



## Dear Parent/Guardian

We are pleased to inform you that Hamilton Public Health Services will be offering a school vaccine catch-up clinic for students in grades 7, 8, 9 & 10. The clinic is open to students who missed receiving a first or second doses of **Hepatitis B, HPV and Meningococcal ACYW135 vaccines** as a result of the school immunization program being put on hold due to the pandemic.

The catch-up clinic will be held at the Mountain Vaccine Clinic at LimeRidge Mall, 999 Upper Wentworth St. in the existing COVID-19 vaccine clinic space. Appointments will need to be booked in advance for school-based vaccines. Appointments can be booked 14 days in advance, with new appointment dates being added daily. Vaccine clinics hours and days of operation will be adjusted as needed. Appointments can be booked by visiting <a href="https://www.hamilton.ca/catchupclinics">www.hamilton.ca/catchupclinics</a> or calling (905) 974-9848.

The COVID-19 vaccine will continue to be available to all eligible populations at this location and can be administered at the same time.

The student vaccines are as follows:

- 2 doses of Hepatitis B are recommended in grade 7 and are free for students in grades 7, 8 & 9. For students in grade 10, the vaccine is also free however 3 doses are required.
- 2 doses of Human Papillomavirus (HPV9) are recommended in grade 7 and are available for free until the child has graduated grade 12. If the child begins the HPV9 series at age 15, the series becomes a 3 doses series.
- 1 dose of Meningococcal ACYW135 is required in grade 7 and is available for free until the child has graduated grade 12. Please note that this Meningitis vaccine is the adult version of the one your child received at 12 months of age.

Parents/guardians are asked to update their youth's vaccination records if vaccines have already been received. More information on how to update these records can be found by visiting the <a href="Reporting Vaccines webpage">Reporting Vaccines webpage</a> or by calling 905-546-2424, ext.7556.

If you are unsure if your child has received Hepatitis B, Meningococcal or HPV vaccinations, please contact your health care provider and/or visit <a href="https://hph.icon.ehealthontario.ca/">https://hph.icon.ehealthontario.ca/</a> to download or submit your child's vaccinations. Please note that vaccinations that have not been reported to public health will not show on the downloaded record.

Prior to arriving for your child's appointment, please be prepared for the following:

- Review the facts and information about each vaccination your child will be consenting to receive. Information about each vaccination can be found at www.hamilton.ca/vaccines
- Ensure your child has eaten before the appointment and is wearing a shortsleeved shirt
- Consent to receive vaccine(s) will be discussed and obtained at the clinic. A consent form does not need to be completed prior to attending the clinic.

Thank you,

Julie Prieto, RN, MHM