

2026-2027 Parent/Guardian/Student Handbook
St. Theresa School Bronx, NY

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School Policies

Academic Expectations

The school expects students to perform to the best of their ability. Teachers are expected to evaluate student progress on a regular basis. Students will be given quizzes or tests regularly. **After the test is graded, it will be sent home for the parent/guardian to review and sign or posted to Student Information System (SIS) for parent viewing. A parent/guardian's signature indicates that the parent/guardian is aware of the student's progress. Schools should insert current policy regarding gradebook in Student Information System (SIS) and how tests and work is sent home to be reviewed by parents/guardians.**

Graduation

At the discretion of the principal, each school has the right not to certify the student's graduation or provide transcripts of the student's academic record to third parties such as other schools, colleges, or employers, or to issue a diploma to the student, if there has been a breach of a material condition of this educational contract (i.e., failure to meet financial obligations, infractions against the school's code of conduct, etc.).

Homework

Homework is an essential part of the instructional program, reinforces learning, and provides students with opportunities to practice what they have learned. This practice helps students establish good study habits, become independent learners, and strong readers, writers, and mathematicians. All homework times include 15 minutes of reading (or being read to).

The time allotments for homework (written and study) are as follows:

Grade K	may be given occasional short homework assignments related to the curriculum.
Grades 1 & 2	approximately 30 minutes
Grades 3 & 4	approximately 45 minutes
Grades 5 & 6	approximately 90 minutes
Grades 7 & 8	approximately 120 minutes

Students are required to complete all their homework.

Grades and Grading

Report cards are distributed four times a year for Grades 1 to 8. Pre-K and Kindergarten report cards are distributed **(two to four)** times a year. The report card is an important part of the ongoing communication between the school and the home. Dates for progress reports and report cards are indicated on the school calendar.

Academic Achievement

The first part of the Archdiocesan Report Card is used to mark the student's achievement in academic subjects.

- The achievement mark in each quarter is based upon the demonstration of mastery of material covered in class such as:
 1. classwork/participation
 2. homework
 3. quizzes
 4. formative assessments
 5. summative assessments

Foreign Language will be given a letter grade if the class meets for less than 120 minutes per week. Foreign Language will be given a numerical grade only if the class meets for more than 120 minutes per week.

The Final Report Card Grade is the weighted average of the four previous quarter grades and Final Exam which consists of end-year tests in Religion for grades 3-5, and in all core subjects, including Religion for grades 6-8). This Final Grade will be recorded on the student's permanent record.

- Numerical marks are recorded on report cards for Grades 1– 8.
- The marks are an average of summative assessments, quizzes, classwork, homework, and formative assessments
- Passing is any mark 70% or above or any mark of D or higher.

The parent/guardian will be informed in a timely manner in the event of a student not satisfactorily performing in a course or activity.

The parent/guardian is encouraged to monitor their child's progress by using the Student Information System (SIS) portal.

Character Development

The Conduct and General Effort Scale indicate grades for General Effort and Character Development. A single letter grade is used with progress codes indicating improvement needed in any sub-category.

Honor Roll

The criteria for inclusion in the Honor Roll are particular for each school. An acknowledgment of achievement in academics, a suggested model would be:

Grades 5-8	Principal's List	95% average or above with no individual marks below 90% including specials
	First Honors	90%-94% average: no mark less than 85% including specials
	Second Honors	85%-89% average: no mark less than 80% including specials

Grade 4 will receive Honors for the entire year in June, following the same criteria.

Good conduct is a requirement to receive honors. Therefore, a student must receive an A (excellent) or B (good) in conduct to be eligible for honors. A student who does not receive an A or B in Conduct will not receive honors even though marks might warrant it. **More than 5 lateness will impede your child from receiving honors.**

National Junior Honor Society honors are bestowed to an 8th grader who fulfills all requirements for the society.

Report Card Distribution

Report cards will be withheld if financial obligations have not been met and fees are outstanding.

Retention/Promotion

Very few decisions we make about children are more important than recommendations to promote or to retain a student. When a school accepts a student, that school accepts the responsibility for providing appropriate instruction to help the student achieve the prescribed goals. If the student successfully achieves the program's objectives, the student progresses to the next level.

Testing, diagnosis, and actual performance, however, may indicate that some students cannot follow the school's complete course of study. The principal and school faculty develop for each of these students a special program, based on the school's regular program, which follows the New York State Standards. A copy of the student's modified program is retained in the student's file. Conferences must be held with the parent/guardian periodically to inform them of the specific demands of this program and on-going progress. Therefore, the decision to retain a student presupposes that the school has done everything to help the student achieve success, and the student still has not made satisfactory progress.

If a student is being considered for retention, teachers must begin discussing this possibility early in the school year with the principal. Parent/guardian conferences must be held periodically, and notification of the possibility of retention must be made no later than mid-January, with the written notation having been made on the report card. Although the teacher consults with the principal, the final decision for retaining a student rests with the principal.

The following are specific criteria that will assist teachers as they consider a recommendation for retention.

The student has failed to pass the major subjects on each grade level.

