

Date: May 13, 2021

To: Superintendents, Teachers, School Staff, Parents and Students

From: Medical Officers of Health – South Zone

RE: Update on the School Immunization Program in the South Zone

This year we have been unable to provide routine school immunizations for Gr. 6, 7 and 9 students due to the urgent and ongoing response required by Public Health to the Pandemic. **All school immunizations will continue to be on hold for the remainder of this school year** for this reason, and due to the shift of student learning from the classroom to at-home learning due to high COVID 19 case numbers in Alberta.

There are no school program immunizations being offered in local Public Health offices for Gr. 6, 7 or 9 students, for Home school or At Home learning students at this time. However, appointments can be booked at local Public Health offices for students whom are not up-to-date with their primary immunizations:

- If your child has not received at least 4 doses of Tetanus containing vaccine by age 4 or 5, and two doses of Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella vaccine:
 - please contact your local Public Health office now to inquire with an Registered Nurse and to book an appointment
- If your child receives an injury where a cut or break in the skin occurs:
 - please talk with an Intake RN at your local Public Health office 0800-1600hr, or call Health Link at #811 after business hours
 - this injury could increase the risk of infection with tetanus bacteria and your child may need a booster of tetanus containing vaccine

We recognize the importance of school immunizations and the valuable role they play in preventing communicable diseases, and we will keep you informed as we prepare to resume school immunizations in the future.

We have a very strong Public Health Nursing team to meet the challenge of resuming school immunizations in the Fall of 2021.

Please visit [ahs.ca/covidschools](https://www.ahs.ca/covidschools) for COVID-19 information and resources that may help you and your family.

Thank you for your support and understanding!