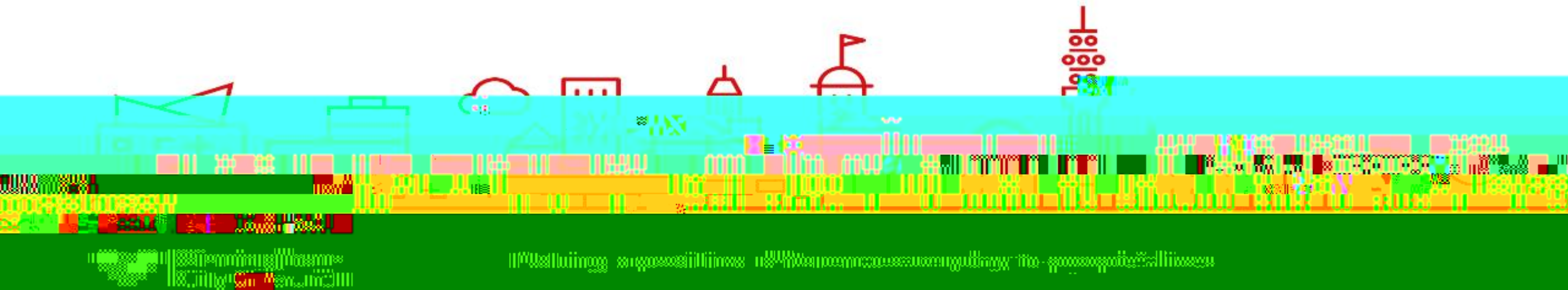


COVID Testing and Vaccination



Coronavirus-19

- Covid-19 is the disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus that was identified in December 2019.
- The most common symptoms are **fever, dry cough** and **lose of taste or smell**. Some people develop other symptoms but these are the most common ones.
- Among those who develop symptoms, most (about 80%) recover from the disease without needing hospital. About 15% become seriously ill and require oxygen and 5% become critically ill and need intensive care.
- COVID-19 virus spreads mainly through **droplets of saliva** or **discharge from the nose** when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- The virus gets into our bodies through our eyes, mouth and nose, when these droplets land there or we touch something contaminated with the droplets and then touch our face.
- We prevent the spread of the virus by **washing hands** regularly, keeping **physical distancing** outside the house we live in of at least 2 metres, wearing a **mask or face covering** when inside, keeping rooms **well ventilated**, avoiding crowds and close contact, and coughing into a bent elbow or tissue



Vaccines

- Our bodies have several different ways to prevent infection, our strongest defence is our skin and stomach, we have a general immune defence system and a specialist targeted learnt immune response to things that have attacked us before (antibodies).
- Vaccination was first recorded in China in 200BC but is often linked most strongly with Dr Edward Jenner Cowpox vaccination in 1796.
- Vaccines are medicines that teach our body to develop a targeted antibody response to a specific disease by exposing us to a bit of the organism that causes the disease without infecting us.
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Covid-19 Vaccines

- The COVID-19 vaccine is given as an injection into your upper arm.
- It's given as **2 doses**. You will have the 2nd

Side Effects & Contraindications

- Most side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine are mild and should not last longer than a week, they are similar to other vaccines and include:
 - a sore arm where the needle went in
 - feeling tired
 - a headache
 - feeling achy
 - feeling or being sick

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Vaccination rollout

- The vaccination roll out is being led by NHS England through a matrix of vaccine mass vaccination sites, primary care vaccine hubs and housebound vaccine deployment.
- Vaccine is being deployed to vaccinate the 9 priority groups which have been identified by the Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). These groups have been

Vaccines and new variants

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