The following table indicates the specific failures by grade level that might result in retention at that grade level:

<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>ACADEMIC PROGRESS</u>
Kindergarten	Evidence that the child is not meeting academic expectations of the program.
Grade 1	Evidence of insufficient developmental progress and a failure in English Language Arts (ELA)
Grade 2	Failure in ELA
Grade 3	Failures in ELA and Mathematics
Grade 4, 5, 6	Failures in ELA and Mathematics, or Failures in ELA or Mathematics and failures in two of the following subjects: Religion, Science, and Social Studies

Grade 7, 8	Failures in ELA and Mathematics or Failure in ELA or Failures in Mathematics Or failures in ELA or Mathematics and failure in one of the following subjects: Religion, Science, and Social Studies
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The student has not demonstrated acceptable progress toward mastery of standards. The following types of behavior might indicate unacceptable progress:

- failure to complete assignments
- failures on multiple summative assessments

Generally, a student would be retained only once in the elementary grades (1 - 5), and only once in the upper grades (6 - 8).

If a student completes all requirements for promotion or graduation, a family cannot self-select the student to be retained in their grade.

Assessments

In addition to class and school exams, every student will take part in the Archdiocesan testing program which includes the Archdiocesan religion tests, interim assessments, and New York State Education Department assessments. All students enrolled at our school are expected to participate in all exams and assessments. No alternative assignments will be provided. **If a parent/guardian refuses to allow their child to participate in the New York State Education Department assessment, their child will not be permitted to attend school on testing dates.**

Archdiocesan Test

Religion Final Exams	Grade 3 to 8	June
Core Subject* Final Exams	Grade 6 to 8	June

*In June, the Archdiocesan Religion exam will be used as the student's End-Year Examination in Religion for Grades 3-8.

Interim Assessments

<u>Interim Assessments – Administered Three Times per Year</u>	
Grades K-8	<u>iReady Inform</u>

NY State Tests

<u>New York State Exams</u>	
Grade	Tests
3	English Language Arts and Mathematics
4	English Language Arts and Mathematics
5	English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science (if applicable)
6	English Language Arts and Mathematics
7	English Language Arts and Mathematics
8	English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science (if applicable) New York State Regents Exams (if applicable)

The faculty of the school reviews these assessments regularly for the purpose of fostering student growth and achievement.

Accidents

Student accident insurance is included in the school's yearly fees. In the event of an accident at school, you may obtain a claim form from the office.

Please note that the school accident insurance usually is secondary to the parent/guardian's own medical insurance coverage.

Admission Policies

Roman Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York base their educational purpose and all their activities on the Christian teaching of the essential equality of all persons as rooted in God's love.

Thus, with discrimination so repugnant to their nature and mission, Catholic schools in this Archdiocese do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, or gender in administration of educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

This policy is subscribed to by all Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the Archdiocese of New York, whether owned or operated by the parishes within the Archdiocese, Catholic school regions, or religious communities within the Archdiocese.

The process for admission to the school is: The parent/guardian must complete the school application form and provide all required documents. For regional schools, this application is found online and is processed through FACTS. Following an interview and evaluation of the materials, the parent/guardian will be notified in writing or via e-mail about the status of the child. For regional schools, this notification occurs via email.

While admission is on a first-come, first served basis, the school endeavors to give preference in admission following these guidelines: first, to siblings of currently enrolled students; second, to Catholic students whose parent/guardian are active members of the parish, or if a regional school, active in a parish in the region; third, to Catholic students whose parent/guardian are active in another Catholic parish or, if a regional school, active in a parish outside the region; and fourth, to non-Catholic students.

After School Program

An after-school program is available to the parent/guardian of a student. As long as a student is engaged in school sponsored programs or activities, the student is expected to follow school policy. Directors of individual activities may also issue rules of behavior, which recognize the special nature of non-classroom activities. In instances where students are picked up, the parent/guardian is expected to make arrangements to pick up his or her children at the end of the program or activity. Students will be released only to a parent/guardian, or a person previously specified **IN WRITING** by the parent/guardian. Program fees are expected to be paid in full upon being invoiced. **Past due balances will result in your child not being allowed to participate in the program until their accounts are brought up to date.** Ms. Diane Fitzgerald and her staff oversee the after-school program.

Announcements

Informational announcements are handled through the school P.A. system. Courteous attention is expected when any message is presented over the P.A. system, especially when prayers are said. All announcements must be written, brought to the office, and approved by the principal. Schools do not consider parent group social media platforms (i.e., GroupMe, WhatsApp) as official communication vehicles of the school.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use in Schools

This policy provides guidance for the responsible, faith-formed, and mission-aligned use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of New York. It supports the holistic development of students—cognitively, affectively, and spiritually—while upholding Catholic values and the inherent dignity of every person.

AI Ethics

In his May 25, 2026 encyclical, [*Magnifica Humanitas*](#), Pope Leo XIV applies Catholic Social Teaching to artificial intelligence and education, emphasizing that technology must always serve human dignity and the common good rather than replace the human relationships, spiritual formation, and moral development at the heart of learning. As he writes:

“Schools are not called to follow the pace of the digital world, but to offer that which the digital sphere by itself cannot provide, namely a shared time for learning and developing trustworthy relationships.”

Pope Leo XIV reminds educators that technology must be used as a tool to help build the “new Jerusalem” by fostering communion, authentic relationships, and deeper connection with God and one another, rather than becoming a modern Tower of Babel that isolates individuals and diminishes human encounter. While artificial intelligence can support learning and innovation, it can never replace the spirituality, compassion, discernment, and personal interaction that define authentic Catholic education. Conversations between human persons, and between humanity and God, remain sacred and irreplaceable. In this vision, schools are called not only to prepare students for a technological world, but also to form them as persons of faith, dignity, and relationship.

[*Antiqua Et Nova*](#) is the title of a doctrinal note published in January, 2025 by the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Dicastery for Culture and Education. This document addresses the relationship between artificial intelligence (AI) and human intelligence, exploring the anthropological and ethical challenges posed by AI.

