

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE NO. 324

IMMUNIZATIONS IN SCHOOLS

Background

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools is committed to serve the children and parents within the context of Catholic teachings and traditions. Schools will foster the mental, physical, spiritual and moral well being of all students consistent with fully-permeated Catholic philosophy, theology, practices and beliefs, in keeping with the basic moral principles of respect and dignity for all human life, consistent with Gospel values. Parents or guardians are the primary educators and decision-makers for health care matters for their children.

Procedures

1. Schools are committed to providing health education programs, including with respect to immunizations, which address the moral and ethical aspects of disease prevention consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church. All rooms in our schools are considered consecrated spaces.
2. Catholic Schools are complementary to the family, which is the primary agent for the child's formation.
3. The decision about whether or not a child received any vaccination rests with the parents.
 - 3.1. Parent/guardian consent is required prior to any vaccination.
4. All immunization programs are the programs of Alberta Health Services are established, organized, staffed and administered by Alberta Health Services.
 - 4.1. Alberta Health Services will be responsible for the distribution and collection of permission forms for in-school vaccination programs. Division staff may assist Alberta Health Services in the distribution and retrieval of forms and/or information, without taking on a communication role.
 - 4.1.1. In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, RDCRS will provide notice of Alberta Health Services Vaccination Clinics and permission forms will be made available in schools. This exception is only for the COVID-19 vaccination and does not apply to any other vaccinations.

[AHS School Immunization Letter](#)
[Consent form for AHS - Vaccination](#)

- 4.2. Schools will provide a room for Alberta Health Services to administer vaccinations. Rooms used by Alberta Health Services will be temporarily designated by a sign as “Temporary AHS Immunization Location”.
5. The decision as to whether to allow an immunization program will be made in the best interest of the students’ physical, mental, spiritual, emotional and moral health following the teachings of the Catholic Church, the advice of Alberta Health Services, and the legislation of Alberta.
6. The Board will retain the option to review vaccine administration in schools as required.