

School Vaccinations Help Protect Everyone



Why are we concerned about school vaccinations?

Vaccines protect against serious diseases that at one time made children and their families get very sick or even die. Children who are not vaccinated are at greater risk of getting these diseases. When you vaccinate your children, you protect them, their schoolmates, and your community.

How well do vaccines work?

Most childhood vaccines are 90% to 100% effective.

How safe are vaccines?

Vaccines are very safe. They go through many years of testing before being approved for use. Most reactions to vaccines are minor, like a slight rash, soreness, or mild fever.

What are the benefits to vaccinating your child?

- Your child will be protected from about 12 serious diseases
- You help protect others from getting sick, especially those with weaker immune systems — the very young, the very old and those with health conditions

Where can I get low-cost vaccinations for my child?

Most vaccines cost less than what it costs to treat the disease. Many health insurance plans cover childhood vaccinations. Any vaccine required for school is free at the health department. Call your local health department or (434) 972-6269 for more information.

For more information go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/parents-guide>

