



Dear parent or guardian,

The UK's independent regulator, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), is running a programme called the Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor.



Why we monitor vaccines

Vaccines are the most effective way to prevent infectious diseases and they save millions of lives worldwide. Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them. Some side effects can come to light when used by a larger number of people than took part in clinical trials.

How you can help

Parents and guardians of 5 to 11 year olds are being encouraged to take part in this national programme on behalf of their children to help monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

Please sign up to our programme— the Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor, on behalf of your child and have an email address ready to hand to register.

- **Register** with our website before the vaccination is given at <https://vaccinemonitor-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk> or scan the QR code at the end of this letter and click 'Sign in or register'. If your child has already had a vaccine you can still sign up.
- **Note** the vaccine name and batch number, if you can.
- **Talk** to your child about how they feel after their vaccine and let us know through Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor
- **Read** the patient information leaflet carefully as it includes the known possible side-effects, this is available on our website.
- **Learn** more about vaccines from the UK Health Security Agency leaflets.

The website will give more information on what will happen after you register.

What we will do with reports of side effects

The Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor is part of our long-established UK system for collecting and monitoring information about suspected safety concerns involving medicines, vaccines and medical devices.

A team of safety experts that includes doctors, pharmacists and scientists continually evaluates reports of suspected side effects.

They consider other information, such as medical literature and data from international medicines regulators to help ensure that the benefits of the vaccine continue to outweigh any risks.

If you need help using the website, please ask a friend or family member to support you. Or contact our customer service team on **0800 731 6789** who can help. If you can, please have details of the vaccine and batch number for any doses received to date. Please note that we are not involved in booking vaccination appointments and cannot assist with any telephone calls about this.



Taking part is voluntary and will not impact your child's booking to get vaccinated. If you feel you or your child are unable to take part, that is fine – there is no need to let us know.

I hope you will be able to support us. By doing so you will directly help our continuous safety monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Branch

Dr Sarah Branch
Director of Vigilance & Risk Management of Medicines

Scan the QR code below to sign up on the Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor website



Yellow Card

If you would like an **easy read** version of this letter, please go to our website and click 'Resources'.

