



## Important Admissions Notice 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. School officials need to review the child's immunizations records to be certain the child meets the requirements of Pennsylvania Law. **Bear Creek Community Charter School requires that parents provide all required immunization records to the school nurse no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, June 30, 2017.** Students whose parents/guardians fail to provide complete and accurate immunization records to the school nurse by this deadline will not be guaranteed enrollment and will lose any preference in enrollment.

The following Immunization Policy is based on requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Health

**Children entering school (ALL GRADES) must have received the following immunizations:**

- Four (4) doses of Tetanus, and Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussis (usually given as DTP or DTaP); one dose on or after the child's fourth birthday
- Four (4) doses of the Polio Vaccine; the fourth dose must be on or after the child's fourth birthday and at least six months after the previous dose given
- Two (2) doses of measles, mumps, rubella (usually given as MMR)
- Three (3) doses of Hepatitis B
- Two doses of varicella (chickenpox) or evidence of immunity

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.

If a child does not have all the doses listed above, needs additional doses, and the next dose is medically appropriate, the child must receive that dose within the first five (5) days of school or risk exclusion. If the next dose is not the final dose of the series, the child must also provide a medical plan (red and white card) within the first five days of school for obtaining the required immunizations or risk exclusion. If a child does not have all the doses listed above, needs additional doses, and the next does is not medically appropriate, the child must provide a medical plan (red and white card) within the first five (5) days of school for obtaining the required immunizations or risk exclusion. The medical plan must be followed or the child may face exclusion from school.

### **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

On the FIRST DAY OF 7th GRADE, unless the child has a medical or religious/philosophical exemption, a child must have had the above vaccines or risk exclusion.

School health officials will review the child's immunizations to verify the child meets the standards set by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. If a child's immunization records do not meet state requirements, the child will not be permitted to attend school. In the event immunization is against the child's religious beliefs or a parent has a strong moral or ethical conviction against immunization, the parent must provide the School Nurse with a signed "Statement of Exemption to Immunization Law" form stating the reason for the objection. If immunization is not medically advisable at a particular time, a physician must sign the "Statement of Exemption to Immunization Law" form. If a child is exempt from immunization, he/she may be excluded from school during an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease.

### **Medical & Religious Exemption**

Children need not be immunized if a physician provides a written statement that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the child. The exemption statement must be signed by the attending physician. 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 3:00 p.m. on Friday, June 30, 2017. Students whose parents/guardians fail to provide the appropriate documentation to the school nurse no later than one week prior to the first day of school will not be guaranteed enrollment and will lose any preference in enrollment.