

Template for call handlers

Vaccination of children aged six months to four years who are at greater risk from COVID-19 infection.

Before this template is used it should be reviewed locally and combined with any local health board call-handler policy. Any clinical queries should be referred to clinical staff according to local policy.

Introduction

Hello, my name is (insert). I am calling from (insert).

Can I please confirm that I am talking to the parent or carer of (Insert child's name).

I am calling you to invite (insert name) for a COVID-19 vaccination.

You may have heard that, from May 2023, the Welsh Government is inviting children aged from six months to four years with certain health conditions for a COVID-19 vaccination. I understand that (insert name) is eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination and I am ringing today to discuss making an appointment for them to have the vaccine.

Before I continue, can I just check a few details with you?

(Confirm name/address/GP practice)

(Confirm date of birth of child)

Details of vaccination offer

Your child is being called for a vaccine because children with certain health conditions have an increased risk of serious illness and being admitted to hospital with COVID-19 infection.

Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 is a safe and effective way to protect your child against serious illness and being admitted to hospital.

Your child will be offered the Comirnaty vaccine, which is produced by Pfizer. They will be offered a lower dose than that given to older children. The vaccine is safe and recommended for use in children. They will be offered two doses, with a gap of at least three months between them.

Appointment discussion

- Your appointment is at location on (date) at (time).

If you would like to discuss this further with a member of our clinical team, I can ask somebody to call you or email you. (Refer to local policy)

Further information

If you would like more information, I can send this to you by post or email or give you a website address.

(If they would like further information sent by email, you will need to get their email address.)

- You can find more information and patient leaflets at phw.nhs.wales/covidvaccine
- You can find out more about the specific Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines for young children, including their contents and possible side effects, at www.medicines.org.uk by searching 'Comirnaty 3'
- (Insert details of Health Board information sources)



Frequently asked questions

1. Why is the Welsh Government recommending a COVID-19 vaccination for children aged six months to four years with certain medical conditions?

In Wales, we follow advice from the independent expert Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on the use of different vaccine products as part of the COVID-19 vaccination programme. For most children, COVID-19 infection causes mild or no symptoms, but for a small number of children with health conditions the risk of serious illness is greater. Infants and young children who have underlying medical conditions are over seven times more likely to be admitted to intensive care. The JCVI has advised that children aged six months to four years who are at greater risk from COVID-19 infection should be offered a vaccination.

2. Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe for young children?

Like all vaccines, the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine used (Pfizer Comirnaty) has been thoroughly tested in clinical trials.

A vaccine is only released to the public if scientific tests, called clinical trials, show the benefits outweigh the risks.

The medicines regulator, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), has confirmed the COVID-19 vaccine being offered to children is safe and effective.

In the USA, more than one million children aged six months to four years have had at least one dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine since June 2022. The reported side effects were similar to those seen with other vaccines given in this age group.

3. How effective is the COVID-19 vaccine?

It may take a few weeks to build up some protection from the vaccine. Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective – some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination – but the effects should be less severe.

The UK vaccination programme has been very successful, with tens of millions of people vaccinated and many thousands of lives saved.

Children with weakened immune systems may not make a strong immune response to the vaccine, but it should offer them protection against serious illness.

4. Why should my child have the COVID-19 vaccine?

Some people are more likely to become unwell from COVID-19 than other people.

Some children who have certain health conditions are more likely to become seriously unwell or go to hospital.

These conditions include:

- cancers (such as leukaemia or lymphoma);



- diabetes;
- serious heart problems;
- chest problems or breathing difficulties, including poorly controlled asthma;
- disease of the kidney, liver or gut;
- a weakened immune system due to disease or treatment (for example, steroids, chemotherapy or radiotherapy);
- an organ transplant;
- a neurodisability or neuromuscular condition;
- a severe learning disability;
- Down's syndrome;
- a problem with their spleen, for example sickle cell disease, or if they have had their spleen removed;
- epilepsy;
- serious genetic problems; and
- other serious medical conditions as advised by the doctor or specialist.

