



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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“The future belongs to the educated”

March 2, 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Re: New immunization requirements starting 2016

Under a new law known as SB 277, beginning January 1, 2016 exemptions based on personal beliefs, including religious beliefs, will no longer be an option for the vaccines that are currently required for entry into child care or school in California. Most families will not be affected by the new law because their children have received all required vaccinations. Personal beliefs exemptions on file for a child already attending child care or school will remain valid until the child reaches the next immunization checkpoint at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or 7th grade.

For more information about SB 277, please see the Frequently Asked Questions available at:
<http://www.shotsforschool.org/laws/sb277faq/>.

For more information about school immunization requirements and resources, please visit the California Department of Public Health's website at www.shotsforschool.org, or contact your local health department or county office of education.

In addition, all eligible adults and children who have not received their Tdap vaccine should get it now to help stop the spread of pertussis. (This will also fulfill the requirements for the 7th grade Tdap entry requirement).

Thank you for helping us to keep our children and community healthy.

Sincerely,

Health Services