

## **Student Immunization Record Collection Policy – Temple Beth El Religious School**

Parents send their children to Temple Beth El as early as 3 months old believing it is a safe space for them to grow and learn. Safety and public health are priorities for the synagogue and our educational programs. To maintain a safe environment and decrease the risk of transmission of preventable illnesses, the vaccination of all students is essential.

The Jewish value *shmirat haguf* (guarding the body) puts a premium on maintaining health, including taking preventative measures. This, along with the clear public health need to protect our community as a whole, informs our policy to require each learner who enrolls in the Temple Beth El Religious School, beginning with the 5780/2019-2020 academic year, to present *certification from a physician that the learner has received all immunizations required by the Florida Department of Health and Environment in the required number, and with appropriate spacing, of doses.*

The purpose of this statement is to verify that students have been immunized for the following age-appropriate vaccines recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

- Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP Series) – Five doses
- Polio (IPV) – Four doses (the last one after age 4)
- Hepatitis B (Hep B Series) – Three doses
- Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) – Two doses
- Varicella – Two doses or a provider verification of Chickenpox disease history on Form DH680
- \*Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis booster (Tdap) – One Dose for students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade
- And any subsequent changes required by the State of Florida and AAP.

Student records must be submitted prior to the first day of school, and show compliance with Florida's State Immunization Requirements<sup>i</sup>. Documents may be submitted in hard copy or digital format and will be securely stored in the office of the Director of Youth Education and Engagement. The school office will follow up with families to obtain records by the start of the academic year. Temple Beth El will not allow any exceptions to this policy except as provided herein. Religious exemptions will not be accepted.

In accordance with Florida Certificate of Immunization, Form DH 680, those returning to the school in subsequent years will submit their latest records as they enter kindergarten and seventh grade. New enrollees are required to submit upon their first registration with the school and at the benchmarks noted above.

We recognize that individuals who have had a documented allergy or severe adverse reaction to a particular vaccine will not be able to receive further doses of that individual vaccine. In addition, individuals with medical conditions such as congenital immunodeficiency or HIV, chemotherapy and transplant patients, and persons receiving immunosuppressive drugs and high dose or chronic steroid therapy will not be able to receive certain vaccines. In these instances, a licensed physician familiar with child's medical condition must document for the Religious School the specific medical diagnosis or treatment exempting the child from further doses of that specific vaccine. In addition, if a parent believes that a specific situation poses extenuating circumstances for their child, and furnishes a letter from a licensed medical doctor (MD) familiar with the child's medical condition substantiating this contention, the Temple will consider such situations on a case-by-case basis.<sup>ii</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> School Health Requirements for Palm Beach County School District  
<https://www.palmbeachschools.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=270616&pageId=6226087>

<sup>ii</sup> Adapted from the URJ's Vaccination Exemption Policy [data.urjcamps.org/docs/URJVaccineStatement.pdf](http://data.urjcamps.org/docs/URJVaccineStatement.pdf)

