Dear Father C.W. Sullivan Catholic Elementary School Families,

On Tuesday, March 26th, 2024, from approximately 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, Peel Public Health will offer an immunization clinic for students attending Father C.W. Sullivan Catholic Elementary School. To help protect against serious diseases, students in Grades 7 and up can get some or all of the following vaccines depending on the availability at the time of the clinic. A follow-up school-based clinic will be scheduled to administer any outstanding vaccines or to complete a series (see table below).

* **Meningococcal ACYW-135** helps protect against inflammation of the lining of the brain caused by certain bacteria. This vaccine is required to go to school in Ontario.
* **Hepatitis B (Hep B)** helps protect against disease affecting the liver, caused by the hepatitis B virus.
* **Human Papillomavirus (HPV-9)** can preventcertain cancers later in life.

Students will get these three vaccines for free while in school. When students leave high school, they will need to pay to get these expensive vaccines.

**Consent process:**

* If you have not provided consent, visit [School vaccine program consent](https://www.peelregion.ca/health/vaccinations/school-program/#consent) and follow instructions to complete the consent form and questionnaire. Return the form to school with your student.
* Previously submitted consent remains valid for second and third doses of the same vaccine series unless consent is withdrawn.
* If you need help with registering or completing consent, please call the Region of Peel (905–799–7700) Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.
* A parent or guardian must complete the consent form for students under 14 years of age.
* Students between the ages of 14 and 16 can complete the online consent form on their own.
* If they are able, students 16 years or older must complete the consent form on their own.
* Sometimes a student is unable to register online and complete the consent form. In this case verbal consent may be accepted. For this, the student needs to understand the treatment and why it is being recommended. They also need to understand the risks and benefits of getting a vaccine. For students under 14 years of age, parents will be called by phone for consent prior to their child receiving any vaccines.
* If a student is unable to receive their immunizations at school (i.e. vacation or illness) appointments can be booked [here](https://peelregion.ca/health/vaccinations/school-program/#appointment).

**If you have the immunization record (yellow card), please send it with the student to the appointment.**

The table below tells you the age and number of doses needed for each vaccine.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Meningococcal ACYW-135** | |
| Grade 7-12 | 1 dose only |
| **Hepatitis B** | |
| 11-15 years\*  (2-dose schedule) | 1st dose  2nd dose given 6 months after 1st dose (24 weeks) |
| 16-19 years  (3-dose schedule) | 1st dose  2nd dose given 1 month (4 weeks) after 1st dose  3rd dose given 5 months (20 weeks) after 2nd dose |
| **HPV-9** | |
| 11-14 years\*  (2-dose schedule) | 1st dose  2nd dose given 6 months after 1st dose (24 weeks) |
| 15 years and over  (3-dose schedule) | 1st dose  2nd dose given 2 months (8 weeks) after 1st dose  3rd dose given 4 months (16 weeks) after 2nd dose |

 \*Immunocompromised individuals in this age group may require a 3-dose series.

Not sure if your child has had these vaccines? Please look at your child's immunization record (yellow card). You can also check immunization records online here: [Immunize Connect Ontario (ICON) website](https://peel.icon.ehealthontario.ca/#!/welcome). If you are still not sure what your child needs, please ask their doctor. You can also call Peel Public Health at 905–799–7700 (toll free: 1–888–919–7800) before registering.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. You can find more information about immunizations at [peelregion.ca/immunize](https://www.peelregion.ca/immunize/).

Sincerely,

Immunization Services Division

Peel Public Health