

Dear Kindergarten family:

Your child is on the road to starting kindergarten. What an exciting and fun time! This letter is to review with you several kindergarten health documentation requirements that are needed for the upcoming school year.

Kindergarten Immunization Requirements:

DTaP	5 doses required with one dose after age 4 if born on or after September 15, 2003
Polio	4 doses required with one dose after age 4 if born on or after September 15, 2003
MMR	2 doses required with one dose on or after 12 months of age, and one dose between ages 4 and 6
Hepatitis B	3 doses required
Varicella	2 doses required if born on or after September 15, 2003 OR a reliable history of natural disease

Iowa law **requires** that every student must have a completed immunization record on file at the school by the **first day** of school. If immunizations are in process, the child is enrolled in school on a provisional status. The law allows 60 days for completion. At the end of the 60 days, students will not be allowed to attend school until immunizations have been completed. *A medical or religious exemption certificate will fulfill this requirement. Immunization records are audited by the Hamilton County Health Department.*

Lead Screening:

Iowa law requires all incoming kindergartners must have a lead screening completed prior to the first day of school. If your child has had this done once since they were 1 year of age and they were within normal range, they do not need to be rescreened.

Dental Screening:

Iowa law requires all kindergartners have proof of a dental exam done within the year prior to their first day of school. A specific form is required to be completed and signed by their Dental Provider. A healthy mouth and teeth are important to keep the body healthy, smile, learn without pain and to eat. ***Preschool parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to complete and turn in the required form if they take their child to the dentist during the preschool academic year(s).*** The form is always available upon request from your child's teacher, school secretary, or school nurse.

Vision Screening:

Although a vision screening isn't required for enrollment, the Iowa Legislature recommends an eye examination completed by an eye doctor before a child begins school.

Medication Administration Procedure:

Written parental permission is required for all prescription and over-the counter medications to be given at school. Medications will be administered by the school nurse or staff members who have successfully completed a medication administration course. Medications must be in their original container. All prescription medications should have a current prescription label on the bottle as this serves as our "doctor's order" to

administer them at school.

Health Concerns:

It is important to inform the school of any health concerns regarding your child that may affect school performance. Updating the medical information on computer at yearly registration and contacting your child's teacher or the school nurse throughout the year is vital to ensure we are doing everything we can to optimize your child's learning potential. Just a few examples of health concerns are: Asthma, ADD/ADHD, Allergies (**Including food allergies**), Diabetes, Seizures, and Headaches.

Food Allergies:

If your child has a known food allergy, please make certain to notify the school nurse or your child's teacher. Special forms will need to be completed and signed by your child's health care provider.

Communicable Diseases and When to keep your child home from school:

It is important to inform the school of any communicable diseases that your child has contracted as it *may* be necessary to inform all classroom parents by note. Examples of diseases that we want to ensure are not spread to other students are; influenza, covid 19, chicken pox, impetigo, strep throat, fifth disease, pinkeye, ringworm, mono, head lice. If head lice are found at school, I ask that the child be picked up and complete one treatment before returning to school. Strep, impetigo, pinkeye and ringworm need to be treated for 24hr with antibiotics before returning to school.

It is asked that you keep your child home from school if they should have one or more of the following:

- temperature of 100.4° or higher
- severe sore throat
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- undiagnosed body rash
- inflammation of the eyes
- significant fatigue/tiredness

It is asked by the school district **that your child be free of any of the above symptoms for 24 hours before they come back to school.** If your child has one of the above symptoms, they most likely have a communicable infection.

Recess:

If your child needs to stay indoors for recess for illness, we **MUST** have a doctor's note. The only exception would be for students who have cold-induced asthma & those cases are handled on an individual basis. We monitor the weather & wind chill index & keep ALL students in when conditions are not favorable for outdoors.

PE restrictions:

We **MUST** have a doctor's note if your child is restricted from PE for whatever reason (injury, illness, etc.). Your child will likely have a modified activity to do if at all possible while the others participate in the planned curriculum.

Please feel free to contact the school nurse with any healthcare questions and concerns.

Shelby Fonken, RN