5. Which vaccine will my child have?

Your child will be offered the Comirnaty vaccine, which is produced by Pfizer. They will be offered a lower dose (3 micrograms) compared to that given to older children. The vaccine is safe and recommended for use in children. The vaccine cannot give your child coronavirus.

If you would like to know more about the vaccine, search 'Comirnaty 3' here:

www.medicines.org.uk

6. How many vaccines will my child have?

They will be offered two vaccines to start with. There will be a gap of at least three months between the first and second dose. Your child may get invited again for a booster next year but this depends on what the JCVI advise next.

7. What are the side effects of the vaccine?

Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most of these are mild and don't last long, and not everyone gets them. The most common side effects should only last a day or two.

The most common side effects in the first day or two are:

- soreness and redness at the injection site;
- tiredness; and
- fever.

Babies under two years old may also be irritable, sleepy and lose their appetite.

Cases of inflammation of the heart (called myocarditis or pericarditis) have been reported very rarely after COVID-19 vaccines. Most children recover from these and feel better following rest and simple treatment.

For more information, see phw.nhs.wales/covidvaccine

8. Are there any reasons why the vaccine should not be given?

There are very few children who cannot have the COVID-19 vaccine.

The vaccine should not be given to anyone who has had:

- a confirmed serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to any of the ingredients of the vaccine; or
- a confirmed serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to a previous dose of the same COVID-19 vaccine.

It is important that you tell the person giving your child the vaccine if they have ever had a serious allergic reaction.

9. Where will the injection be given?

Babies aged six to 12 months will have the vaccine in their thigh. Children over 12 months will have it in the top of their arm or the thigh.

On the day of the appointment your child should wear clothing which can be removed easily. Wearing loose clothing makes it easier to get to the thigh or top of the arm.

Children may like to bring a favourite toy with them to play with while they wait.

10. What about giving consent?

As a parent or a carer with parental responsibility, you will be asked to give informed consent (permission) for your child to have the vaccine.

It is important that you understand the information about the COVID-19 vaccination and the risks and benefits of vaccination. The nurse or person giving the vaccination will be able to discuss the vaccine at the appointment and answer any questions.

11. What if my child is ill on the day the vaccination is due?

If your child is unwell or has a fever, vaccination can be delayed and you can arrange another appointment.

12. Can my child have other vaccines at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccination?

Yes COVID-19 vaccines can be given at the same time as other vaccines. It is better for your child to have their vaccines than to avoid any delay in being protected.

13. My child has a severely weakened immune system. Will they need a third dose of the first COVID-19 vaccine?

Some children who have a severely weakened immune system may need an extra (third) dose of COVID-19 vaccine to make sure that they have better protection. This third dose will usually be given at least three months after their second dose. In some situations it may need to be given sooner. You can discuss this with your child's medical specialist.

Templed i'r rhai sy'n ymdrin â galwadau Brechu plant chwe mis i bedair oed sy'n wynebu risg uwch o haint COVID-19.

Cyn defnyddio'r templed hwn, dylid ei adolygu'n lleol a'i gyfuno ag unrhyw bolisi ymdrin â galwadau'r bwrdd iechyd lleol. Dylid cyfeirio unrhyw ymholiadau clinigol at sylw staff clinigol yn unol â pholisi lleol.

Cyflwyniad

Helo, fy enw i yw (rhowch yr enw). Rwy'n ffonio o (rhowch yr enw).

A allaf gadarnhau fy mod yn siarad â rhiant neu ofalwr (Rhowch enw'r plentyn).

Rwy'n ffonio i wahodd (rhowch yr enw) i gael brechiad COVID-19.

Efallai eich bod wedi clywed bod Llywodraeth Cymru, o fis Mai 2023, yn gwahodd plant rhwng chwe mis a phedair oed sydd â chyflyrau iechyd penodol i gael brechiad COVID-19. Rwy'n deall bod (rhowch yr enw) yn gymwys i gael brechiad COVID-19 ac rwy'n ffonio heddiw i drafod trefnu apwyntiad iddo gael y brechiad.

