

# Backpack HEALTH CHAT

Second Edition



## In-School Vaccine Clinics

York Region Public Health is pleased to invite children aged five (or turning five in 2021) to 11 and their eligible family members to book an appointment for their first, second or third dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty) COVID-19 vaccine at any school-based or community clinic.

Children aged five (or turning five in 2021) to 11 will require parental consent, while children born in 2009 and earlier can provide consent for themselves. Please note, children aged five to 11 will NOT be vaccinated without a parent or legal guardian present or without a signed consent form.

At this time, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommends children aged five to 11 receive the paediatric Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at least 14 days before or after another vaccine, including the flu shot.

To book an appointment, see a full list of clinics currently operating and available at [york.ca/COVID19Vaccine](http://york.ca/COVID19Vaccine) or call Access York at 1-877-464-9675. Information on the [york.ca](http://york.ca) website can be translated into multiple languages through Google translate.



## You are invited to a **BEARY BEACHY** COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic!

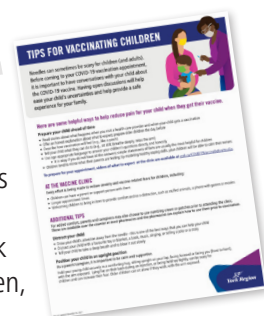
For two days only on **Saturday, December 18** and **Sunday, December 19** at St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic High School (indoor gym), vaccinations will be available for kids ages five to 11 **by appointment only** from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. You can book online or call Access York for assistance at 1-877-464-9675.

This special clinic is your opportunity to get your child a paediatric COVID-19 vaccine while they enjoy some Beary special perks including special guests, music, tropical decorations and beach attire, a beach themed selfie station, giveaways and more!



## Talking to Your Kids About Vaccination

It's normal for parents, caregivers and children to have questions about immunization for children. York Region Public Health has put together a helpful guide with information on what to expect when your child receives a vaccine, tips for reducing pain and anxiety and additional resources. Over 30% of children ages five to 11 have already received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine in York Region. If you are looking for more information on paediatric vaccines for children, please take the time to read [Tips for Vaccinating Children](#)



Safe safe. Stay informed.  
[york.ca/SafeAtSchool](http://york.ca/SafeAtSchool)

  
York Region

## Travel Requirements and Returning to School

With the winter break fast approaching and developing information on international travel guidelines, we would like to remind you of the [federal testing and quarantine requirements](#) for all travellers outside of Canada.

Emerging information on the Omicron variant has resulted in new travel precautions, which have the potential to evolve into the new year. Please be vigilant when planning travel and talk to your school principal about alternative learning plans for children who travel outside of Canada.



## Community-based COVID-19 testing will continue being offered at two school sites in York Region

George Street Public School in the Town of Aurora and St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic High School in the City of Vaughan will continue to offer testing through the month of December, in addition to local [COVID-19 Assessment Centres and pharmacies](#).

Testing at George Street School and St. Jean de Brebeuf Catholic High School will be available for students, children, school/child care staff, essential visitors and their families age two and older. Testing options include PCR saliva and nasal swabs. The clinician will advise on the appropriate test option.

For more details on preparing for a test, and dates and times when these clinics will be running, please visit [york.ca/COVID19Vaccine](http://york.ca/COVID19Vaccine)

## Healthy Family COVID-19 Check List



- Use the provincial [School and Child Care Screening Tool](#) daily – remember that having even one symptom on the screening tool means you need to stay home for 10 days, have a negative COVID-19 PCR test, or receive an alternative diagnosis from a health care provider
- If your child has been identified as a close contact and is required to isolate, all unvaccinated siblings in the same household must isolate as well for the entire isolation period of the contact; siblings with at least one dose of vaccine (+14 days) who do not have symptoms may attend school
- Get a [PCR test](#) right away if you have symptoms of COVID-19; negative results from a rapid antigen test will not suffice to return to school or work. The only way to tell the difference between COVID-19 and a cold or flu is to get tested. Remember that the isolation period begins from the test date, not the date when symptoms first began
- Get vaccinated – vaccination save lives! Anyone five (or turning five in 2021) can get their shot at a clinic, book your appointment at [york.ca/ COVID19Vaccine](http://york.ca/COVID19Vaccine)
- Have a wonderful holiday season and remember to follow [these guidelines](#) to keep your family and yourself safe and healthy

Visit [york.ca/COVID19Vaccine](http://york.ca/COVID19Vaccine) for more information

