



Elementary School Nurse Welcome Letter

Hello & Welcome to Kindergarten! While exciting, we know that the transition into school can bring with it lots of uncertainty. On this double-sided form we have compiled some helpful hints for the upcoming school year, as well as the requirements that are needed for entry into school. Medical documentation can be emailed or faxed to our contact information listed below. Please know that we are here to help, and are available to answer any questions that you may have. We look forward to meeting your child in the Fall.

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Kindergarten Helpful Hints

- Please have any needed medications such as inhalers or EpiPens, along with signed medication orders (see below), available to be dropped off to school on or before the first day.
 - [RI Asthma Action Plan](#)
 - [Food Allergy Action Plan](#)
- Contact your school nurse with any questions regarding medications.
- A full set (shirt, pants, socks, underwear) of weather appropriate clothing in a labeled zip lock bag in your child's backpack.
- A refillable water bottle.
- Healthy, nut-free snacks (cheese, crackers, fruit, vegetables, etc.)

Kindergarten Health Requirements for Entry

- Copy of most recent Physical Exam (completed within 12 months of school entry)
- Documentation of Vision Screening
- Documentation of Lead Screening
- In accordance with the Rhode Island Department of Health *Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Immunization and Testing for Communicable Diseases* (R23-1-IMM), all children entering Kindergarten are **required** to have the following immunizations:

- ☐ Three (3) doses of Hepatitis B vaccine
- ☐ Five (5) doses of DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) vaccine
- ☐ Four (4) doses of Polio vaccine
- ☐ Two (2) doses of MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) vaccine
- ☐ Two (2) doses of Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine *or* a statement signed by your child's doctor stating that your child has a history of chickenpox disease

All children entering Kindergarten are required to be up-to-date on their childhood immunizations as well as have a physical exam. Please take this opportunity to review your child's immunization record with his or her doctor to ensure your child is protected from all vaccine-preventable diseases. Please contact your School Nurse Teacher with any questions regarding compliance, or needed exemption.

For more information, please visit: www.health.ri.gov/immunization/for/schools