Cyn i mi barhau, a allaf gadarnhau ychydig o fanylion gyda chi?

(Cadarnhewch enw/cyfeiriad/practis meddyg teulu)

(Cadarnhewch ddyddiad geni'r plentyn)

Manylion cynnig y brechiad

Mae eich plentyn yn cael ei alw i gael brechiad oherwydd bod plant sydd â chyflyrau iechyd penodol yn wynebu risg uwch o salwch difrifol a chael eu derbyn i'r ysbyty gyda haint COVID-19.

Mae brechu yn erbyn COVID-19 yn ffordd ddiogel ac effeithiol o amddiffyn eich plentyn yn erbyn salwch difrifol a chael ei dderbyn i'r ysbyty.

Bydd eich plentyn yn cael cynnig y brechiad Comirnaty a gynhyrchir gan Pfizer. Bydd yn cael cynnig dos is na'r hyn a roddir i blant hŷn. Mae'r brechiad yn ddiogel ac yn cael ei argymhell i'w ddefnyddio mewn plant. Byddant yn cael cynnig dau ddos, gyda bwlch o dri mis rhyngddynt o leiaf.

Trafod yr apwyntiad

- Mae eich apwyntiad yn lleoliad ar (dyddiad) am (amser).

Os hoffech drafod hyn ymhellach gydag aelod o'n tîm clinigol, gallaf ofyn i rywun eich ffonio neu anfon neges e-bost atoch. (Cyfeiriwch at y polisi lleol)



Rhagor o wybodaeth

Os hoffech chi gael rhagor o wybodaeth, gallaf ei hanfon atoch drwy'r post neu neges e-bost neu roi cyfeiriad gwefan i chi.

(Os hoffent gael rhagor o wybodaeth drwy neges e-bost, bydd angen i chi gael eu cyfeiriad e-bost.)

- Gallwch ddod o hyd i ragor o wybodaeth a thaflenni i gleifion yn icc.gig.cymru/brechlyncovid
- Gallwch ddysgu rhagor am y brechiad COVID-19 Pfizer i blant ifanc, gan gynnwys ei gynnwys a'i sgil-ffeithiau posibl, yn www.medicines.org.uk drwy chwilio am 'Comirnaty 3'
- (Rhowch fanylion am ffynonellau gwybodaeth y Bwrdd Iechyd)



Cwestiynau cyffredin

1. Pam mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn argymhell brechiad COVID-19 i blant rhwng chwe mis a phedair oed sydd â chyflyrau meddygol penodol?

Yng Nghymru, rydym yn dilyn cyngor gan y Cyd-bwyllgor ar Imiwneiddio a Brechu (JCVI) annibynnol arbenigol ar y defnydd o gynhyrchiob brechiad gwahanol fel rhan o raglen frechu COVID-19. Ar gyfer y rhan fwyaf o blant, mae haint COVID-19 yn achosi symptomau ysgafn neu ddim symptomau, ond i nifer bach o blant â chyflyrau iechyd mae'r risg o salwch difrifol yn fwy. Mae babanod a phlant ifanc sydd â chyflyrau meddygol sy'n bodoli eisoes dros saith gwaith yn fwy tebygol o gael eu derbyn i ofal dwys. Mae'r JCVI wedi cyngori y dylai plant rhwng chwe mis a phedair oed sy'n wynebu risg uwch o haint COVID-19 gael cynnig brechiad.

2. A yw'r brechiad COVID-19 yn ddiogel i blant ifanc?

Fel pob brechiad, mae diogelwch ac effeithiolrwydd y brechiad a ddefnyddir (Pfizer Comirnaty) wedi'i brofi'n drylwyr mewn treialon clinigol.

Dim ond os yw profion gwyddonol, a elwir yn dreialon clinigol, yn dangos bod y manteision yn drech na'r risgiau mae brechiad yn cael ei ryddhau i'r cyhoedd.

Mae'r rheoleiddiwr meddyginiaethau, yr Asiantaeth Rheoleiddio Meddyginiaethau a Chynhyrchion Gofal Iechyd (MHRA), wedi cadarnhau bod y brechiad COVID-19 sy'n cael ei gynnig i blant yn ddiogel ac yn effeithiol.

