but many will be invited to bespoke clinics.

“ We know people will be keen to get their child vaccinated but we again ask for patients as families will be contacted directly.”

At a glance: the latest coronavirus vaccine developments in BSW

- So far, more than 1.3 million vaccines have been given out across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire
- This figure is made up of 714,722 first doses and 603,341 second doses

- More than 92 per cent of all people in the top nine most at-risk age groups have been fully vaccinated against coronavirus
- Approximately 70 per cent of all adults aged between 18 and 29 have now had a first vaccine, with around 20 per cent having had both doses
- We remain on track to deliver booster vaccinations throughout September and the autumn, and this will coincide with the annual winter flu programme
- All vaccination centres, including those that offering walk-ins, are now listed on NHS England's national [Find My Nearest Walk-in Vaccination](#) service
- Those using the online tool will be able to see a list of the vaccination centres closest to them by entering their postcode in the search box
- Over the next few days, NHS England will be writing to approximately one million 16 and 17-year-olds to invite them to either book their coronavirus vaccine or visit a centre that is offering a walk-in service
- Currently, the guidance from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation states that those aged under 18 are only required to have one dose of a coronavirus vaccine

Vaccination progress to date

