

## Gwybodaeth Brechlyn COVID-19 Ym Mhowys

## Information about COVID- 19 Vaccination in Powys

11 Mawrth 2022 / 11 March 2022

### Dear Colleagues

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Powys. Nearly a third of a million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered through the Powys programme, and thousands of people have played a part in delivering this.

We have come through a very busy period over Christmas and into the new year, accelerating the booster programme in response to the Omicron variant.

Amidst these busy and challenging times, I was very touched that the Powys COVID-19 Vaccination Programme received the "Family of the Year" Award in the Powys County Times Community Heroes. It truly has felt like a big family, such an enormous team effort, to deliver such high levels of protection for our communities.



*COVID-19 vaccination volunteers on our last day at Maldwyn Leisure Centre*

During this period we have also seen the relocation of our clinic in Newtown from Maldwyn Leisure Centre. The success of the programme in north Powys has only been possible because of the welcome and support we have been given by Freedom Leisure, with over 125,000 doses delivered since the clinic opened in January 2021.

Our main vaccination clinics are now in Park Street Day Centre Newtown, Bronllys Hospital and Royal Welsh Showground Llanelwedd. These latter two venues have

More information about the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Powys is available from our website at:  
[www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine](http://www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine)

delivered nearly 80,000 doses and 60,000 doses respectively, and my grateful thanks go to our hosts at Powys County Council and the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society. We are also making plans to return to Ystradgynlais next month for a pop-up clinic.

As I write this bulletin we approach the second anniversary of the first lockdown on 23 March. This provides an opportunity for a day of reflection, to connect with each other through our grief and our hope for the future.

As we take cautious steps out of the restrictions under which we have all lived for the last two years, Welsh Government has published their COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy for 2022 as well as their plan for the long-term COVID-19 transition from pandemic to endemic "Together for a Safer Future". Both documents reinforce how important the vaccination programme has been to enable the easing of restrictions. Vaccines have saved thousands of lives and significantly weakened the link between the infection, serious illness, hospitalisation, and death.

Here in Powys the uptake of the vaccine continues to be the highest of all health boards in Wales:

- 91.6% of adults have taken up their first dose, 89.6% have completed their primary course, and 79.2% have received their booster.
- 83.6% of 16-17 year olds have taken up their first dose, and 70.2% have received their second dose. Boosters are under way.
- 66.3% of 12-15 year olds have taken up their first dose, and 44.7% have received their second dose. In this age group boosters are currently only recommended for people in clinical risk groups.

Looking ahead it is clear that vaccination will continue to be a critical part of our response to coronavirus. A spring booster programme is just about to get under way, the offer of vaccination is now open to all 5-11 year olds, and drop-in opportunities remain available for people who have not yet taken up the offer. And the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation has already indicated that there will be an autumn vaccination programme. We expect this will become an annual event to maintain high levels of immunity and help protect against new coronavirus variants. Look out for further details of the autumn booster later this year.

Later in this bulletin you will find more information about drop-in sessions, spring boosters, vaccination for 5-11 year olds, and other updates on the vaccination programme here in Powys and across the country.

Thank you for being part of its success.

*Adrian Osborne  
Programme Director (COVID-19 Vaccination and TTP)  
Powys Teaching Health Board*

Thank you  
Diolch o galon

More information about the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Powys is available from our website at: [www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine](http://www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine)

## Drop-In Clinics Clinigau Galw Heibio

### Drop-In Clinics

**Everyone aged 12 and over can drop in for a first and second dose COVID-19 vaccination** at our regular drop-in clinics. Drop-in clinics are advertised through our social media channels, and the latest information is also available from our website (link below).

**People aged 18+ can also drop in for their first booster dose** if it is three 3 months after their primary course.

All 16-17 year olds are now also eligible for a first booster dose three months after their primary course. You will receive an invitation letter when your booster is due. **Drop-in boosters are not currently available for 16-17 year olds** but we expect this to be in place later this spring.

Please note that drop-in arrangements can change at short notice so do keep checking our website and social media channels for the latest information.

### [Drop-In Clinics](#)

## Second Booster Vaccination Ail Frechlyn Atgyfnerthu

### Second Booster ("Spring Booster")

A second booster will be available this spring for everyone aged over 75, residents of care homes for older adults, and people aged 12+ with severe immunosuppression.

Guidance from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation on the spring booster was published last month. It recommends that the spring booster is offered around six months after the last dose. This means that we expect to begin invitations very soon, with clinics starting by early April and continuing into June.

In the meantime, we have opened a Reserve List. You can join our Reserve List if you can answer YES to all four questions:

- Are you aged 75 or over?
- Did you receive your first booster on or before 4 October 2021?

More information about the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Powys is available from our website at: [www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine](http://www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine)

- Are you registered with a GP in Powys?
- Could you attend a main vaccination clinic (Builth Wells, Bronllys, Newtown) at short notice?

