

December 15, 2021

Dear parents, guardians and students,

As we enter into the holiday season, AHS is encouraging students to get immunized against COVID-19 to limit the spread in the community. COVID-19 immunization is our first and best line of defense against COVID-19 and is an important part of protecting the health of students in all schools.

Appointments for first doses for children 5 to 11 years of age continue to be available through the [Alberta Vaccine Booking System](#) or by calling 811. AHS vaccine clinic sites are open 7 days a week, 12 hours a day through the holidays except Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine for children, see this [letter](#) from Dr. Deena Hinshaw to parents and guardians.

People aged 12 and over can also receive immunization at [participating pharmacies](#) and physician offices, in addition to booking [online](#) or by calling 811.

Anyone who received a first dose of vaccine eight weeks ago or longer is eligible to book an appointment for a second dose. Individuals who have symptoms will not be immunized. If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 they should stay home and away from others (isolate). Use the COVID-19 Self-Assessment tool (ahs.ca/testing) to book a COVID-19 test and get further instructions.

Together, we can boost immunization rates and in turn help enhance the safety of students, their families, teachers and school staff.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Joanne Coldham RN M Ed
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