

Students enrolled in the School are required to have, at the time of initial entry into School and at the beginning of each School year thereafter, written evidence on file that they have been immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, poliomyelitis, measles (rubeola), mumps, chicken pox, rubella, hepatitis B, and meningococcal disease, as required by Ohio law and applicable Ohio Department of Health ("ODH") regulations and guidelines (collectively "Laws"). Adequate written evidence of such required immunizations shall consist of: (1) a signed physician's statement indicating that the Student has received the required immunizations, including the immunizations received and the date of receipt; or (2) a signed statement by the Parent indicating that the Student has received the required immunizations, including the immunizations received and the date of receipt. In the case of a Parent's statement, the Head of School, in his/her sole discretion, may require any other evidence as s/he believes is needed to determine compliance with this policy including, but not limited to, a physician's statement.

The School shall keep an immunization record for each student, available in writing to the student's parent or guardian. No later than October 15 of each year, the School shall report a summary of the immunization records of all initial entry students to the director of health using the prescribed online reporting form, which may be accessed on the following website: <https://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/bid/immunization/schdayca.aspx>.

In the event that (1) a Student has not received the required immunizations OR the Student is not "in the process" of receiving the required immunizations, as defined in Laws, and (2) the Student's Parent has failed to submit adequate written evidence of the required immunizations as set forth in this policy, the Student shall be:

- Excluded from School until such time as the Student's Parent submits adequate written evidence that the Student has received the required immunizations or is "in the process" of receiving required immunizations as defined by law, or that the Student is exempted from immunization requirements in accordance with this policy.
- Permitted to remain in School for no more than fourteen (14) days after initial enrollment in the School or, for a student previously enrolled in the School, more than fourteen (14) days after the beginning of the school year.

Students who do not comply with this policy and any other immunization requirements of Laws shall be excluded from School no later than the fifteenth day after admission or, for students not being initially admitted, no later than the fifteenth (15th) day after the beginning of the school year.

Any Student who is admitted or commences a school year who is "in the process" of receiving the required immunizations, pursuant to Laws, and who does not complete the required immunizations, shall be excluded from School no later than the fifteenth (15th) day of the following school year.

Any Student who is excluded for failure to comply with this policy shall be readmitted upon submission to the Head of School of adequate written evidence, as set forth above, of compliance with this policy and the Laws.

Students may be exempted from required immunizations, subject to any requirements of Laws under the following circumstances:

1. A Parent may present a written statement to the Head of School of objection to immunization for good cause, including religious convictions.
2. A Parent may present a written statement signed by a physician certifying that certain or all required immunizations are medically contraindicated.
3. A Parent may present a written statement from the Parent or physician that the student has a history of measles (rubeola), mumps, and/or chicken pox and need not be immunized against the disease(s) for which the history so exists.
4. Pursuant to ODH regulations and guidelines, a parent may present laboratory testing results signed by a physician demonstrating that detectable rubella antibody is present in the Student and the Student need not be immunized against German measles (rubella).
5. Any other circumstances required by the Laws.

The Head of School may require any other evidence s/he believes is needed to consider a request for exemption and, in his/her sole discretion, may determine whether to grant an exemption to required immunizations.

The School may deny admission to a Student otherwise exempted from the chicken pox immunization requirement, if the Director of the ODH notifies the Head of School that a chicken pox epidemic exists in the School's population. The denial of admission shall cease when the ODH notifies the Head of School that the epidemic no longer exists. The academic standing of a Student who is denied admission during a chicken pox epidemic may be preserved in accordance with the admission, testing, and other policies of the School, and subject to Head of School and Board approval.

The Board and School shall follow the requirements and recommendations of Ohio law and the ODH, if any, with regard to tuberculosis testing of students.

*R.C. 3313.67; 3313.671*