



POLICY 25: IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools is committed to serve the children and parents of the Division in the best interests of the students' physical, mental, spiritual, emotional and moral health, following the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church. Schools will help all students to realize their responsibility to transform the world by practicing their Catholic faith. The Board and schools are complementary to the family, which is the primary agent for the child's formation.

1. The Division confirms that parents or guardians are the primary educators and decision-makers for health care matters for their children, and the decision to receive an immunization is a parental responsibility. The Division does not endorse any of the vaccines administered by Alberta Health Services and defers to Alberta Health Services to determine the public health benefits.
2. The Division recognizes that neither it nor its employees possess the expertise nor health care knowledge to determine the clinical need for or to be directly involved in the delivery of an immunization program. All immunization programs are the programs of Alberta Health Services and are established, organized, staffed and administered by Alberta Health Services. Division staff may assist Alberta Health Services in the distribution and retrieval of forms and/or information, without taking on a communication role.
3. The Division recognizes that all immunizations must be wholly voluntary, parent/guardian consent must be granted, and appropriate educational information must be provided with respect to each immunization to parents/guardians before consent is requested.
4. The Division may authorize the use of its facilities by Alberta Health Services for the purpose of delivering an immunization program.
5. The Division maintains the option to review the delivery of vaccines that may be incongruent with the teachings of the Catholic Church.