



February 22, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in helping to keep our schools open and safe for in-person learning.

One of the most important strategies in keeping schools open and preventing the spread of COVID-19 is the immunization of students and staff. We want to assure you that vaccines are safe and continue to be the most effective strategy in protecting Ontarians from COVID-19. Being fully immunized is also important for the protection of our youngest children (0-4) years, who are not yet eligible for vaccines.

In our ongoing efforts to make vaccination clinics for five to 11 year olds as accessible and convenient as possible, Chatham-Kent and Lambton Public Health will provide clinics in specific areas of Chatham-Kent and Lambton County, if there is significant interest. Support for such a clinic will be gauged by parent and guardian responses to the attached survey. Please complete the <u>online survey here</u>. It will remain open until March 4, 2022.

We understand this decision can be difficult and you may be uncertain whether vaccinating your child is the right thing to do. To help with your decision-making, we encourage parents to speak with your child's health care provider. Free phone consultations with health professionals are also available by appointment through <u>SickKids Hospital</u> by calling 437-881-3505 or <u>Scarborough Health</u> by calling 416-438-2911 Ext. 5738.

More information about vaccines is also available on our websites at <u>CK Public Health</u> or <u>Lambton</u> Public Health.

Thank you for all that you do to keep your family, our schools and our communities safe by helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Colby MSc, MD, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health

CK Public Health

Dr. Sudit Ranade, MD, MPH, MBA, CCFP, FRCP(C)

Medical Officer of Health Lambton Public Health

CK Public Health Grand Office

435 Grand Ave. W, Chatham ON N7M 5L8 Tel: 519.352.7270 Fax: 519.352.2166

Clinic Services

177 King Street East, Suite 2, Chatham ON N7M 3N1

Tel: 519.355.1071 Fax: 519.355.0848

www.ckpublichealth.com

Lambton Public Health

160 Exmouth St., Point Edward ON N7T 7Z6 Tel: 519.383.8331 Fax: 519.383.7092 Email: publichealth@county-lambton.on.ca

www.LambtonPublicHealth.ca