



Hamilton

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June 25, 2025

Dear Hamilton Parents/Guardians,

Ontario is experiencing a large [measles](#) outbreak with over 2000 cases reported since October 2024. Measles is a serious vaccine preventable infection that is highly contagious and easily spread from person to person. Measles can cause severe illness and lifelong health impacts. Infants and young children are at the highest risk of serious illness from measles requiring hospitalization.

Vaccination is the most effective way to protect your children and family from measles and limit spread in our community. Two doses of a measles containing **vaccine is almost 100% effective** in preventing measles. It is safe, publicly funded, and available through your health care provider, a walk-in clinic, or at a Hamilton Public Health vaccine clinic.

Ensure Vaccination is Up to Date.

As summer vacation approaches, it is important to ensure you and your family are protected against measles and up to date with recommended vaccinations. If you are planning to travel outside of Canada, or to an area in Ontario that continues to see increased transmission and community exposures, an accelerated measles vaccine schedule may be recommended. If you have questions about vaccines contact your health care provider or a Vaccine Program Nurse at 905-546-2424 ext. 7556.

Report Vaccinations to Hamilton Public Health

The summer is also a good time to ensure your children's vaccines are reported to your local Public Health Unit. This ensures a high level of protection from vaccine preventable diseases in schools and minimizes the risk of disruption to their in-person learning in the event of any spread of infection in schools. To report your child(ren)'s vaccines, please scan the QR code or call 905-540-5250.



Thank you for keeping our community safe. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Dr. Brendan Lew, Associate Medical Officer of Health