Yn yr Unol Daleithiau, mae dros filiwn o blant rhwng chwe mis a phedair oed wedi cael o leiaf un dos o'r brechiad COVID-19 Pfizer-BioNTech ers mis Mehefin 2022. Roedd y sgil-effeithiau a nodwyd yn debyg i'r rhai a welir gyda brechiadau eraill a roddwyd yn y grŵp oedran hwn.

3. Pa mor effeithiol yw'r brechiad COVID-19?

Gall gymryd ychydig wythnosau i ddatblygu rhywfaint o amddiffyniad o'r brechiad. Fel pob meddyginiaeth, nid oes unrhyw frechiad yn gwbl effeithiol – efallai y bydd rhai pobl yn dal i gael COVID-19 er iddynt gael brechiad – ond dylai'r effeithiau fod yn llai difrifol.

Mae rhaglen frechu'r DU wedi bod yn llwyddiannus iawn, gyda degau o filiynau o bobl wedi'u brechu a miloedd lawer o fywydau wedi'u hachub.

Efallai na fydd plant sydd â systemau imiwnedd gwannach yn ymateb gydag imiwnedd cryf i'r brechiad, ond dylai gynnig amddiffyniad iddynt yn erbyn salwch difrifol.

4. Pam ddylai fy mhlentyn gael y brechiad COVID-19?

Mae rhai pobl yn fwy tebygol o fynd yn sâl o COVID-19 na phobl eraill.

Mae rhai plant sydd â chyflyrau iechyd penodol yn fwy tebygol o fynd yn ddifrifol sâl neu fynd i'r ysbyty.

Mae'r cyflyrau hyn yn cynnwys:

- canserau (fel lewcmia neu lymffoma);
- diabetes;
- problemau difrifol gyda'r galon;

- problemau gyda'r frest neu anawsterau anadlu, gan gynnwys asthma a reolir yn wael;
- clefyd yr arennau, yr afu/iau neu'r perfedd;
- system imiwnedd wannach oherwydd clefyd neu driniaeth (er enghraifft, steroidau, cemotherapi neu radiotherapi);
- trawsblaniad organ;
- niwroanabledd neu gyflwr niwrogyhyrol;
- anabledd dysgu difrifol;
- Syndrom Down;
- problem gyda'r dduwg, er enghraifft clefyd y crymangelloedd, neu os yw eu duedd wedi cael ei thynnu;
- epilepsi;
- problemau genetig difrifol; a
- chyflyrau meddygol difrifol eraill fel y cynghorir gan y meddyg neu arbenigwr.

5. Pa frechiad y bydd fy mhlentyn yn ei gael?

Bydd eich plentyn yn cael cynnig y brechiad Comirnaty a gynhyrchir gan Pfizer. Bydd yn cael cynnig dos is (3 microgram) o gymharu â'r hyn a roddir i blant hŷn. Mae'r brechiad yn ddiogel ac yn cael ei argymhell i'w ddefnyddio mewn plant. Ni all y brechiad roi'r coronafeirws i'ch plentyn.

Os hoffech gael gwybod rhagor am y brechiad, ewch i chwilio am 'Comirnaty 3' yma:

www.medicines.org.uk

6. Sawl brechiad y bydd fy mhlentyn yn ei gael?

Bydd yn cael cynnig dau frechiad i ddechrau. Bydd bwlch o dri mis o leiaf rhwng y dos cyntaf a'r ail dos. Efallai y bydd eich plentyn yn cael ei wahodd eto am frechiad atgyfnerthu y flwyddyn nesaf ond mae hyn yn dibynnu ar yr hyn y mae'r JCVI yn ei gynghori nesaf.

7. Beth yw sgil-effeithiau'r brechiad?

Fel pob meddyginiaeth, gall brechiadau achosi sgil-effeithiau. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r rhain yn ysgafn ac nid ydynt yn para'n hir, ac nid yw pawb yn eu cael. Dylai'r sgil-effeithiau mwyaf cyffredin bara diwrnod neu ddau yn unig.

