

RE: VACCINES NEEDED FOR SCHOOL ENTRY

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Routine childhood vaccinations are a highly effective way to prevent infections and outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases and are important for the health and wellbeing of all in the community. By law, under the Immunization of School Pupils Act, parents of students who attend school are required to provide to their local Public Health Unit a complete vaccine record or a valid exemption for each student for the following diseases: diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, and meningococcal diseases.

Every year, Hamilton Public Health Services reviews the vaccination record of every child attending a school in the Hamilton area, to ensure their vaccinations are up to date according to Ontario's Immunization Schedule.

If Hamilton Public Health Services does not have an up-to date vaccination record or valid medical/non-medical exemption on file for your child, the student may be suspended from school under the Immunization of School Pupils Act.

Please ensure Public Health is informed of all your child's vaccine records. This can be communicated either online or by completing the enclosed Vaccine History form.

a) To report online:

- Visit the following page: www.hamilton.ca/reportingvaccines
- Alternatively, you can scan the provided QR code for quick access.



- If you are experiencing issues with accessing online reporting, please contact Public Health at 905-540-5250.

b) To report using the enclosed paper-based Vaccine History form:

- Fill out the top section.
- Record dates and vaccines or attach a copy of your child's vaccine record.
 - If you don't have your child's vaccine record, please obtain a copy from your primary care provider. Note: Healthcare providers do not report vaccine records to Public Health.
- To submit the Vaccine History form before the start of the school year:
 - Please return the information to Hamilton Public Health using one of the following methods:

Mail: Vaccine Program P.O. Box 897, Hamilton, ON L8N 3P6

Phone: 905-540-5250

Drop-off: 110 King St. West, Hamilton ON, 2nd floor.

If necessary, obtain any missing vaccines from your primary care provider or a walk-in clinic and report the vaccinations to Public Health.

Please remember to notify Public Health each time your child receives a vaccine while attending school. This helps us maintain accurate records and ensures that all necessary information is recorded.

If there is a medical reason why a vaccine cannot be given, or you wish to complete a statement of conscientious belief you can visit our website for instructions on obtaining an exemption. Instructions, legal forms, and conditions can be found under "Vaccines and Children" then "Vaccines and the Law" at www.hamilton.ca/vaccines.