Core Principles

- **AI is a tool to enhance, not replace, teacher-led instruction and human relationships.**
- All AI use must align with Catholic teachings, respect individual privacy, and promote creativity, critical thinking, and moral discernment.
- AI must be used in a faith-formed manner, with transparency, fairness, and reverence for the dignity of each community member.

Acceptable Uses of AI

Students may use AI for **formative** instructional support, with **clear guidelines and teacher oversight. Any AI use must follow the teacher's assignment requirements, including specific directions and rubrics.**

Acceptable uses include, but are not limited to:

- Students may use AI **under teacher supervision to support learning**, such as through instructional support or language tools. **AI should enhance, not replace, student engagement and reflection.**
- Brainstorming or outlining ideas, provided the student develops their own **original** final product.
- Grammar and spelling suggestions, similar to using spell check tools.
- AI may be used for academic research and other educational purposes aligned with instructional goals and Catholic moral principles. Any use of AI-generated assistance must be clearly cited, even when modified or adapted. Students should clearly acknowledge AI contributions while demonstrating their own learning and original work.
 - [MLA Style Center](#)
- Research support, when used to gather general information or inspiration with proper citation; using AI to summarize a reading, then checking for accuracy and citing it.
 - **Example:** A student uses an AI tool to summarize an article on the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta, then reads the original to verify accuracy and includes a note like:
"Summary assisted by ChatGPT, June 2026."
 - [MLA Style Center](#)
- Practicing vocabulary or grammar through an AI-powered language tool.
 - **Example:** A student uses Duolingo's AI assistant to practice Spanish verbs or sentence structure as extra practice—not for graded work.
- Asking an AI chatbot for help understanding a complex topic.

- **Example:** A student asks a Catholic AI tutor, “*What is the difference between mortal and venial sin?*”, and uses the explanation as a starting point for class notes—crediting the tool when appropriate.

AI use is tailored to the developmental needs of students at different grade levels:

- **Elementary (K–5):** AI tools may be used primarily for formative support, such as vocabulary practice, formative spelling and grammar checks, and guided use of AI tutors for faith-based questions under close teacher supervision.
- **Middle School (6–8):** Students may engage with AI for brainstorming, research summaries with teacher guidance, and language learning tools, with explicit instruction on ethical AI use and citation practices.

Unacceptable Uses of AI

Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to:

- **Academic Dishonesty: Using AI to complete assignments, assessments, or projects without permission or proper citation constitutes cheating. Students must follow teacher guidelines and cite AI assistance when allowed. Additionally, using AI during tests, quizzes, or timed assessments, unless explicitly allowed, constitutes cheating.**
- Failing to disclose AI assistance when it has contributed to submitted work.
- **Inappropriate Content:** AI must not be used to generate or share content that violates Catholic values, including offensive, harmful, or misleading material.
- **Misuse** – AI tools may not be used for harassment, bullying, deception, or any behavior prohibited by the Parent/Student Handbook.
- Asking AI to generate content that goes against Catholic values.
 - **Example:** A student asks an AI to write a joke or story that includes offensive language, misinformation, or content that disrespects people or faith.
- Using AI tools to message or impersonate others online.
 - **Example:** A student uses an AI voice or image generator to create a fake message “from” another classmate. This is dishonest and may count as harassment.

These actions must be addressed according to the school's Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use Policy for Computer and Internet Access (under Telecommunications policy).

In addition to academic dishonesty concerns, AI technologies that manipulate images, audio, or video present serious ethical and safety concerns within school communities

Use of AI for Image and Voice Manipulation by Students

The Superintendent of Schools Office emphasizes the ethical and responsible use of AI. Students, and other digital users, may have access to artificial intelligence tools capable of manipulating images, video, and audio, including the creation of deepfakes, synthetic media, and voice cloning. Such misuse violates Catholic principles of human dignity, truthfulness, and respect for others.

Students are prohibited from using AI technologies to manipulate images, videos, or voices in a malicious, deceptive, or harmful manner, or in ways that infringe upon the rights and dignity of others.

While these technologies can have appropriate educational applications, they may also be misused to generate deceptive, harmful, or unauthorized content targeting peers, staff, or the school community.

Misuse includes, but is not limited to:

- Creating fake, misleading, or altered photos, videos, or audio recordings of others.
- Using someone's likeness, voice, or identity without permission.
- Producing or sharing content intended to embarrass, harass, or harm another person or the school community.
- Using AI or digital tools in ways that violate school policies on intellectual property or copyright. This includes unauthorized use of school logos, images, or representations of the school in digital media (e.g., social media posts or videos featuring the school building, classrooms, or branding) without permission.

AI Use may have the following negative impacts:

- Violations of privacy through unauthorized use of an individual's image or voice.
- Emotional harm, bullying, or defamation caused by fabricated or misleading media.
- Legal and ethical violations related to consent, harassment, and digital conduct.

These behaviors are considered forms of cyberbullying and digital misconduct if they impact the school environment regardless of whether they occur on or off school grounds.

In accordance with New York State's [Jack Reid Law](#), schools are required to respond to cyberbullying that affects a student's well-being or disrupts the school community, even when such behavior occurs outside of school.

Violations will be addressed in accordance with school policies regarding bullying, harassment, technology use, and student conduct.

