

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The School Wellness Ministry Program provides school health for the Catholic schools. The enclosed packet of information will need to be completed by the first day of school. The law in the State of Indiana requires that your child have certain immunizations in order to attend school. **Please make sure that the immunization information is read carefully, as the Indiana State Department of Health and the Indiana Department of Education have made some mandatory changes for the 2018-2019 school year.** Below is the minimum number of immunizations *required* according to grade level:

- **Pre-School - Pre-Kindergarten: 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 MMR, and 1 Varicella or physician written documentation of history of the Chicken Pox Disease including month and year.**
- **Kindergarten – Fourth Grade: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 2 Varicella or physician written documentation of history of the Chicken Pox Disease including the month and year AND NEW, 2 Hepatitis A.**
- **Fifth Grade: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 2 Varicella or Physician written documentation of history of the Chicken Pox disease including the month and year.**
- **Sixth Grade: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 1Meningitis, 1Pertussis, and 2 Varicella (or physician written documentation of the Chicken Pox Disease including month and year for sixth AND NEW, 2 Hep A.**
- **Seventh-Eleventh Grades: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 2 Varicella(or physician’s written documentation of the Chicken Pox Disease including the month and year for grades seventh through tenth. Parental documentation of disease history is acceptable for grade eleventh.**
- **Twelfth Grade: 5 DTaP, 4 Polio; 3 Hepatitis B, 2 MMR, 1 Tdap, 2 Varicella or a history of the Chicken Pox Disease with a written statement from parent/guardian including the month and year AND NEW, 2 Meningitis, 2 Men B, and 2 Hep A.**

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The Indiana State Department of Health has also made *recommendations* for the **2018-2019 school year** that will eventually become a requirement for more grade levels in the upcoming school years to follow. **These recommendations include:**

- **Fifth Grade: 2 Hepatitis A vaccinations**
- **Seventh-Eleventh Grade: 2 Hepatitis A vaccinations**

PLEASE PROVIDE ALL IMMUNIZATION DATES, UNLESS SPECIFIED, WITH THE MONTH, DAY AND YEAR (i.e.: xx/xx/xxxx) from your child's physician or from the Health Department. Please also understand that we have to report immunization data to the Indiana State Department of Health electronically through the Children and Hoosiers Immunization Registry Program (CHIRP). Please return the CHIRP consent with all other health forms provided so immunization data can be reported.

Please be mindful that these are minimum immunization requirements, and children need to have booster shots for certain vaccinations. Consult your child's physician or health care provider to ensure your child is fully immunized. The Center for Disease Control does recommend that 2 doses of Hepatitis A are needed for lasting protection. Hepatitis A vaccination may be given to any child 12 months or older to protect against Hepatitis A. Hepatitis A vaccination is recommended for older children with certain medical conditions that place them at high risk. Hepatitis A vaccine is licensed, safe, and effective for all children of all ages. Even if your child is not at high risk, you may decide you want your child protected against Hepatitis A. Talk to your healthcare provider about Hepatitis A vaccine and what factors may place your child at high risk for Hepatitis A.

Once your child is accepted at school, please send in the forms found in this packet. We will accept exams that were done within the last twelve months. Please look over the form before sending it to the school to be sure that the above required immunization dates are on the form.

The State of Indiana recognizes only 2 reasons for non-immunization of children. One is medical. If your child has a medical reason for not being immunized, there is a form that must be filled out. A physician is the only health care provider that able to sign this form. The second reason is religious. If religion is the reason, the parent must sign a form **and a list of the objected immunizations. These forms are due on the first day of school and both medical and religious objections must be filled out annually.**

You can send in the information in this packet during the summer months to the school or to our office. Fax copies will also be accepted.

Sincerely,
Maureen VerVaet, RN

