

# Welcome to Kindergarten!

Public Health wants to help you and your child have a successful, healthy start to their education.

In Ontario, all school students are required to be immunized for nine childhood illnesses (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella, and Meningococcal disease).



## Before your child starts school:

- ✓ Ask your doctor or health clinic to provide you with a copy of your child's immunization records.
- ✓ Review the required immunizations on the back and have your health care provider update your child's vaccines as needed.
- ✓ Obtain all copies of records and submit to Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services.

**Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services requests that all new school registrants submit their immunization records or a valid exemption to the Vaccine Preventable Disease program at Public Health.**

## There are four ways to submit your child's immunization records:



### By phone

519-575-4400 ext. 5001



### By fax

519-885-7260



### By email

immunizationservices@  
regionofwaterloo.ca



### Online

regionofwaterloo.ca/  
updateimmunizations



**If we do not receive your child's immunization records or a valid exemption, you will be further notified through our suspension process and your child can be suspended for up to 20 days. Our goal is to help avoid suspension from school.**

## Frequently asked questions



**My child's immunizations are up-to-date. They are entering kindergarten in September.**

**Do I need to get the four to six year immunization prior to entering Kindergarten?**

The four to six year (school entry) immunizations can be given anytime between four and six years of age (i.e., at the time of school entry). However, in general it is recommended that children receive immunizations as soon as possible once eligible. You can have this done with your Health Care Provider.

**Why doesn't my child's doctor or school submit my child's record to Public Health?**

Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) are responsible for updating Public Health every time their child receives an immunization. Your child's Health Care Provider and school are not mandated to report your child's immunizations. In some cases, your Health Care Provider may tell you that your child's immunizations are up-to date. However, the information may not have been reported to Public Health. We recommend that you obtain a copy of the record and submit it to the Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services.

**What if I have more questions regarding exemptions, schedules, etc?** Call Public Health to speak to a Nurse at 519-575-4400 ext 5003. Our phone lines are open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – noon and 1 – 4:30 p.m. (excluding holidays).

## What does my child need to attend school?

Immunization	Common brand names	Doses required per age group*	
		Junior/Senior Kindergarten (before seventh birthday)	Grades 1 to 6 (or after seventh birthday)
<b>Diphtheria, Tetanus, acellular Pertussis</b> (DTaP/DTP/Tdap-IPV)	Pediacel Adacel-Polio Quadracel	4 or more doses	5 doses (1 dose after the fourth birthday)
<b>Polio</b> (IPV or OPV)	Imovax Adacel-Polio Pediacel Quadracel	More than 3 doses	3 to 4 doses (1 dose after the fourth birthday)
<b>Measles, Mumps, Rubella</b> (MMR or MMR-V)	MMR III Priorix Priorix-Tetra Proquad	1 dose (after first birthday)	2 doses (at least one month apart)
<b>Varicella</b> (if born after 2010)	Varivax Varilrix Priorix-Tetra Proquad	1 dose	2 doses
<b>Meningococcal</b> (Men-C-C or Men-C-ACYW135)	Menjugate Neisvac Menactra Menveo	1 dose (after first birthday)	1 dose (after first birthday)

\*Doses must be appropriately spaced to be considered valid.