Additional expectations and supports include:

- Educational programs rooted in Catholic values that promote ethical AI use, digital citizenship, and respect for human dignity.
- Staff monitoring of student technology use and guidance on safe, respectful engagement with emerging technologies.
- Clear reporting structures: all members of the school community are expected to report concerns promptly to school leadership, including the principal, assistant principal, or designated dean of students.
- Parent awareness: families will be informed through the student handbook, school communications, and Back-to-School Night presentations, where this policy will be reviewed.
- ***Parent partnership: parents/guardians are expected to actively monitor their children's online activities outside of school hours and reinforce responsible digital behavior at home.***

All members of the school community share responsibility for fostering a safe, respectful, and ethical digital environment. Through collaboration among students, staff, and families, we aim to ensure that technology use reflects our Catholic mission and upholds the dignity of every person.

Sample Citations for Student Use

Students should cite AI tools just like any other source. For example:

- *"Assisted by ChatGPT, June 2026, for summary purposes only."*
- *"Used Grammarly AI to check spelling and grammar."*
- *"Image generated with Canva AI Art, June 2026."*
- [MLA Style Center](#)

Inclusion

We promote a consistent message to families about the responsible and faith-formed use of AI. Students with additional learning or social needs may require more support—

such as reminders, prompts, or tailored instruction—to help them apply AI use guidelines thoughtfully and safely.

Educators ensure AI-related activities are developmentally appropriate, well-structured, and responsive to students' individual needs.

Information Sessions

Every Catholic school is encouraged to post the Catholic School in the Archdiocese of New York AI Policy on its website and provide clear access to it for families and staff.

Schools aim to offer periodic information sessions to help stakeholders understand the role, risks, and rewards of AI in education.

Unacceptable Material or Use of AI in a Manner Contrary to Catholic Belief

- ***Accidental exposure*** to content that is unacceptable or contrary to Catholic beliefs must be reported immediately to the ***Principal***. ***Disciplinary measures may be taken locally. Accidental exposure includes, but is not limited to:***
 - Children and young people may interact with AI chatbots that, through ongoing conversation, expose them to inappropriate, dangerous, or highly personal content they did not intend to encounter. This can include advice or information on self-harm, risky behaviors, or details that should not be shared with minors.
 - A student unintentionally accesses inappropriate AI content or uses AI without full understanding of citation requirements.
- ***Deliberate*** misuse or exposure must be reported to the **Principal and Regional Superintendent** and documented. ***Deliberate misuse or exposure includes, but is not limited to:***
 - Intentionally using AI tools like ChatGPT or generative AI models to complete assignments, essays, or exams with the goal of bypassing academic work or learning expectations.
 - Using AI-powered platforms to solve complex math or coding problems and submitting those solutions as if they were the result of the student's own efforts.
 - Employing AI to paraphrase or rewrite existing texts in order to evade plagiarism detectors.

- Using AI chatbots during online or take-home exams to get immediate answers to assessment questions, rather than relying on their understanding of the material.
 - Manipulating AI plagiarism detectors by making subtle changes to AI-generated text, such as altering synonyms or sentence structure.
 - Utilizing AI to generate discussion posts or language assignments, intentionally submitting AI-generated content as personal work.
- Serious offenses must be reported to the Principal and the Regional Superintendent and may result in investigation by the **Superintendent of Schools Office** and disciplinary measures taken as outlined in school policies.

Grading

Students are encouraged to use AI responsibly to support their learning. If a student misuses AI, the situation will be handled with care through **local** disciplinary processes, ensuring that each case is addressed thoughtfully and fairly. Misuse of AI may affect academic and/or Conduct and/or General Effort grades.

Community Engagement

The Superintendent of Schools Office, in partnership with schools and Regions, aims to provide parents and caregivers with opportunities to learn about AI tools, their benefits, and potential risks.

Conclusion

This policy will be regularly reviewed to ensure it remains current, faithful, and aligned with the mission of the Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of New York to ensure our schools are Christ-centered, academically excellent, and welcoming communities that teach students to be life-long learners and leaders, energized by fidelity to Christ, the Church, and one another.

Attendance

In the State of New York, full-time education is compulsory from age six to age 16. Regular attendance is the responsibility of the child(ren)'s parent/guardian.

Excused Absence: A child is legally absent from school for the following reasons: sickness, sickness or death in the family, impassable roads, or extreme weather. All other absences are unexcused.

Lateness: A child should come to school even though he/she may be late. All lateness is recorded and marked on the report card. The Parent/guardian will be consulted about chronic lateness, and the child may be required to make up missed work.

When the child returns to school from an absence, the parent/guardian must comply with the school policy regarding notification of absence. Completed absence form must be given to the teacher (See Appendix). This form is distributed at the beginning of the school year and contains appropriate spaces for the child's name, date of absence, class, reason for absence, and the signature of a parent/guardian.

Doctor or dental appointments should be scheduled for after school or on Saturdays. Family vacations are not to be planned for days when school is in session. The school provides families with an annual calendar to ensure that does not happen. If it is necessary for a child to be dismissed during the school day, the parent/guardian or adult (must be 18 years of age or older) chosen by the parent/guardian **MUST** come to the school for the child and sign out the child in accordance with the standard sign out procedure. The school must be informed ahead of time about such occurrences.

Students in kindergarten through grade eight who miss 10 or more days of the school year, whether excused or unexcused, and who have not satisfactorily completed the required work, may be considered for retention. Students with more than 10 absences are in jeopardy of not successfully completing the school year. Principals will meet with the student's parent/guardian to determine appropriate next steps. Certification of an absence by a physician is an exception to the 10-day limit. However, satisfactory completion of required work is mandatory.

