

**Elgin St. Thomas Site**

Administrative Office
1230 Talbot Street
St. Thomas, ON
N5P 1G9

Woodstock Site

410 Buller Street
Woodstock, ON
N4S 4N2



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From the Office of Dr. Joyce Lock, Medical Officer of Health, Southwestern Public Health

Vaccinations for school-aged youth

Southwestern Public Health will soon begin its annual in-school Grade 7 vaccination program. Student attending in-school learning will receive vaccinations in fall 2020, and those attending virtual schools will be offered appointments beginning January 2021. We are also actively planning flu clinics.

This year in particular we encourage primary care providers to educate families about the importance of children receiving routine immunizations on-time, especially if they are attending in-school learning.

For primary care-delivered immunization, refer to the [Guidance for Immunization Services During COVID-19](#), developed by Public Health Ontario in consultation with the National Advisory Council on Immunizations.

Please also consider sharing the attached patient-facing resource with families of school aged children to help articulate which vaccines are required for in-school learning, and how to report vaccinations to avoid student exclusion from school.

Thank you,

Dr. Joyce Lock
Medical Officer of Health
Southwestern Public Health
1-800-922-0096
www.swpublichealth.ca