



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The Ocean County Health Department reminds parents of the importance of immunizing your child. Please remember:

- **Immunizations can save your child's life** – Your child can be protected against more diseases than ever before.
- **Vaccination is very safe and effective** – There is a long and careful review of all vaccinations by scientists, doctors, and healthcare professionals before they are ever introduced.
- **Immunization protects others you care about** – To help keep children safe, it is important that you and your children are up-to-date on vaccinations. We have seen resurgences of measles and whooping cough in the past few years. Children should be age-appropriately vaccinated.
- **Immunizations can save your family time and money** – A child with a vaccine-preventable disease can be denied attendance at schools or daycare facilities.
- **Immunization protects future generations** – Vaccines have reduced and in some cases, eliminated many diseases that killed or severely disabled people just a few generations ago.

**For any child entering a public/private elementary school, he/she must have documentation for the following immunizations:**

- Four (4) – DTaP shots - diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) – Some children will have five (5) shots by the time they start school.
- Three (3) – Polio shots – Some children will have four (4) shots by school entry.
- One (1) – Varicella shot (chicken pox) – Unless your child had chickenpox disease.
- Two (2) – MMR shots - measles, mumps and rubella (German measles)
- Three (3) - Hepatitis B shots

**For any child entering sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) grade (must be 11 years-old) and above, he/she needs proof of the vaccinations noted above as well as the following:**

- One (1) – Tdap shot (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis)
- One (1) – Meningococcal shot

There are other **RECOMMENDED** vaccinations for children. Please discuss with your healthcare provider.