When a child is absent, parents/guardians are required to notify the school by 9:00 A.M.

Absence notes are still required upon student's return to school in addition to the phone call.

Excessive absences and lateness may be considered educational neglect.

Birthday Parties

Birthday parties for Grades Pre-K and Kindergarten may be held monthly in each homeroom with the teacher's permission. The parent/guardian should notify the teacher in writing. The parent/guardian may bring small individually wrapped items such as cupcakes, brownies, etc. The Parent/guardian may not bring in favors or "goodie" bags for the students.

Books

All resource materials chosen for use in academic courses must be consistent with the religious nature of our schools. Books, videos, or other electronic-based supplementary resources that contain profanity, inappropriate sexual references, and other immoral information would be in violation of this policy.

All books must be properly maintained and covered. Each child is responsible for keeping his/her books in good condition. Books that are lost or defaced become the liability of the student and his/her parent/guardian. If a book is lost or defaced, the school will bill the parent/guardian for the cost.

1. **ASSIGNED TEXTBOOKS:** When a textbook is lent to a pupil on a semi-permanent basis, the New York State Department of Education requires that:
 - a) the pupil's name be placed in the space provided in each book.
 - b) the teacher makes a record of the number of the book.
 - c) the teacher makes a record of the condition of the book.
 - d) in September, each child will put a clean cover on each textbook received.
 - e) in June, all textbooks are collected, extra materials and covers are removed.
 - f) All workbooks are collected in June.
2. **SUPPLEMENTARY BOOKS:** When books are handed out to the children for use during a specific period within the classroom, they will be immediately collected after they have been read. If the book is to remain with the child for any length of time, his/her name must appear in the book and the teacher should have a record of this.

Buses

Busing is provided within a 15-mile limit to students from their residence. The public school district where the student resides provides and manages this service. If the student is not taking the bus home on a given day, the parent/guardian must inform the school in writing at the beginning of the school day.

To obtain student transportation in school districts outside of New York City, the parent/guardian must file requests with the district in which they live by April 1 of the preceding school year or within 30 days of moving to the district. The Parent/guardian must contact their local public school district to determine their eligibility.

The student and parent/guardian should consider riding on the school bus as a privilege and an extension of the school. Thus, students are to demonstrate a respectful, Christian, and safety-conscious attitude at all times on the bus.

- Students should always obey the driver and monitors.
- Students should do nothing to cause annoyances or distraction to the driver, as this places the safety of all in danger.
- In cases of extreme or persistent misbehavior, the school will work in consultation with the public school district about possible consequences.

Cell Phone/Smart Device Policy

This policy applies to all students enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade during school hours, on school property, and at school-sponsored events (including before/after-school activities, weekends, and holidays).

Policy:

Pre-Kindergarten - 3th Grade: (subject to Principal discretion)

Students in Pre-Kindergarten through 3th grade are strictly prohibited from bringing cell phones or other personal electronic communication devices to school unless expressly permitted by Principal. If a cell phone is found in the possession of a student in Pre-Kindergarten through 3th grade, it will be immediately confiscated and returned only to a parent/guardian.

4th - 8th Grade: (subject to Principal discretion)

Students in grades 4th through 8th who bring a cell phone to school must surrender it upon morning entrance into the school building, during homeroom, or during their first period class. All collected cell phones will be inventoried and safeguarded in a secured receptacle until school dismissal. Students will be able to retrieve their cell phones at the end of the school day. Cell phones collected by the school will not be accessible to students during the school day. Students needing to contact a parent/guardian during school hours may do so through the school office. Parents/guardians needing to contact their child during school hours should call the school office. In the event of a genuine emergency, school staff will facilitate communication between students and their parents/guardians.

General Rules for All Grades (PreK-8th):

- No Photography or Recording: Students are strictly prohibited from taking any pictures, videos, or audio recordings at any time while on school property or a school sponsored event. Unauthorized photography, recording, sending and/or distribution of cell phone/Smart Device content will result in disciplinary action.
- Violation of Policy: Any violation of this cell phone policy may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to:
 - Confiscation of the device.

- Parent/guardian notification and required meeting.
- Detention.
- Suspension.
- Loss of privileges.
- Expulsion.
- School Not Responsible for Lost or Damaged Devices: The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged cell phones or personal electronic devices brought to school in violation of this policy or for devices collected and safeguarded by the school. Students and parents/guardians assume all risk for devices brought onto school property.
- Updates to Policy: This policy may be updated as needed. Parents/guardians will be notified of any changes.

Change of Address, E-mail, Phone

The office must be informed immediately if there is a change of home address, email address, cell phone number, or home telephone number for purposes of mailing and/or emergency notification. All students must have a residential address on file with the school office. P.O. Box numbers are not sufficient.

Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

- All institutions and programs of the Archdiocese of New York will comply with the Safe Environment Policies of the Archdiocese of New York.
- The Department of Education has developed a curriculum for the children in our parishes and schools, entitled "Right, Safe, Good Relationships", which provides age-appropriate instruction in child sexual abuse. The lessons in this curriculum must be given annually to all children in all grades.
- The parent/guardian reserves the right to remove their children from these classes. The school administration should take care to cause as little embarrassment to these students as possible.
- If the parent/guardian chooses not to have their child participate in the safe environment classes, the parent/guardian will be offered training materials and will be asked to sign a form acknowledging that the materials were made available to them. This form will be maintained in the records of the school. If the parent/guardian declines to sign such a form, a notation of this will be made in a record maintained by the school.

