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# MCHD HEALTH BLOG

*The greatest wealth of a community is the health of the people.*



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
MORGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.



## BACK TO SCHOOL VACCINATIONS

The upcoming school year will be here before you know it! Thankfully, MCHD has your family covered when it comes to back-to-school shots.

The U. S. Department of Health & Human Services notes that there are five important reasons to vaccinate your child:

- Vaccinations can save your child's life. Getting immunized protects against many diseases. For instance, now that we have the Polio vaccine no cases have been reported in the U. S. This disease used to cause death or paralysis. Thankfully, this shot is available for all children in the United States.
- Vaccines are safe and effective. Vaccine studies completed by scientists and doctors show that there are few serious side effects once you receive a shot. It is important to know that the benefits of receiving a vaccine outweighs the few side effects that your child may experience.
- Immunizations help protect your loved ones. When your child is fully immunized, such as with the whooping cough vaccine, it prevents them from spreading the infection. This helps keep grandma and grandpa, as well as, other loved ones safe.
- Getting immunized now saves time and money. School based vaccines are required for entry. Delaying the process prevents children from attending school. Also, getting your child immunized can prevent disabilities because immunizations prevent disease in children. Vaccines are a good investment and are covered by most insurances or through the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program. Disease prevention is key to having healthy children, families, and communities.
- Getting immunized protects future generations. Over the years vaccines have reduced or completely eliminated serious disease that cause death. An example of this would be smallpox, as it no longer exists. If we continue to let our children receive immunizations, we can hope that some of the diseases of today will no longer be around and harm children in coming years.

We encourage you to get your child's school shots soon. You can avoid the headache, of getting shots at the last minute, by getting them done now! Visit [www.morganpublichealth.org](http://www.morganpublichealth.org) to view school immunization requirements in Ohio. No insurance or no coverage for shots? No problem. Thanks to the VFC program, you may be able to get them for free. Call us at (740) 962-4572 during business hours with any questions you may have or to schedule an appointment.