

Quick reference summary: Gaps between childhood vaccinations

Disclaimer

This is a very succinct summary of the detailed guidelines contained in the Green Book (general and specific chapters) and in Patient Group Directions (PGDs). It is intended to give practice administration staff an overview and does **not** constitute clinical guidance.

Summary table

Vaccine	Ideal age	Minimum age (not routinely)	Ideal gap between doses	Minimum gap between doses	Notes
Rota 1	8 weeks	6 weeks			Latest at 14 weeks & 6 days
Rota 2	12 weeks		4 weeks	3 weeks	Latest at 23 weeks & 6 days
Hexa 1	8 weeks	6 weeks			
Hexa 2	12 weeks		4 weeks	3-4 weeks	Only 1x 3 week gap allowed
Hexa 3	16 weeks		4 weeks	3-4 weeks	If 1 st gap was 3 weeks, the 2 nd must be 4 weeks
Men B 1	8 weeks	6 weeks			
Men B 2	12 weeks		4 weeks	4 weeks	
Men B 3	1 year	1 year	8 weeks	4 weeks	
PCV 1	16 weeks	6 weeks			
PCV 2	1 year	1 year	4 weeks	None	
MMR 1	1 year	6 months * 1 year			* Outbreaks or travel only - no ongoing protection
MMR 2	3 years 4 months / 18 months **	15 months**		4 weeks	
Hib/MenC	1 year	1 year		4 weeks***	*** 4 weeks since 3 rd hib (hexa 3). <i>Only for children born before 1st July 2024</i>
Hib booster (Hexa 4)	18 months			4 weeks	<i>For children born from 1st July 2024</i>
DTaP/Pol	3 years 4 months	3 years		12 months	

* MMR can be given from 6 months of age off-label during measles outbreaks or if travelling to high-risk countries, but does **not** count as part of the schedule if given before their first birthday.

** The second MMR is routinely given at 3 years 4 months, but in some pilot areas it is given at 18 months and this provides the same protection – it counts. In fact, the second MMR will move to 18 months for all areas in January 2026. If a child is given a booster one month after the primary dose, and after 15 months of age for urgent protection, there is no need to give any further doses.

*** The booster dose of a Hib-containing vaccine (Hib/MenC or Hexa 4) is not required if the child has received one of their primary doses of DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB over 1 year of age

Useful resources

- [Guidance for healthcare practitioners on the routine childhood schedule changes from 1 July 2025](#)
- [Routine childhood vaccination schedule](#)
- [Vaccination of individuals with uncertain or incomplete immunisation status](#)
- [PGDs](#)
- [Green Book, Chapter 11: The UK immunisation schedule](#)
- [Rotavirus vaccination - information for healthcare professionals](#)
- [Hexavalent DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB combination vaccine: information for healthcare practitioners](#)
- [Changes to the infant pneumococcal conjugate vaccine schedule: information for healthcare practitioners](#)
- [Meningococcal B vaccination programme for infants: information for healthcare practitioners](#)

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