

October 4, 2021

Dear parents and guardians,

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the second round of immunization for Grade 7 students was postponed in the 2020-21 school year. As communicated in late September, Public Health has coordinated clinics to allow for Grade 7 students from the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years to get their immunizations this fall. We will also offer immunizations to students who may have missed in the 2019-20 school year, where applicable.

These vaccines include:

- Hepatitis B
- Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
- Meningococcal ACYW-135
- Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis. (Tdap)

You will receive information through your child's school about school-based immunization clinics. If your child is unable to attend the scheduled school-based clinic, other arrangements can be made with Public Health to ensure your child is immunized.

**NEW: The National Advisory Committee on Immunization has just released guidance that there is no need to wait between receiving a COVID vaccine and receiving other vaccines, or vice versa. It is safe to receive other vaccines immediately before or after the COVID-19 vaccine, or at the same time. Therefore, your child can receive their school-based immunizations either before or after their COVID-19 vaccine, without any delay.**

Each clinic will be setup to follow guidelines that help reduce and prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses. This includes everything from how the physical space is set up with appropriate spacing to cleaning protocols to how many people we have in the space at a time. There will be staff and signs at each clinic to help everyone understand where they need to be and what they need to do.

We are including a frequently asked questions document that we hope will be helpful. If you have further questions about these school-based immunization clinics, please reach out to your local public health office: <http://www.nshealth.ca/public-health-offices>

Sincerely,

Nova Scotia Health Public Health