Keep checking our reserve list as we will continue to extend the date, and look out for your invitation by early June if you are 75+ or immunosuppressed.

We will share more information about the spring booster as soon as we receive it. In the meantime, you can find out more and join our reserve list via our website:

## [Spring Booster](#)

5-11

## **COVID-19 Vaccination for 5-11 year olds**

COVID-19 Vaccination is now offered to all 5-11 year olds.

Guidance from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation on COVID-19 vaccination for 5-11 year olds **in clinical risk groups** was published in December. Last month they expanded the eligibility to include everyone in this age group. We will be writing to all parents / guardians by the end of May to offer you the opportunity to book an appointment. In the meantime, if you would like to arrange an appointment sooner you can use our online form to request this.

More information about COVID-19 vaccination for 5-11 year olds and our online form are available from our website:

## [5-11 Year Olds](#)

Together for a safer future  
Gyda'n gilydd tuog at ddyfodol mwy diogel

## **Together for a safer future**

Last week Welsh Government published "Together for a safer future". This outlines Wales' long-term COVID-19 transition from pandemic to endemic and sets out a gradual transition away from emergency measures. We will be working with Powys

More information about the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Powys is available from our website at: [www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine](http://www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine)

County Council, Welsh Government, Public Health Wales, and other partners to put this into practice in Powys. Clearly the steps we take locally and nationally will be subject to the public health conditions at the time.

The protective behaviours we have all adopted during the pandemic can all have significant benefits that go beyond coronavirus. In the national plan we are all urged to continue these behaviours to help reduce the impact of coronavirus and other respiratory infections:

- Get vaccinated and stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations.
- Follow the latest public health advice on testing and self-isolation.
- Stay at home if they can when you are ill, and wear a face covering in indoor areas if you have symptoms but do need to leave home.
- Meet outdoors where possible and ensure good ventilation if indoors.
- Take additional precautions when visiting vulnerable people, and avoid meeting them if possible if experiencing symptoms of respiratory infection.
- Wash hands regularly, cover coughs and sneezes, and wear face coverings in close contact areas.

The full document is available from the Welsh Government website:

### **[Together For A Safer Future](#)**

Alongside “Together for a safer future”, Welsh Government has published their COVID-19 vaccination strategy for 2022. Clearly there is a lot that we do not yet know about vaccination requirements for the year ahead. But as outlined above, our current priorities are to offer the spring booster to eligible individuals, offer vaccination to all 5-11 year olds, and continue our drop-in clinics for people who have not yet taken up the offer. Looking further ahead we expect an autumn booster programme, and work is also under way to plan what the future looks like and how COVID-19 vaccination fits with other immunisation programmes.

The COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy for 2022 is available from the Welsh Government website:

### **[COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy for 2022](#)**

Latest Information  
Gwybodaeth Ddiweddaraf

### **Latest information on COVID-19 Vaccination in Powys**

You can find all the latest information about COVID-19 vaccination on our website.

More information about the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Powys is available from our website at: [www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine](http://www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine)

- Our daily update brings you the latest information about our programme, and on each Priority Group: [Daily Update - Powys Teaching Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)
- Our main vaccination page has useful information based on your age or health condition: [COVID-19 Vaccination - Powys Teaching Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)
- You can share your experience to help us improve:
  - CY: [Eich adborth am frechu COVID-19 ym Mhowys - Bwrdd Iechyd Addysgu Powys \(gig.cymru\)](#)
  - EN: [Your feedback about COVID-19 vaccination in Powys - Powys Teaching Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)

## Latest information on COVID-19 Vaccination in Wales

More information about the national COVID-19 vaccination programme in Wales is available from the Public Health Wales website:

- [Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru](#) (CY) and [Public Health Wales](#) (EN)

The latest information about the number of COVID-19 vaccination doses delivered in Wales is available from the Public Health Wales dashboard:

- [Public Health Wales dashboard](#)

More information about the Welsh Government's strategy for COVID-19 vaccination:

- [Llywodraeth Cymru](#) (CY) and [Welsh Government](#) (EN)

Jobs  
Swyddi

## Job Opportunities

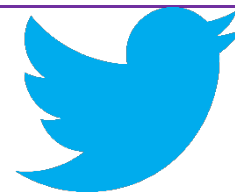
We have lots of great opportunities to join our team here at Powys Teaching Health Board. You can find all our current opportunities on our website:

- CY: [www.biap.gig.cymru/swyddi](http://www.biap.gig.cymru/swyddi)
- EN: [www.pthb.nhs.wales/jobs](http://www.pthb.nhs.wales/jobs)

Please help spread the word about our latest vacancies.



You can follow Powys Teaching Health Board on Facebook, and @PTHBhealth and @BIAPiechyd on Twitter for the latest social media updates from the health board.



More information about the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Powys is available from our website at: [www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine](http://www.pthb.nhs.wales/covid-vaccine)