Y sgil-effeithiau mwyaf cyffredin yn y diwrnod cyntaf neu ddau yw:

- dolur a chochni ar safle'r pigiad;
- blinder; a
- tymheredd fymryn yn uchel.

Efallai y bydd babanod o dan ddwy oed yn flin hefyd, yn gysglyd ac yn colli eu chwant am fwyd.

Mae achosion o lid y galon (o'r enw myocarditis neu bericarditis) wedi'u nodi'n anaml iawn ar ôl brechiadau COVID-19. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o blant yn gwella o'r rhain ac yn teimlo'n well ar ôl gorffwys a thriniaeth syml.

I gael rhagor o wybodaeth, edrychwch ar icc.gig.cymru/brechlyncovid

8. A oes unrhyw resymau pam na ddylid rhoi'r brechiad?

Prin iawn yw'r plant na allant gael y brechiad COVID-19.



Ni ddylid rhoi'r brechiad i unrhyw un sydd wedi cael:

- adwaith alergaidd difrifol (anaffylaxis) wedi'i gadarnhau i unrhyw un o gynhwysion y brechiad; neu
- adwaith alergaidd difrifol (anaffylaxis) wedi'i gadarnhau i ddos blaenorol o'r un brechiad COVID-19.

Mae'n bwysig eich bod yn dweud wrth y person sy'n rhoi'r brechiad i'ch plentyn os yw erioed wedi cael adwaith alergaidd difrifol.

9. Ble bydd y pigiad yn cael ei roi?

Bydd babanod rhwng chwech a 12 mis oed yn cael y brechiad yn eu clun. Bydd plant dros 12 mis yn ei gael yn rhan uchaf eu braich neu yn y glun.

Ar ddiwrnod yr apwyntiad dylai eich plentyn wisgo dillad y gellir eu tynnu'n hawdd. Mae gwisgo dillad llac yn ei gwneud yn haws cyrraedd y glun neu ran uchaf y fraich.

Efallai yr hoffai plant ddod ag un o'u hoff deganau i chwarae pan fyddant yn aros.

10. Beth am roi caniatâd?

Fel rhiant neu ofalwr sydd â chyfrifoldeb rhiant, gofynnir i chi roi cydsyniad (caniatâd) ar sail gwybodaeth i'ch plentyn gael y brechiad.

Mae'n bwysig eich bod yn deall y wybodaeth am y brechiad COVID-19 ac yn deall risgiau a manteision brechu. Bydd y nyrs neu'r person sy'n rhoi'r brechiad yn gallu trafod y brechiad yn yr apwyntiad ac ateb unrhyw gwestiynau.

11. Beth os yw fy mhlentyn yn sâl ar ddiwrnod y brechiad?

Os yw eich plentyn yn sâl neu os oes ganddo dymheredd uchel, mae posib gohirio'r brechiad a gallwch drefnu apwyntiad arall.

12. A all fy mhlentyn gael brechiadau eraill ar yr un pryd â'r brechiad COVID-19?

Gall, mae modd rhoi brechiadau COVID-19 ar yr un pryd â brechiadau eraill. Mae'n well i'ch plentyn gael ei frechiadau nag osgoi unrhyw oedi o ran cael ei amddiffyn.

13. Mae gan fy mhlentyn system imiwnedd ddifrifol wan. A fydd angen trydydd dos o'r brechiad COVID-19 cyntaf arno?

Efallai y bydd angen i rai plant sydd â system imiwnedd sydd wedi'i gwanhau'n ddifrifol gael dos ychwanegol (trydydd dos) o frechiad COVID-19 i sicrhau bod ganddynt amddiffyniad gwell. Bydd y trydydd dos hwn yn cael ei roi fel rheol o leiaf dri mis ar ôl eu hail ddos. Mewn rhai sefyllfaoedd, efallai y bydd angen ei roi yn gynharach. Gallwch drafod hyn gydag arbenigwr meddygol eich plentyn.