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November 4, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians:

**Re: Requirements Under BC's New Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation**

BC's new Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation came into effect on July 1, 2019. It supports the gathering of immunization records by local Public Health units. The regulation applies to all students in all schools within the Province's jurisdiction, including those who are home-schooled. It does not apply to children attending schools in First Nations communities.

In the coming months our staff will check the immunization records we have on file for school age children. They will identify children whose records are missing or incomplete. Families of these children may be contacted. They will be asked to provide us with the immunization information required under the regulation. We will also let families know where children can receive immunizations.

Health authority public health units already have complete immunization information on file for most children. For this reason, most families will not be contacted or need to take any further action. If you are contacted, it may only mean that we need to update some information in our files. It may not mean that your child is missing immunizations.

You can use the online [Vaccination Status Indicator tool](http://www.immunizebc.ca/vaccination-status-indicator) ([www.immunizebc.ca/vaccination-status-indicator](http://www.immunizebc.ca/vaccination-status-indicator)) to check if your child's immunization record is missing or incomplete. It tells you if your child's immunization record is on file with public health but does not provide any details about their immunization status or history.

Collecting immunization information allows us to connect with families about the importance of disease prevention. It also helps us respond quickly to outbreaks and helps everyone get back to school as soon as possible.

For more information, please visit <https://immunizebc.ca/vaccination-status-reporting-regulation>.

Thank you for helping to keep BC children and communities healthy.

Sincerely,

Paul Hasselback, MD, MSc, FRCPC  
Medical Health Officer