

April 2, 2008

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Beginning with the school year starting August 2008, the list of immunizations (shots) that students must have before enrolling into school in Vermont will change.

Please note that without the necessary documentation, your child will not be able to enroll in school.

If your child is enrolling in kindergarten* s/he must have received the following immunizations:

- 5 doses of DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) vaccine
- 4 doses of polio vaccine
- 2 doses of MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine
- 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine
- 2 doses of chickenpox (varicella) vaccine

If your child is enrolling in the seventh grade* s/he must have received:

- All of the immunizations listed above and
- One dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine.

Students attending and residing in a residential boarding school* must have:

- All of the immunizations listed in both sections above and
- One dose of meningococcal vaccine

* These same requirements apply to all students entering **as a new student at a new school**. This would include your child only if your child is newly enrolling into a school, and that school is not within the same school district or supervisory union as his/her previous one.

If your child has received all the required immunizations, please obtain a copy of his/her immunization record from the child's primary care provider's office, and send it to the school nurse as soon as possible.

If your child has not received all the required immunizations, please schedule an appointment with your child's primary care provider as soon as possible to assure your child gets the required immunizations before school begins.

If your child has had chickenpox disease, s/he does not need to receive the shot for chickenpox. However, you will need to complete and submit to your child's school a form stating s/he has had this disease. This form is available at your child's primary care provider's office, at your child's school, or at the Health Department's website: http://www.healthvermont.gov/hc/imm/documents/IZ_varicelladocumentation_020808.pdf.





You may claim an exemption for one or more immunizations. Exemptions may be claimed for medical, religious, or moral reasons. However, you will need to complete and submit to your child's school an exemption form. This form is available at your child's primary care provider's office, at your child's school, or at the Health Department's website:

http://www.healthvermont.org/hc/imm/documents/IZ_School_Immunization_Exemption_Form.pdf

For further information or to access the forms listed above, please visit the Health Department's website <http://healthvermont.gov>, click on "Contents A-Z," then click on "Immunization Information for Families and Providers." You may also contact the Immunization Program by calling 1-800-464-4343 ext. 7683 [in Vermont].

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan A. Barry".

Susan A. Barry, MSA, ARNP
Immunization Program Chief

