



Required Student Immunizations

The Public School Code requires public schools to ascertain that a child has been immunized in accordance with Pennsylvania law prior to admission to school. Whenever possible, this documentation should be provided to the school at the new student/parent workshop. **Bear Creek Community Charter School requires that parents provide all required immunization records to the School Nurse no later than August 21st of the year of enrollment.** Students whose parents/guardians fail to provide complete and accurate immunization records to the School Nurse no later than August 21st of the year of enrollment will not be guaranteed admission and will lose any preference in enrollment. Parents are urged to contact their child's primary care physician as early as possible to ensure they receive all the necessary immunizations within the timeframe required.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health requires that all students receive following immunizations before they are permitted to enter school (All Grades):

- a. Diphtheria & Tetanus: Four (4) or more properly spaced doses of DTP, DtaP, Td or DT, or any combination of the three with one (1) dose administered on or after the child's fourth birthday.
- b. Polio: Four (4) or more properly spaced doses of polio vaccine with the 4th dose administered on or after the child's fourth birthday and six months from the last dose.
- c. Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR): Two (2) properly spaced doses of the MMR vaccine with the first does administered at 12 months or older.
- d. Hepatitis B: Three (3) properly spaced doses of the hepatitis B vaccine.
- e. Varicella (Chicken Pox): Two (2) doses of varicella administered at 12 months or older, laboratory evidence of the disease or a physician-signed immunity statement.

The following vaccines are required for students entering 7th Grade:

- One (1) dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) on the first day of 7th grade
- One (1) dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV) on the first day of 7th grade

Children need not be immunized if a physician provides a written statement that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the child. Children need not be immunized if the parent or legal guardian objects in writing to the immunization on religious grounds or on the basis of a strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief. In either situation, written documentation must be provided to the School Nurse no later than August 21st of the year of enrollment. Students whose parents/guardians fail to provide the appropriate exemption documentation to the School Nurse no later than August 21st of the year of enrollment will not be guaranteed admission and will lose any preference in enrollment.

On the first day of school, unless the child has a medical or religious/philosophical exemption, a child must have had at least one dose of the above vaccinations or risk exclusion.