



*Cette lettre est disponible dans d'autres langues.
This letter is available in several other languages.*

<https://coronavirus.brussels/fr/materiel-communication-vaccination-covid/>



www.coronavirus.brussels

Ruimte barcode

<Voornaam> <naam>
<Straatnaam> <nummer>/<busnummer>
<Postcode> <Gemeente>

Subject: Information about COVID-19 vaccinations for children aged 12 to 15

Dear parents,
Dear guardian, Dear:
<Voornaam>

We are writing to let you know that children aged 12 to 15 can now be vaccinated against COVID-19 should they so wish.

To help you and your child make an informed decision, please be aware that the main purpose of such vaccinations is to limit the spread of the virus among the population in general. These vaccinations contribute to herd immunity and protect vulnerable people. For example, vaccination may be of interest to you if you live with an older person or somebody with health problems, or if you travel frequently.

The individual benefit of vaccination for children aged 12 to 15 who don't suffer from any particular disease is however relatively low, given the lower risk of people in this age category developing severe forms of COVID-19.

Where can you find information about the effects of the vaccine?

If you have any questions, please contact your GP, paediatrician or pharmacist.

If you don't have a GP, you can phone 1710. This number is for residents of Brussels who don't have a GP and who want to speak to a doctor about their health during the coronavirus pandemic.

There are also numerous websites with reliable, useful, practical information about vaccinations:

<https://www.coronavirus.brussels>

<https://www.jemevaccine.be/>

<https://www.vaccination-info.be/>

<https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/vaccination/>

These websites are a much better source of information than social media, where there is a large amount of fake news and rumours.

Further information about the vaccine and its side effects is available on the federal medicines agency's website:

https://www.famhp.be/en/human_use/medicines/medicines/covid_19

We have provided some information below that will be useful if you choose to have your child vaccinated:

Is vaccination free?

Yes, it is completely free of charge.

Do 12- to 15-year-olds need their parent's / guardian's consent to have the vaccine?

Yes. In this particular case, the parent's or guardian's consent is a legal requirement.

As with any important decision, it is recommended that you talk to your child about it first. The vaccine should never be something that causes fear or arguments.

You will be asked to give your oral consent when registering at the vaccination centre.

Which vaccine is used?

The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has been deemed to be safe and effective and has been approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for children aged 12 and over. This vaccine is administered in two doses, i.e., at two different times.

Are there any contraindications?

There are extremely few contraindications to the COVID-19 vaccine.

If your child has had a severe allergic reaction to a previous vaccination or in other circumstances, or if they required urgent medical treatment in these situations, you should ask your GP about whether or not they should get the vaccine.

If your child has any symptoms that might suggest they are infected (such as a high temperature), you should postpone the vaccination appointment until they are fully recovered. The same is true if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

To postpone the appointment, please call 02/214.19.19 (calls are free of charge).

How can you book your vaccination?

Please visit www.bru-vax.brussels to book your vaccination appointment.

When booking your appointment via the website, you will be asked to log in by entering the national register number found on your identity card (or your BIS number if you don't have a national register number).

- To be fully vaccinated, you will need to receive two doses of the vaccine, which must be administered at two separate appointments.
- You are free to choose when to have your first appointment. The date of your second appointment will be generated automatically. **Please ensure that you are available on both appointment dates.**
- If you can't find a time slot that suits you, please choose a different vaccination centre or try again later.
- If the date you are offered for your second appointment doesn't suit you, you must cancel this appointment. There are two options available:
 - 1) You can cancel the appointment by clicking the link in the confirmation email that you received. You can then book a new appointment.
 - 2) You can also change your appointment by contacting the call centre on 02/214 19 19.
- If the appointment offered for your second appointment doesn't suit you but you've already received your first dose of the vaccine, please contact the call centre on 02/214 19 19 to rearrange your second appointment for an appropriate time.
- If you are struggling to book your appointment, you can ask your family or friends to help.

You can also call 02/214 19 19 to book your vaccination appointment.

This line is open from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5:30 pm, and on Saturday and Sunday between 10 am and 5:30 pm. If possible, we recommend calling after 11 am on weekdays, or at the weekend. **Please make a note of your appointments in your diary.**

What happens on vaccination day?

- Children aged 12 to 15 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
- The parent / guardian and the child must each bring their identity card. This will be checked at the vaccination centre.
- Wear a surgical or fabric **mask**, NOT a bandana or scarf.
- Wear clothing that allows easy access to the upper arm.
- In the event of illness, do not attend the appointment. Instead, book a new appointment by calling 02/214.19.19.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Pierre-Louis Deudon - Doctor and Public Health Inspector