

26 August 2022

Dear Parent and Carer,

Re: Polio vaccination for all children aged 1 to 9 years

The NHS is inviting all children aged 1 to 9 years old to receive a vaccine against polio now. For some children this may be an extra dose of polio vaccine, on top of their routine vaccinations. In other children it may just bring them up to date and ensure they are protected.

Why does my child need to be vaccinated?

Traces of the polio virus have been found in sewage in London boroughs and by getting your child vaccinated you will boost their protection. Polio can be very serious and can in rare occasions cause paralysis. More information about polio can be found [here](#).

The polio virus found in London should not pose any risk to those who are fully vaccinated. However, whilst it is spreading, there is a small chance that those who have not been fully vaccinated, or those who cannot respond well to vaccines, could be at risk of catching polio.

How do I ensure my child gets vaccinated for polio?

For children aged 1 to 9 years old, if you have not yet been contacted by your local GP surgery, please contact the practice to book an appointment for vaccination.

Children aged 5 to 9 years old are also able to book vaccination appointments at Guy's Hospital and King's College Hospital. See details below.

<p>Guy's Hospital Great Maze Pond SE1 9RT</p> <p>5 – 9 year-old vaccination (appointment only)</p> <p>Nearest station: London Bridge (3 minute walk)</p> <p>To book an appointment at Guy's Hospital please use their online booking system.</p> <p>If you have any difficulties using the online booking system, please contact the hospital via email: CovidVaccineBookings@gstt.nhs.uk</p>	<p>Kings Hospital Denmark Hill SE5 9RS</p> <p>5 – 9 year-old vaccination (appointment only)</p> <p>Nearest station: Denmark Hill (3 minute walk) or Loughborough Junction (5 minute walk)</p> <p>To book an appointment at Kings Hospital please call 0203 299 9405 or email: kch-tr.vaccinebookings@nhs.net.</p>
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Team: Public Health

Team address: Lambeth Council, Executive Support Hub PO Box 734, Winchester SO23 5DG

www.lambeth.gov.uk



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What should I do if me or my child are not registered with a GP practice?

If you are not registered with a GP, you can either register online or contact a GP surgery by phone or email. It's free to register with a GP, and you **do not need proof of address or immigration status, ID or an NHS number**. You can find the nearest practice to you via this link <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-gp>.

Sincerely,



Ruth Hutt
Director of Public Health
London Borough of Lambeth