Child Abuse Laws

Under NYS law, school personnel are legally obliged to report any suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the proper agency. In so reporting, no allegation is made against a parent, guardian or caregiver. Rather, it is a judgment by the school that the child may be presenting signs of abuse or neglect.

Child Custody

At the time of school entry or at any other time when a change in custody status/arrangements occurs, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide the principal with a copy of the legal document from the parent/guardian for any student for which there is a legal custody agreement or for any student not residing with his/her parent/guardian.

School communication with the appropriate guardian is essential. Accordingly:

- Custodial parent/guardian must identify in writing other adults who may have access to information regarding their child.
- A Non-custodialparent/guardian may receive information (when requested) regarding the child unless specific documentation to the contrary is provided in the legal custody agreement.

A Non-custodialparent/guardian may pick up a child only if written permission has been granted by the custodial parent/guardian.

Communication

Since, as parents/guardians you are the child's first teachers, you are our partners in education. Regular communication with you is an essential part of your child's school experience. Scheduled parent/guardian conferences allow teachers and a parent/guardian to discuss student achievement as well as to develop means to assist students in areas of difficulty.

A parent/guardian may request a meeting with a teacher at any time by simply sending a note to the teacher in question and the teacher will arrange for this meeting outside class time at a mutually convenient time. The meeting should take place in the classroom or someplace that ensures privacy, never in a hallway or on the street. A parent/guardian who is refused such a meeting should notify the principal.

Parent/guardian-teacher conferences will be scheduled each year in conjunction with report card distribution to provide an opportunity for in-depth discussion of student growth. Parent/guardian-teacher conferences are required at the end of the first marking period. Teachers are expected to be reasonably available to parents/guardians throughout the school year to keep open the lines of communication in the best interest of the students.

Respectful communication fosters a positive home-school relationship. As such, disparaging the school, students, administration, faculty, and staff either verbally or on social media is unacceptable, will harm the relationship between your family and the school, and may jeopardize the continued enrollment of your child in the school.

Confidentiality

There is a professional, legal, and moral ethic that requires all persons to safeguard all student information of a privileged nature.

It is imperative that such information be regarded as a sacred trust.

- If there is evidence of knowledge that could impact the health or safety of any person, the teacher has the responsibility to share the information with the principal.
- Under Section 423 of the Child Protective Services Act, school officials are required to report when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child coming before them in their professional or official capacity is an abused or maltreated child (See section on Child Abuse).

The rules that govern privileged information apply, as well, to any personal or academic information that is discovered through daily classroom instruction or other social interaction with students, parents/guardians, or peers. Always, the sense of confidentiality should prevail.

Contacts with the Media

Parents/guardians have the right to exclude their children from videotaping, audio recording, school pictures, other photography or participation involving printed materials or on the internet. Parent/guardians should provide such documentation to the school office; otherwise, they must fill out the media authorization release form. **If enrolled in a regional school, this media authorization and release was embedded within the online registration process, so the written form is not required, unless a family wishes to change their preference during the course of the school year. The Parent/guardian of a student enrolled in Universal Pre-Kindergarten Classes should fill out the media authorization form at the end of this handbook.**

Crisis/Emergency Information

Should a crisis require evacuation from the school building, students will be brought to a safe place located at **St. Theresa Church**, and a parent/guardian should meet them at that location.

Catholic schools throughout the Archdiocese of New York utilize the Immediate Response Information System (IRIS Alert) to notify parents/guardians directly about the crises.

For further information concerning the crisis, parents/guardians can refer to the following:

<u>Radio Station</u>	<u>TV Station</u>	<u>On the Internet</u>
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Daily Schedule

The following schedule will be observed by Grades K - 8:

7:50 AM	K-8 enter from St. Theresa Ave. PreK enter from Pilgrim Ave. school yard.
8:00 AM	School Begins
10:55-1:00PM	Lunch Periods
2:20PM	Dismissal Kinder from Pilgrim Ave.
2:25PM	Dismissal Gr.1-3 from Pilgrim Ave
2:30PM	Dismissal Gr4 from Pilgrim Ave
2:30PM	Prek dismissal from Pilgrim Ave school yard
2:30PM	Dismissal Gr 5 from St.Theresa Ave.
2:45PM	Dismissal Gr 6-8 from St. Theresa Ave

Before **7:50 AM** and after **3:00 PM** the school does not have staff available to watch out for problems on school grounds or to supervise children on school grounds. Students must not arrive on the school grounds prior to **7:50 AM** and parents/guardians must arrange pickup at dismissal times.

To avoid interruption during the school day, any messages, forgotten lunches, books, boots, etc., must be taken to the office and not to the classrooms while

school is in session. The school office will see to it that the child receives these items.

Discipline Code for Student Conduct

The goal of discipline in a Catholic school is for students to learn self-discipline, which strengthens and promotes the values incorporated in our Catholic faith community. As the school builds community, it develops in students the awareness that sensible rules serve to safeguard the individual's freedom and provide an atmosphere conducive to learning. Disciplinary measures should have as an end the development of the human person who respects oneself, other persons, and those in authority.

By enrolling a child in this school, the parent/guardian agrees to be supportive of the rules and regulations that we deem critical in the spiritual, academic, and behavioral growth of the child.

Teachers discipline students directly for minor classroom disruptions (i.e., not coming prepared to class; not being in the complete school uniform; not completing assigned homework; minor verbal disputes with other classmates; etc.). A parent/guardian is notified of classroom problems by the teacher and is asked to help the teacher to ensure that inappropriate behavior is modified.

