

Dear Parents,

July 21, 2015

Immunizations are required by law for entry into North Carolina schools, and as of July 1, 2015 there are new Immunizations required for school entry. There are several vaccines that your child will need to receive prior to entering kindergarten. Below is a basic guide.

VACCINE	Number Doses Required Before School Entry
DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis)	5 doses
Polio	4 doses*
Measles	2 doses
Mumps	2 doses
Rubella	1 dose
Hib (Haemophilus Influenzae type B)	3-4 doses
Hepatitis B (Hep B)	3 doses
Varicella (chickenpox)	2 doses*

Children who start kindergarten on or after July 1, 2015 will be required to have additional vaccines to protect them from serious diseases. Kindergartners will now be required to have **two doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine** if they do not have a history of disease documented by a health care provider and the **4<sup>th</sup> dose of polio vaccine** must be given after 4 years of age and before entering school for the first time.

Thanks to the success of vaccines we don't see these diseases very often; however, they do still exist and can cause serious illness, disabilities, and even death.

In accordance with state law, your child will have to provide proof of vaccination on the first day of school. **You will have 30 calendar days from the first day of school to provide the immunization record.** If proof of vaccination is not provided by the end of 30 days, your child will be suspended from school until proof of immunization is provided as required by law or you show that your child has begun the immunization process. Please remember to bring your child's shot record for school entry. You can get your child's shot record from his/her doctor or the local health department. If a medical reason exist that prevents your child from receiving a certain vaccine, a doctor's letter is required by the first day of school.

To learn more about these vaccines and the diseases they prevent visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines) or the North Carolina Immunization Branch website at [www.immunize.nc.gov](http://www.immunize.nc.gov).

Hope you are having a great summer.

Kim Kubbit