



Board Office

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August 30, 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians:

We are excited for the start of this school year and are planning to open our schools with fewer restrictions and a richer programming than in the past two years. Schools will operate much as they did in the closing weeks of the previous school year.

The impact of Covid on our students has been significant. The restrictions, periods of remote learning, limited programming and lack of extra-curricular activities have all had an impact. Students attended less and learned less, they missed their friends. Levels of anxiety and depression increased. We've documented these impacts and our school's efforts to minimize them in "Seven Oaks by the Numbers, Covid-19 Edition published on our website (click [here](#) to view the document). Please look it over.

We are hopeful that time, the efforts of our staff and a return to normal will help our students to flourish again.

While school environments are classed as "low risk" environments, the risk of Covid-19 infection remains so we will still exercise caution and count on your cooperation and support.

Please keep children home if they have cold/flu symptoms. Any students testing positive for Covid should stay home for five days and wear a medical mask upon their return to school for a period of ten days.

Rapid Antigen Test Kits and Medical Masks are available upon request in all school offices.

Vaccination has proved highly effective in limiting both the spread and severity of Covid. An information sheet on vaccination for school age children is attached.

We will continue to operate our **ventilation systems** to maximize air exchange.

We thank you for your cooperation and support. We'll do everything we can to make 2022-2023 school year the best.

Sincerely,

Brian P. O'Leary
Superintendent

BPO/dlh



COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

Who can get the vaccine?

Q & A

All people in Manitoba **aged 6 months and older** are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination.

Is the vaccine safe?



The COVID-19 vaccines **authorized by Health Canada** and recommended by the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**, are proven to be safe and very good at preventing serious or fatal cases of COVID-19.

Is my child eligible for a booster?



Manitoba Health is advising that all children **aged five to 11** can now receive a booster dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. A booster dose is particularly important for children with an underlying medical condition that places them at high risk of severe illness due to COVID-19.

Where can I get the vaccine?



Many **pharmacies and medical clinics** are now offering the COVID-19 vaccine.

For a complete list of locations visit <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/finder.html>

All COVID-19 vaccines currently available were developed to be effective against the original strain of the virus. A new vaccine currently under review by Health Canada, called a bivalent vaccine, has been developed to provide protection against the original strain as well as an Omicron variant.

Additional Resources

- COVID-19 in Manitoba: www.manitoba.ca/COVID19
- Vaccine campaign: www.manitoba.ca/vaccine
- Testing information: www.manitoba.ca/covid19/testing/index.html