# COVID-19 vaccination program – youth community kit

**Date: 5 January 2022 December 2021**

Vaccination is the most effective way to protect against infectious diseases.

COVID-19 has changed our lives and changed the world. The only path we have out of this pandemic – and the devastation it has caused – is by arming ourselves against COVID-19.

The Department of Health developed the Arm Yourself campaign to encourage Australians to get vaccinated to protect themselves, the people they care about and the wider community.

On 5 December the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) provisionally approved Comirnaty (Pfizer) vaccine for use among 5 to 11-year-old children in Australia.

Appointments for 5 to 11-year-olds are available from 10 January 2022.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends the Pfizer or Spikevax (Moderna) vaccine for people 12 years and older.

## Boosters

If you are 18 years and older and have had 2 doses of your COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months ago, you are eligible for an additional booster dose.

A booster dose increases your protection against:

* infection with the virus that causes COVID-19
* severe disease
* dying from COVID-19.

While you don’t have to get a booster dose, ATAGI recommends that most people get one to maintain protection against COVID-19.

You can have either a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine for your booster dose.

## You can help

We need your support to help tell young people, their parents or guardians about the vaccines they can receive and how to book their appointment.

This kit includes:

* key messages
* sample website and newsletter content
* links to videos that you can share on social media channels
* links to information sheets for young people, their parents or guardians.

We encourage you to use the resources provided in this kit to help build understanding about the vaccines available for young people and the importance of getting vaccinated.

### Some things to note

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has implemented arrangements to facilitate the communication of information about approved COVID-19 vaccines. These arrangements permit health professionals, businesses, organisations and media outlets to develop their own materials about TGA-approved COVID-19 vaccines.

The arrangements, which will be in place until the end of 2022, have given these organisations more flexibility to contribute to the national conversation about vaccination.

Under these new arrangements, organisations can generate their own informational materials to support COVID-19 vaccination, provided the content is consistent with Government messaging and **does not contain**:

* references to specific brands of vaccines, or compare different COVID-19 vaccines
* statements that COVID-19 vaccines cannot cause harm or have no side effects
* any statement that is false or misleading, and
* promotion of any vaccine that has not been approved by the TGA.

### Proof of COVID-19 vaccinations

With the easing of restrictions, we know Australians will need to access proof of their COVID-19 vaccinations.

Services Australia has resources to help support your community to get proof of their COVID-19 vaccinations.

Everyone 14 or older, will need to get their own digital certificate or immunisation history statement using either:

* [Medicare online account](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/medicare-online-accounts)through[myGov](https://my.gov.au/)
* the[Express Plus Medicare mobile app](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/express-plus-medicare-mobile-app)**.**

As a community, we all play an important role in supporting Australians. Services Australia has online resources you can share in your workplace and with your community.

There are resources for community groups, including culturally and linguistically diverse and First Nations communities.

Visit the [Services Australia website](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/community/community-resources-and-help/coronavirus-covid-19-resources) for information as well as resources.

## Key messages

* Appointments for 5 to 11-year-olds will be available from 10 January 2022.
* The Corminaty (Pfizer) COVID-19 vaccine is approved and recommended for people aged 5 years and over.
* Spikevax (Moderna) COVID-19 vaccine is approved and recommended for people aged 12 and over.
* It’s important that everyone arm themselves against COVID-19 as soon as they can.
* By arming yourself, you protect yourself, your loved ones, the people you care about, and the wider community.
* Australia’s approved vaccines are very effective at preventing severe illness from COVID-19.
* Vaccines are the best chance we have to help end the pandemic.
* It is one thing we can all do to help beat COVID-19.
* Visit Australia.gov.au or call 1800 020 080 to book your vaccination.

