

*Vaccination has greatly reduced the burden of infectious diseases in the world.*

*Only clean water performs better.<sup>1</sup>*



Dear Parent/Guardian,

**In Ohio, certain vaccines are required for entrance into kindergarten.** But to fully protect your child, he/she needs all of the recommended vaccines. The Union County Health Department encourages fully vaccinating children with *ALL* recommended childhood vaccines.

Most insurance plans pay for vaccines with no out-of-pocket cost and programs are available for those who are uninsured. All childhood and teen immunizations are available by appointment at the Union County Health Department. Call (937) 642-2053 today to make an appointment or speak to a nurse about vaccines.

Vaccines are one of the most effective weapons we have against disease—they are safe and 85 – 99% effective in preventing disease. Childhood vaccines have decreased diphtheria by 100%, Hib (meningitis) by 99%, Measles and Mumps by 99%, polio by 100%, rubella by 99%, tetanus by 98%, Whooping Cough by 93%, and Chicken Pox by 89%.

While some vaccine-preventable diseases have become very rare thanks to vaccines, cases and outbreaks still happen. The United States experienced a record number of measles cases during 2014. Making sure your children stay up to date with vaccinations is the best way to protect your communities and schools from outbreaks.

#### **Recommended Vaccines for entering kindergarten\***

- DTaP (one booster) - protects against tetanus, diphtheria & pertussis (Whooping Cough). *Required for school.*
- Polio (IPV) (one booster) - protects against poliovirus. *Required for school.*
- MMR (one booster) - protects against measles, mumps, rubella. *Required for school.*
- Varicella (one booster) - protects against chickenpox. *Required for school.*
- Influenza (one shot annually for most children) - protects against four common strains of flu. *Recommended in early fall.*

If you have questions about your child's immunization status or any of the recommended vaccines, please talk to your health care provider or the Union County Health Department. Call (937) 642-2053 today to make an appointment or speak to an immunization nurse at the Union County Health Department.

Yours in Good Health,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Richmond".

Joyce Richmond  
Director of Nursing  
Union County Health Department  
(937) 642-2053



*Partnering to Protect Health*

<sup>1</sup> Plotkin SL, Plotkin SA. A short history of vaccination. In: Plotkin SA, Orestein WA, eds. Vaccines, 4<sup>th</sup> edn. Philadelphia: WB Saunders; 2004: 1-15.

\* Recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), other medical societies, and CDC.