

Some information about COVID-19 vaccination sites

What is the difference between a vaccination centre and a GP-led vaccination site?

A **GP-led vaccination service** involves groups of local GP practices working together to provide the vaccination to their collective patients at one location. This means that you may not receive the vaccination at your local GP and may be asked to travel to a different location nearby.

Large vaccination centres - each county will have one large vaccination centre which will be able to give the vaccine to large numbers of people.

GP-led vaccination sites are already open and running across Brighton and Hove, and every GP Practice in our city is involved. There are three sites based at County Oak Medical Centre, Portslade Health Centre, and Brighton Racecourse. For information about which site your GP Practice is involved with please [click here](#)

As more supplies of vaccine become available, large-scale vaccination centres are starting to open across the country, capable of quickly vaccinating large numbers of people. The Brighton Centre opened today (25th January) as a large vaccination centre for Sussex. This service is being run by the Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust.

You must have an appointment for either type of site, and all sites are currently focussed on offering the vaccine to the top 4 priority groups.

1. residents in a care home for older adults and their carers
2. all those 80 years of age and over, and frontline health and social care workers
3. all those 75 years of age and over
4. all those 70 years of age and over and [Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals](#).

There are some differences in the way the two sites work which is described in this NHS video, and summarised below <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izprZWWYe9w>

GP-led vaccination sites	Large scale vaccination centres
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are usually located in a community setting. • Can vaccinate a limited number of people at a time. • Are for the local Brighton and Hove community only. • You will be invited to attend by your GP practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are located in much larger venues in a central location. • Can vaccinate much larger numbers of people. • Provide access to people from across Sussex. • You will be invited via a letter from the national booking service, which will tell you how to book online or by phone. • Invitations are being sent to people who are within a 45-minute drive from the centre

Please be aware of the following:

If you get a letter from the national booking service, you can choose whether to book an appointment at the vaccination centre or wait until you are contacted by your GP for an appointment at your local vaccination service if that would be more convenient.

25 January 2021

What to expect if you attend the Brighton Centre

A short video, alongside more information about what to expect, can be found by visiting the Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust <https://www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/news/covid-19-vaccinations-brighton-centre/213610>. We have reproduced this below for ease.

When you arrive at the Brighton Centre you need to enter the building through the front doors on the seafront. There is no access via the back doors in Russell Road.

Please have confirmation of your appointment time ready and arrive no more than five minutes before your appointment. There is no waiting area so you will need to wait outside if you are early. Limiting the number of people inside the Brighton Centre means we can effectively maintain social distancing, keeping you and our staff safe.

You will need to wear a face covering unless you are medically exempt from wearing one. If you need support from a carer, family member or friend to attend your appointment, please limit this to one person.

Please do not attend your appointment if you have any of the symptoms of coronavirus:

- a new continuous cough
- high temperature
- loss of taste or smell

While you wait for your vaccination you will be asked some questions by NHS staff:

- Are you currently unwell with a fever?
- Have you ever had any serious reactions to a vaccine that needed admission to hospital?
- Do you have any allergies?
- Are you pregnant?
- Are you breastfeeding?

Staff will be on hand to help you if you answer yes to any of these questions.

You will also be asked if you have any special requirements, such as language interpretation/translation, a disability that will make the process difficult for you and require additional support, and whether injections make you feel particularly unwell or faint. Our trained NHS staff will be there to help you every step of the way and can take you to a more private area if you need extra support.

You will also be asked to give your written consent to having the vaccine. Staff will help you through this process. All the information that you provide is treated in with the strictest confidence and stored safely and securely.

After these questions, you will be asked to queue for your injection, keeping socially distanced from the person in front and behind.

You will enter a special area where trained NHS staff will give you your injection and look after you. The whole process should only take a few minutes.

You will be given an information leaflet about the vaccination, which should answer any questions you may have. You can read it here: [What to expect - information for people who have had their first COVID-19 vaccination](#)

25 January 2021

We ask that, after you have had your injection, you move through the Brighton Centre and leave as quickly as you are able to so that we can see as many people as possible. If you need a place to sit and rest for a while after your vaccination, there will be areas where it is safe for you to do this.

Getting to the Brighton Centre, and parking

The Brighton Centre is accessible by public transport and there are a number of public car parks nearby.

Anyone receiving their COVID-19 vaccination at the Brighton Centre will be entitled to one hour's free parking in the Churchill Square Orange Car Park. Please follow these instructions to claim your hour's free parking while you have your vaccination:

- Park in the orange car park (Churchill 1), which is located in Regency Road East, BN1 2RU. The vehicle height restriction is 2.13 meters
- Enter the car park via lane 1 (left hand lane)
- On arrival take a ticket from the car park barrier
- Explain to the Churchill Square Security Officer that you are attending the Brighton Centre for a COVID-19 vaccination. You will need to provide proof of vaccination appointment for that day (showing the confirmation you have received on your phone is fine).
- The security officer will then validate your ticket.

The 1 hour/60mins free parking begins from the minute you enter the car park. Any additional parking will be charged at normal rates.