

BY EMAIL

November 24, 2021

TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 5 TO 11

Subject: Guidelines for booking COVID-19 vaccination appointments

Dear Madam or Sir,

The Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) de Lanaudière's Direction de santé publique, in collaboration with your School Service Centre, wishes to inform you of the guidelines regarding the COVID-19 vaccination campaign for children ages 5 to 11 that will begin on November 24

CISSS de Lanaudière vaccination centres

You can have your child vaccinated in one of the CISSS de Lanaudière's COVID-19 vaccination centres, in Joliette or Repentigny. A schedule has been adapted to the reality of parents with extended hours in the evening and on the weekend. Visit the section *Informations sur la vaccination contre la COVID-19* (in French) at www.cisss-lanaudiere.gouv.qc.ca to find out the opening hours of the vaccination centres.

Two options are available to you:

- **By appointment:** via Clic-Santé on the following website: clicsante.ca/
- **As of December 4: walk-in.** You can bring your child without an appointment to the vaccination centre in Joliette or Repentigny, **on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon.**

Vaccination in schools

Several schools in the region have also been selected as vaccination centres for young people in this age group in order to increase services close to home. Vaccinations will be given after school hours so that parents can accompany their children to their appointment.

Vaccination in schools will be available **by appointment only** and priority will be given to children ages 5 to 11, even if some time slots will be reserved for young people **ages 12 to 17**. You can book an appointment in a school online at the following website: <https://clients3.clicsante.ca/67062/take-appt>.

If it is difficult for you to book an appointment on the Internet, we encourage you to ask someone to help you or to call 1-877-644-4545.

When booking an appointment as well as on the day of the appointment, you must have your child's health insurance card.

If more than one child from the same family is being vaccinated, you must book an appointment for each child in the targeted age group. By selecting back-to-back time slots, you can make one trip to have your children vaccinated.

Information about the vaccination

The vaccine administered to children contains a paediatric dose of the Pfizer vaccine, which has been approved by Health Canada. It is safe and effective. Two doses of the Pfizer paediatric vaccine are necessary. The second dose will be administered 8 weeks or more following the first dose. The second dose is needed to further reduce the risk of transmission and to increase protection, including protection against certain variants, and its duration. An appointment for the second dose will be given on site, at the time of the first dose.

The vaccination offer for children ages 5 to 11 is based on the opinion of Québec's immunization experts (Comité sur l'immunisation du Québec). The objective is to protect young people against the disease and its complications, even though they are rare. Since vaccination limits the spread of the virus, it should also help to ensure that school, sports and social activities can be maintained and young people can return to a more normal life. It also helps to prevent the spread of the disease to more vulnerable people.

Would you like more information? We encourage you to visit the website of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux at quebec.ca/vaccinocovid or to call 1-877-644-4545.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lynda Thibeault, Interim Public Health Director



Encl. Calendar of mobile vaccination in schools