

School Year 2013-2014

Dear Parent or Guardian,

State immunization rules require that all religious and philosophical exemptions must be signed and submitted at the start of each school year.

The parent or guardian signing the exemption must also acknowledge they have read the Vermont Department of Health evidence-based information regarding immunizations that note:

- 1) Failure to complete the required vaccination schedule increases risk to the child and others of contracting or carrying a vaccine-preventable infectious disease.
- 2) People with special health needs attending schools and child care facilities who are unable to be vaccinated or who are at heightened risk of contracting a vaccine-preventable communicable disease and for whom such a disease could be life-threatening.

The evidence-based information is located on the Department of Health website:

<http://healthvermont.gov/hc/imm/schoolentry.aspx>

The exemption forms are also located on the Vermont Health Department website. It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to print, sign and return the exemption form to the school annually if he/she chooses to claim a religious or philosophical exemption.