



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**
Thomas A. Farley, MD, MPH

Commissioner

**NEW YORK CITY
EDUCATION**
Dennis M. Walcott

Chancellor

**OFFICE OF
SCHOOL HEALTH**

May 2013

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The New York City Department of Education is writing to inform you of a requirement in the New York State immunization regulations that may affect your child.

For the 2013-2014 school year, all students entering grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 or a comparable age-level special education school or program and who are at least 11 years of age, must receive the “Tdap” vaccine which contains tetanus and diphtheria toxoids, and acellular pertussis, to attend school you must submit proof of immunization to your child’s school. Please remember that failure to have your child properly immunized may lead to exclusion from school.

Although the New York State law states that students who are 10 years old may begin 6th grade without the Tdap vaccine, they must be immunized by their 11th birthday or they will be subject to exclusion from school.

Two other important vaccines are now available and recommended for 11 year old boys and girls. These are meningococcal vaccine to prevent several types of bacterial meningitis and human papillomavirus vaccine to prevent genital warts, cervical cancer and anal cancer.

If you have any questions regarding these vaccines, please discuss them with your child’s physician or contact the nurse at your child’s school. If you need to find a medical provider or clinic for your child to obtain these vaccines, please call 311. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Platt".

Roger Platt, MD
Chief Executive Officer