

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT GRADE 7 VACCINATIONS

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) provides free vaccinations to Grade 7 students in the schools in the fall and in the spring.

The grade 7 vaccine clinic at Princess Margaret Public School is scheduled for Monday October 28th, 2024.

Students in Grade 7 are offered three important vaccines:

- **Meningococcal vaccine**
 - Protects against four of the most common strains of meningococcal disease (A, C, Y, and W135) that can lead to meningitis, a bacterial infection that affects the lining of the brain and spinal cord. Meningitis can spread easily and be very serious.
- **Hepatitis B vaccine**
 - Protects against liver cancer and liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus. This vaccine is often required or recommended for travel, post-secondary school and certain jobs.
- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**
 - Protects against cancers of the head, neck and genital areas, as well as warts. It covers nine different and very common types of HPV, a virus that many people come in contact with at some point in their life.

I ask that you:

- Review the vaccine information in the fact sheets linked below:
 - [English](#)
 - [français \(French\)](#)
 - [አማርኛ \(Amharic\)](#)
 - [عربي \(Arabic\)](#)
 - [دري \(Dari\)](#)
 - [हिन्दी \(Hindi\)](#)
 - [नेपाली \(Nepali\)](#)
 - [español \(Spanish\)](#)
 - [tagalog](#)
 - [ትግርኛ \(Tigrinya\)](#)
 - [Tiếng Việt \(Vietnamese\)](#)

- **Complete the [online consent form](#) for your child as soon as possible** to let the public health nurse know if your child can receive the vaccines. If your child has already received any of these vaccines, please note that on the form.

I strongly recommend that you have your child vaccinated against these diseases. These vaccines are safe and effective and greatly reduce the risk of serious illness when the full series is completed.

Public Health wants school vaccinations to be a positive experience for students. The [CARD system](#) can help your child feel more comfortable during their vaccination. It stands for Comfort, Ask, Relax, and Distract – strategies your child can use to make the experience easier. You can help by talking with your child about what might make them feel better, like bringing a favorite toy, using a device or practicing deep breaths. Together, you can plan which CARDS they want to use on the day of their vaccination using the [CARD checklist](#). This can help your child feel more in control and less nervous.

If you have questions or need help completing the consent form, please call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006 to speak with a public health nurse. For more information, please visit www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca/immunizegr7.

Sincerely,



Dr. Matthew Tenenbaum, MD, CCFP, MPH, FRCPC
Associate Medical Officer of Health