Teachers are not permitted to use corporal punishment on any child. Perceived acts of corporal punishment should be reported to the principal of the school immediately by students and/or a parent/guardian.

It happens that some classroom discipline issues are referred to the administration of this school. This would include chronic minor problems listed above or major problems (i.e., chronic lateness; verbal or physical abuse of the teacher by a child; signs of disrespect to a teacher or another adult on the staff; fighting; physical, sexual, or verbal harassment or bullying of a fellow student; violent behavior; stealing; smoking (including vaping and e-cigarettes); vandalism; or the possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, marijuana, cigarettes **(including vape and e-cigarettes)**, alcohol, dangerous items, such as lasers or weapons). The administration handles such matters in a variety of ways depending on the severity of the incident.

The school employs a progressive discipline system for minor acts of misbehavior in order to encourage students to change inappropriate behavior so that sanctions do not increase in severity. Students are often given detention slips by the teacher or principal. Repeated violation of these rules and regulations may result in suspension from school or the non-re-registration of the child for the next school year. If a student receives three detention slips, they are suspended when the fourth is to be issued. Students may be suspended 1-5 days depending on the infraction.

For more serious acts of misbehavior such as, but not limited to smoking, fighting, stealing, vandalism, harassment, improper use of technology and social media, the student is immediately suspended for a period of one to five days. In

cases of vandalism of school or teacher's property, the parent/guardian must pay the full cost of the repair or replacement of the item the student has vandalized before the child may return to school. In cases of theft of school or teacher's property, the stolen item is either returned in good condition or the cost of replacement is borne by the parent/guardian before the child can return to school.

In cases where a child engages in a fight which causes injury to another child or adult, the police may be summoned and then, the parent/guardian will be notified. Likewise, the possession of drugs marijuana, or alcohol by a child may be reported to the police. The school reserves the right to request an expulsion from the Superintendent of Schools for such an offense.

In cases in which a child brings a weapon to school, the police may be summoned, and then the parent/guardian is called. The school reserves the right to request expulsion by the Superintendent of Schools for any serious offense.

Individually-directed threats of violence or harm communicated directly or indirectly by any means, as well as building-directed threats of violence or harm communicated directly or indirectly by any means (e.g., shooting, bomb threats) to students, employees, or visitors are taken seriously. Upon knowledge of the threats, the principal will notify the Regional Superintendent and call the parent/guardian. The Superintendent of Schools Office will also be notified and, along with administration, will determine the course of action to be taken, up to and including calling law enforcement, requiring a mental health referral and/or expulsion.

It is the expectation of this school that student behavior is exemplary both on and off school grounds. A student always represents the entire school community both inside and outside the school building. Therefore, the school reserves the right to discipline students for acts such as, but not limited to stealing, fighting, vandalism, bullying or any other type of threatening or inappropriate misconduct (personally, via telephone, or improper use of technology and social media internet). Such misconduct could result in punishments including suspension and/or expulsion.

Lastly, a child's arrest for a crime on or off school grounds, within or beyond the vicinity of the school, at any time could result in the child's suspension or expulsion. A child's conviction of a crime on or off school grounds, within or beyond the vicinity of the school, will likely result in a child's expulsion.

Dress Code

Your school uniform confirms your attendance at the school and is a symbol of unity within the school community. It minimizes distractions in the learning process. It is

important that you take pride in your appearance by wearing your complete uniform always remembering that by wearing it inside and outside the classroom and the school you are representing the school, and your behavior should be a credit to both you and the school community. Uniforms may be ordered from Leibman's, 518 Main Street New Rochelle, NY, (914)632-2770.

Summer Uniforms for Girls

- **Girls K - 4:**
Khaki shorts/skort with white blouse (Peter Pan Collar) or polo shirt **with school logo**.
- **Girls 5 - 8:**
Khaki skirt with white polo shirt **with school logo**.
- **Girls K - 8:**
Plain **ALL WHITE SNEAKERS** such as Reebok or Adidas with white socks. We recommend Velcro closure for grades PreK-2.
- **Grades 5-8**
May wear a grey skirt with Polo Shirt with black shoes and knee highs.

Winter Uniform for Girls

- **Girls K-4**
Maroon Plaid jumper, maroon cardigan sweater with school logo, white button-down blouse, maroon knee socks or tights.
- **Girls 5-8**
Grey skirt, maroon pullover sweater or cardigan with school logo, maroon knee socks or tights. *Skirts must be at an appropriate length. No more than 2 inches above the knee.*

Shoes: Black shoes (oxford) or hush puppies for example; slip on shoes are not permitted. Shoes must not look like sneakers or boots!

Blouse: White button-down blouse or turtle neck

Girls are permitted to wear one pair of small stud earrings or hoops no larger than a dime. Girls are not permitted to wear makeup, nail polish, nail tips, large bows or hair ornaments etc... Hair dying of any kind is prohibited. Body piercing of any kind is not permitted.

Summer Uniform for Boys

- **Boys K - 8:**
Grey school pants or khaki school shorts, white polo shirt with school logo, white socks and plain white sneakers when wearing shorts. If wearing grey school pants, black shoes with black socks must be worn.

Winter Uniform for Boys

- **Boys K – 8**
Grey school pants with white button-down dress shirt and school tie
- **Grades K -8**
Maroon cardigan or pullover or sleeveless school vest

Shoes: Black tie shoes or hush puppies with black socks. No shoes that look like sneakers or boots are to be worn. Belts must be worn in Grades 2-8.

