



January 17, 2024

To: Parents and/or Guardians of Grade 8 to 12 Students
From: Ottawa Public Health (OPH)
Subject: Winter 2024 High School Catchup Immunization Clinics

Due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, some students may have missed the opportunity to receive their vaccines normally offered at school in Grade 7 (including Meningococcal Conjugate ACYW-135, Human Papillomavirus and Hepatitis B vaccines), and their adolescent Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis booster. To help children catch-up on their vaccines, OPH will be holding an upcoming immunization clinic at your child’s school. Flu and COVID-19 vaccines will also be available.

To find out the specific dates for your child’s school clinic, please visit the OPH [Parenting in Ottawa](#) webpage. Additional information, including the exact clinic date(s) will be shared in advance by your child’s school. Please find information about each vaccine offered, linked below.

What vaccines are being offered?

Vaccine	How many doses?	Who is eligible?
Meningococcal (Menactra® or Nimenrix®)	1 dose	All students *required as of Grade 7
Human Papillomavirus (Gardasil® 9)	2 doses or 3 doses (depending on age of first dose)	All students
Hepatitis B (Engerix®-B or Recombivax®)	2 doses or 3 doses (depending on age)	All students
Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) (Adacel® or Boostrix®)	1 dose	Depending on last dose (*required 10 years after the dose that’s normally given between the ages of 4 and 6), and is normally given by a person’s health care provider.
COVID-19 (latest XBB version)	1 dose	All students
Influenza (Flu)	1 dose	All students

How does my child get the vaccines?

- Please print and return the signed consent forms, included in this package, with your child on the day of the clinic.
 - Speak with your child about the vaccines.
 - You and your child need to sign the consent form for EACH vaccine you want your child to get and indicate “no” for the vaccines you do not consent to.
 - If you do not have a printer, please have your child pick up a paper consent at the school’s main office.
- These vaccines are publicly funded, so no payment is needed.
- To submit your child's immunization record or for additional information about childhood vaccines visit ParentinginOttawa.ca/immunization



- Nurses in the clinics will have access to students' electronic immunization records. The nurses can let your child know if a vaccine that you gave consent for is not required, or if your child is missing a vaccine.

On the day of the immunization clinic, your child should:

- Eat a good breakfast.
- Bring an extra juice or snack to school.
- Wear short sleeves or a loose shirt so that the upper arm can be exposed easily, without undressing.
- Bring the consent forms to school.

Please note: For safety, confidentiality, and efficiency, OPH is not able to accommodate parents who wish to remain with their child during immunization in our school clinics.

If you have questions about the vaccines or our catch-up clinics, please visit our [Parenting in Ottawa Immunization](#) webpage.

Sincerely,

Ottawa Public Health Immunization Unit