## Social media

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| **Post** | Appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations for 5 to 11 year olds are available from 10 January 2022 🛡️  You can find a clinic and book your COVID-19 vaccine appointment online via 💻 <https://www.health.gov.au/eligibility-checker> |  |
| **Post** | Need a little bit of help when speaking to your kids about COVID-19 vaccination?  We have some information sheets that may help.  Help them prepare for their vaccinations today:  <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/covid-19-vaccination-patient-resources> | Speak to your kids about COVID-19 vaccination |
| **Post** | If you’ve armed 💪 yourself with a COVID-19 vaccine 🛡️ show your support by using the Arm Yourself filter.   Follow the simple steps below to set it up. ➕ Go to upload a story 👉 Swipe right and click the search button icon for the effects gallery 🖱️ Click the 🔎 button in the top right corner ⌨️ Enter ‘Arm Yourself by Health’ in the search bar and select the filter 📷 Select ‘Try it’ and upload your photo | *Share a selfie or photo after receiving your vaccination – example of the Department of Health’s filter below.*  Example of selfie promoting your vaccination |
| **Share** | <https://fb.watch/81wCrrb7E8/>  What will you do first as we start to open up? Go on a road 🚗trip? Get your haircut 💇or catch up with friends and 👪family? Before we can do the thing we want to do, there's something we all need to do first.  Book your Covid-19 vaccination 🛡️at 💻https://www.australia.gov.au/ | Two girls in a car on a road trip after being vaccinated and the borders opening. |
| **Share** | <https://fb.watch/81v-O6gP-b/>  Well done regional NSW! People are rolling up their sleeves 💪to get the COVID-19 vaccine🛡️  More than 2000 people armed themselves at the vaccination hubs in Orange & Bathurst on Super Saturday – well done to all involved🙏  The vaccine is our best defence against COVID19 and our best step👟 forward.  [#ArmYourself](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/armyourself?__eep__=6&__tn__=*NK) today and book your appointment 🗓️  [www.health.gov.au/vaccine-clinic-finder](http://www.health.gov.au/vaccine-clinic-finder?fbclid=IwAR3XeNQFTsR0C94F23N_s4dyTp5-QyajAZdo1hqXLX8Sjdq0TxSGghEA73k) | A screenshot from a video that captures a young man in a mask receiving the vaccine. |
| **Share** | <https://www.instagram.com/reel/CT1ba59Bl02/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link>  ‘I’m getting vaccinated to help protect the community, my friends and family, especially the older people, and so we can get back to normal lives.’  14-year-old Emilie has armed herself 💪 against [#COVID19](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/covid19/) and is looking forward to feeling safe because she is protected by the vaccine 🛡️  You can find and book an appointment by clicking the link in our bio ☝️ and selecting🔎 'Vaccine Clinic Finder'. | Social Media Story image of young girl named Emilie, who is a vaccine recipient. |

## Newsletter/website content

Vaccination against COVID-19 protects you, and it also protects your family, friends and wider community.

Everyone aged 12 and over can now receive a COVID-19 vaccine and their booster dose if it has been 4 months or longer since your primary course. Appointments for 5 to 11-year-olds start from 10 January 2022.

There are lots of reasons for young people to get vaccinated, including:

* protecting you from catching COVID-19
* reducing your risk of severe disease, long-term side effects or long COVID
* helping you get back to school, college or university
* reconnecting you with your family and friends
* getting you back to doing the things you love, like team sports, going to concerts, travel.

It is important that you get two doses of the vaccine as the second dose is likely to prolong the protection against COVID-19.

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* the[Express Plus Medicare mobile app](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/express-plus-medicare-mobile-app)**.**

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines, there are [information sheets](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/covid-19-vaccination-patient-resources) available on the Department of Health’s website. To book your vaccination appointment visit: [www.australia.gov.au](http://www.australia.gov.au)

## Resources

We have a range of tailored resources that you may find helpful:

* [COVID-19 vaccine information for adolescents and parents or carers](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-teens-and-parentsguardians).
* [How to speak to kids about COVID-19 vaccines.](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/how-to-speak-to-kids-about-covid-19-vaccines)
* [Information for people with disability about COVID-19 vaccines.](https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/information-for-service-providers-workers-and-people-with-disability-about-covid-19-vaccines)
* [Information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples about COVID-19 vaccines.](https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/getting-vaccinated-for-covid-19/information-for-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples-about-covid-19-vaccines)
* [Translated COVID-19 vaccine information in 64 languages.](https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-information-in-your-language)
* The **‘**[*Is it True’*](https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/is-it-true) web page provides accurate, evidence-based answers to questions about COVID-19 vaccines.

## **Contact us**

Should you need any more information, we would be more than happy to support you. Please get in touch with us at: [covidvaccinecomms@health.gov.au](mailto:covidvaccinecomms@health.gov.au)