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## 'Noteworthy Uptick' in COVID-19 in Darien as Booster Shots and Kids' Vaccinations Continue

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**Date :** November 24, 2021

First Selectman Monica McNally provided a short update on "a noteworthy uptick" of COVID-19 cases in town, discussed how they seem to be spreading, asked people to be careful during Thanksgiving gatherings and gave information on when booster shots and flu shots are available in Town Hall.

She said 742 Darien school children received their first vaccine shots already and are due to receive their second shots the first two Saturdays of December.

"There have been 47 new cases and no hospitalizations since my last Code Red update on Nov. 16," McNally said. "[W]e are seeing a noteworthy uptick in local COVID cases, in spite of Darien's very high vaccination

rate."

Town officials think they understand how COVID-19 is being spread: "Contact tracing shows the increase in cases is being driven mainly by household transmission and in-home social gatherings."

Here's what you can do to keep yourself and others safe, McNally said: "As you prepare to spend Thanksgiving with family and friends, please do what you need to keep others safe. Please isolate yourself if you have been exposed or are feeling ill."

### **Full Text of First Selectman's COVID-19 Update**

*Emailed at 5:31 p.m.:*

Good afternoon. This is First Selectman Monica McNally with a COVID-19 update for Wednesday, Nov. 24.

There have been 47 new cases and no hospitalizations since my last Code Red update on Nov. 16. To date there have been 1,828 total cases from 1,162 unique households. Darien Public Schools report 41 active cases.

In November, two Saturday clinics were held in the Town Hall Gymnasium to provide the first dose of vaccine to children ages 5 to 11. A total of 742 vaccines were administered, with second dose vaccines scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 4 and Saturday, Dec. 11.

The Darien Health Department **booster clinics** are being planned for the next three Tuesdays. Registration for a booster shot is made through the VAMS portal. Third-party vaccine providers in our area include Grieb's Pharmacy, Walgreens and CVS.

Tuesday COVID-19 booster clinics also provide **flu shots** that are available to walk ins. We will also provide flu shots every Thursday in December (excluding Dec. 23) by appointment only, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. You can schedule an appointment through the [Health Department website](#).

You can find statewide COVID-19 data [\[here\]](#) and town wide data [\[here\]](#).

As the numbers indicate, we are seeing a noteworthy uptick in local COVID cases, in spite of Darien's very high vaccination rate. Contact tracing shows the increase in cases is being driven mainly by household transmission and in-home social gatherings.

As you prepare to spend Thanksgiving with family and friends, please do what you need to keep others safe. Please isolate yourself if you have been exposed or are feeling ill.

Thank you. Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukah and Go Blue Wave!