



# Falkland Elementary School

North Okanagan Shuswap - School District No. 83

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

School District 83 is committed to the safety and health of our students and staff. We are working closely with Interior Health to ensure measures are in place to support a safe return to class this fall, including access to COVID-19 vaccine for eligible students 12 years and older.

*Falkland School*, in partnership with Interior Health, is hosting a school clinic for our community **September 17/2021 at 8:00am-2:00pm.**

A message from Donna Kriger, Superintendent of Schools, is located here:

<https://fal.sd83.bc.ca/2021/09/09/message-from-the-superintendent/>

As Interior Health confirms future COVID-19 vaccine clinics at *Falkland School* and throughout the community, clinic details will be regularly updated here:

<https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/covid-19-immunization-clinics/>

## **Mature Minor Consent:**

Interior Health recommends that parents/guardians should make every effort to discuss vaccination with their families and to involve their children as much as possible in immunization decisions.

A helpful link to help with those conversations is located here:

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/covid-19-vaccines>

As you may know, students 12 years and older can provide “mature minor consent” to Interior Health by demonstrating they understand the benefits of, and possible reactions to, the vaccine, and the risk of not getting immunized.

To learn more about mature minor consent visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/informed-consent-for-immunization>

As a parent/guardian, you’re welcome to accompany your child at the time of vaccination.

## **About the COVID-19 Vaccines:**

Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself, your family, and your community from the virus that causes COVID-19. The Health Canada authorized COVID-19 vaccines are safe and highly effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

For the strongest protection against COVID-19, you need to be fully vaccinated. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two doses, and a person is considered fully vaccinated seven days after getting the second dose.

Children 12 years and older are eligible to get the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

Thank you for helping to keep our students and staff safe.

Sincerely,

*Shelly Cull*  
Principal