

What Is the NHS?

The **NHS** stands for the **N**ational **H**ealth **S**ervice in the UK.

People who work in the NHS keep people healthy. They help us when we're feeling poorly or are hurt.



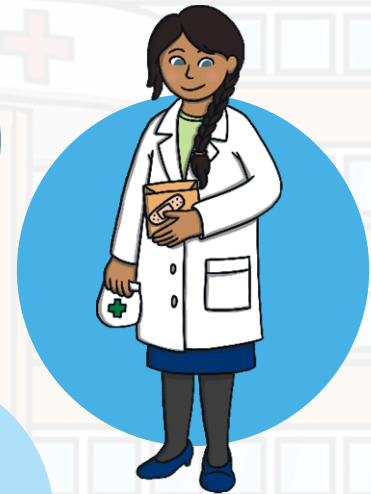
When Do We Use the NHS?

Think about times when you have been helped by someone who works for the NHS.

Who helped you when you were hurt?



Who gave you medicine when you were poorly?



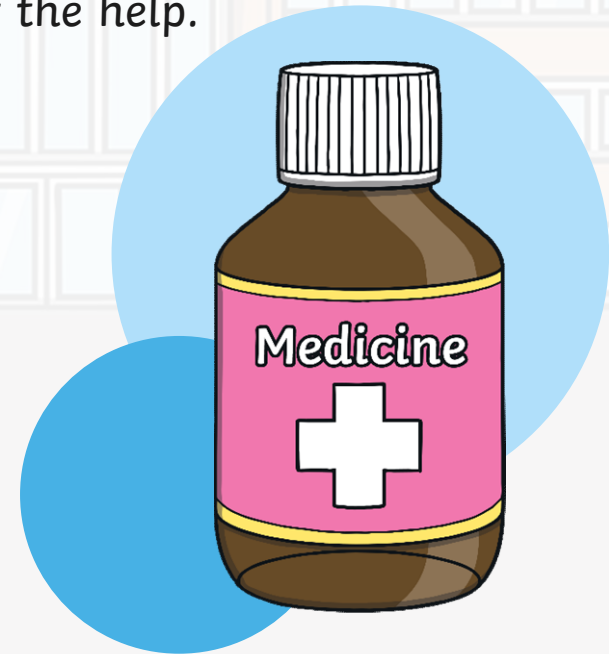
Who would you phone if you needed medical help in an emergency?

Life Before the NHS

The UK hasn't always had a National Health Service.

Before having the NHS, only very rich people could afford to go to hospital or get medical help.

Seeing a doctor used to cost a lot of money. If the person did not have enough money, they did not get the medicine or the help.

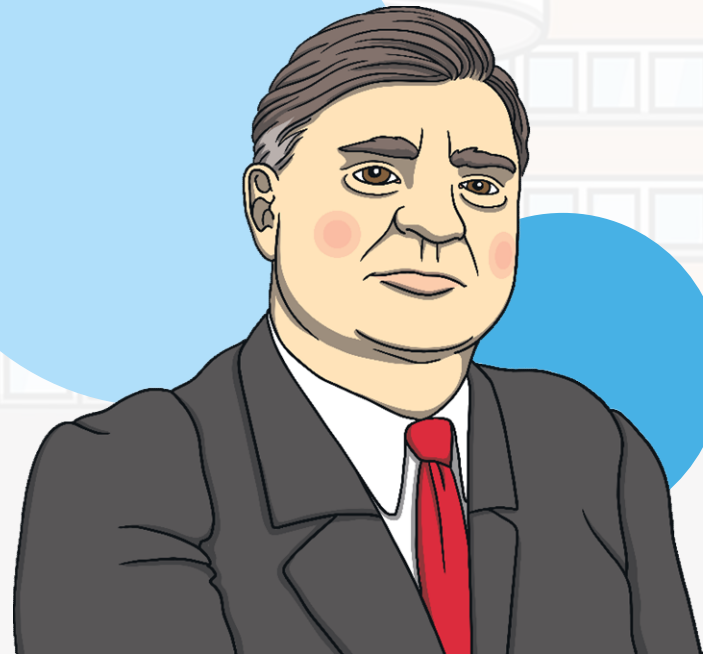


Aneurin Bevan

Aneurin Bevan decided to change things. He wanted everyone to be able to get help when they were ill or injured.

Aneurin Bevan was from Wales.
He worked for the government.

After the Second World War, he was chosen to be in charge of health in the UK. His job was to think about how to keep everyone healthy.



Aneurin Bevan

Aneurin Bevan started the National Health Service on 5th July 1948.

He wanted medical care to be free for everyone in the UK.

This meant that it did not matter whether people had lots of money or not
- everyone could get treated and helped.

