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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the school year comes to a close, Benton County Health Department would like to share some important information to help your child be ready for school next fall.

Get Ready for the Next School Year

Summer is a great time to check your child's vaccine status and avoid delays when school starts.

We encourage you to:

- Check which [vaccines are required for school and childcare](#).
- Review your child's vaccine records.
- Schedule any needed vaccine appointments.
- Ask questions about school vaccine requirements and other recommended vaccines.

If your child needs vaccines, contact their doctor or call the Health Department at 541-766-6835.

Our Public Health Immunization Clinic is open Monday – Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Walk-ins are welcome.

Why This Matters

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) recently reported that more students than ever are attending school without some or all required vaccines. Benton County schools are seeing a similar trend.

When fewer students are vaccinated, the risk of outbreaks of diseases like [measles](#) and [pertussis \(whooping cough\)](#) increases. These diseases spread quickly in schools and childcare programs.

You can learn more about your school's vaccination rate by visiting the [OHA School Immunization Data Dashboard](#).

School Exclusion During an Outbreak

Under Oregon law, students who are not fully vaccinated may be excluded from school or childcare during an outbreak. This helps protect them and prevent the disease from spreading.

Exclusions can last from several days to several weeks, depending on the disease. For example, **during a measles outbreak, students who are not vaccinated must stay home for at least 21 days.** Missing school can disrupt learning, activities, and family schedules.

Thank you for helping keep your child, school, and community healthy. We encourage you to check your child's vaccination status now so they are ready for a successful start to next school year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carolina Amador".

Carolina Amador, MD
Public Health Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luv J. Paresa, RN".

Luv Paresa, RN
Immunization Coordinator

 **Parents, don't let your child get left behind!**



Oregon law requires the following shots for school and child care attendance*

A child 2-17 months entering
**Child Care or
Early Education** needs*

Check with your child's program or
healthcare provider for required vaccines

A child 18 months or older entering
**Preschool, Child Care or
Head Start** needs*

4 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)
3 Polio
1 Varicella (chickenpox)
1 Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)
3 Hepatitis B
2 Hepatitis A
3 or 4 Hib

A student entering
**Kindergarten or
Grades 1-6** needs*

5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)
4 Polio
1 Varicella (chickenpox)
2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella
3 Hepatitis B
2 Hepatitis A

A student entering
Grades 7-12 needs*

5 Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP)
1 Tdap
4 Polio
1 Varicella (chickenpox)
2 MMR or 2 Measles, 1 Mumps, 1 Rubella
3 Hepatitis B
2 Hepatitis A

**At all ages and grades, the number of doses required varies by a child's age and how long ago they were vaccinated. Other vaccines may be recommended. Exemptions are also available. Please check with your child's school, child care or healthcare provider for details.*