

Spring Kindergarten "Round-up" Letter

Dear Parent:

Please be aware that one dose of DTaP vaccine is required after the 4th birthday. For children who are "up to date" with their preschool DTaP series this will be final (5th) dose that is recommended to ensure prolonged protection, primarily against pertussis also known as whooping cough. For children who are not "up to date" this dose may be the 3rd or 4th in the series and no further doses are required. Because of a 4-day grace period, DTaP vaccine received 4 days or less before the 4th birthday is also acceptable.

The date (month, day, and year) of each immunization must be entered on the Student Immunization Record that is available from your child's school and should be submitted to the school your child will attend.

Waivers are available for religious, health, and personal conviction reasons. However, in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease, students with waivers may be excluded from school until the outbreak subsides.

You are encouraged to have your child immunized well in advance of school opening to avoid the late summer rush at immunization clinics. For immunizations, contact your doctor, clinic, HMO or nearest public health department

Beginning October 1, 2012, local health departments will no longer be able to administer state supplied vaccine to children that have private insurance which includes coverage for immunizations. You are encouraged to check your health insurance policy to determine if it covers immunizations and if so, you should seek those services from your physician or clinic.

You may view your child's immunization record from your computer on the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR). The WIR is a secure computerized data system that tracks immunizations given to people. The internet address is <http://dhfsWIR.org>. To obtain the dates of your child's immunizations, type in your child's name, social security or Medicaid number. In order to access your child's record their social security number must be in the system. If it is not, contact your medical provider and ask that the number be put into the WIR so that you can access your child's immunization record. Address information about your child is not provided.

If you would like further information on immunization, please see the following websites: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/>, <http://www.immunize.org/> and <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/index.htm>

Thank you