Gym Uniform: All students must wear the St. Theresa Gym Uniform with plain all white sneakers, no exceptions. PreK may opt to wear the St. Theresa Gym Uniform as their daily uniform .

During the cold weather, students may wear the **uniform cardigan sweater or the uniform school sweatshirt. The school fleece is also acceptable. Other types of sweaters or sweatshirts may not be worn. Hoodies with the school logo are only to be worn on Gym days.**

Personal Appearance

A good personal hygiene routine should be followed daily: ears, neck, hair and fingernails should be given special attention. When appropriate, children should be instructed in the use of deodorant.

Uniforms should be neat and clean.

Hair should be clean and well groomed. The boys' hair must not be below the shirt collar. Bangs should not be so long that they impede vision. Hair should not be dyed.

The presence of anything that proclaims a current fad is not permitted.

The parent/guardian will be notified if a child comes to school consistently in an unkempt manner. If no improvement is noticed within a reasonable amount of time, an appointment with the parent/guardian will be made by school officials.

Drug and Alcohol Policies

In recognition of the seriousness of drug and alcohol problems to which the children are exposed, school will follow the policy as stated below:

- If a teacher suspects that a child is under the influence of either drugs or alcohol, the matter will be referred to the principal immediately.
- The principal will verify the teacher's observation and will notify the parent/guardian.
- If the student confirms suspicion or appears unstable, student should be brought to the attention of the School Nurse (as per the Emergency Guidelines).
- If necessary, the principal will call 911 (as per the Emergency Guidelines).
- The police may be called if the student is in possession of an illegal substance (as per the Emergency Guidelines).
- The parent/guardian must pick up the child immediately should it be determined that the suspicion is founded. The parent/guardian will be expected to follow the recommendations of the school principal if the child is to continue in the school; and
- Any student who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or any drug, and appears at a school function in questionable condition, will be barred from attending or participating in that ceremony, party, dance, or school outing. The parent/guardian will be notified, and appropriate action will be taken, which may include suspension or expulsion from the school.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices may be dynamic tools in the 21st century school environment, but only when used appropriately by faculty, administration, staff, and students.

The use of electronic devices by faculty, administration, staff, and students must be appropriate to the educational setting, and may not distract the student, other students, or the class as a whole during the course of the school day and after school. (i.e., cell phones, iPads, iPhones, Smart Watches, and other personal electronic devices). In the event an electronic device, including a student cell phone, is believed to contain evidence of a violation of school policy and/or a threat to the school community, the individual possessing the electronic device is obliged to grant the administration of the school access to the device and the information on the device to ensure compliance with policy and the safety of the school.

Inappropriate use of any electronic device may result in serious consequences as stated in the school's Technology Use Policy.

Students are not permitted to wear smart watches to school. In Grades 4-8, cellphones are collected daily and locked in the teacher's closet. Children in grades K-3 should not have cell phones in school. Younger students are picked up and therefore there is no need for a cell phone in school.

Cell phones, smart watches, electronic devices will be taken away if seen. If a student posts a video or a Tik Tok in school uniform or on school grounds, disciplinary actions will be taken. Text messages, emails, and Tik Toks may be used as evidence of harassment/bullying.

Emergency Closings/Delayed Openings

- The Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York follow the policy of local public schools when closing due to inclement weather, loss of power or other issues.
- In addition to following the lead of New York City public schools, Catholic schools in the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island, may need to close based on local situations. That said, all closure decisions must be approved by the Superintendent of Schools. Schools in Westchester, Putnam and the Upper Counties that rely on public school districts for bus transportation will follow the delayed opening and/or closing policy of the local district.
- **Catholic schools throughout the Archdiocese of New York utilize the Immediate Response Information System (IRIS Alert) to notify a parent/guardian directly about delayed openings and closures due to weather. The school will also post schedule changes on our website.**

- When a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of New York is closed for the day due to inclement weather or other unforeseen situation, the following will apply:
 - All school-related extracurricular activities, interscholastic contests, team practices and field trips will be cancelled.
 - After School and/or extended day care programs will be closed all day.

Expectations and Responsibilities for Students

Students attend the school in order to develop fully their God-given talents and capabilities. To accomplish this, students are asked to:

- do their best work at all times.
- treat all members of the school community (i.e., teachers, staff, priests, parents/guardians, and students) with respect. This includes respecting the work of others by not cheating.
- obey all school rules and regulations, including those forbidding the use of drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, **including vape and e-cigarettes**, weapons, disruptive behavior, and improper use of technology and social media.
- develop personal standards of conduct that reflect Christian morals and behavior, and refrain from use of inappropriate language, verbal threats, and sexual behavior (including touching, gestures, writing, and dress).
- speak in a well-modulated tone of voice.
- observe the school dress code, including standards on non-uniform days (e.g. “dress down” or “dress up” days).
- help care for school property and keep the school free from damage and defacement.
- report concerns to an adult, especially if they witness what they know to be a violation of school conduct policy, violent or criminal act or become aware of a potentially violent or criminal act in school or at a school function.

Extracurricular Activities

Students are encouraged to participate in the extracurricular activities of the school. Participation in these activities is a privilege. Students are expected to fulfill their obligations in the classroom (class work and homework). In order to participate in

extracurricular activities, students must pass each subject on their report card and model acceptable behavior both on and off school grounds and during the selected activity. Failure to meet academic or behavioral requirements will result in the student's suspension or dismissal from the activity. Participation in these activities requires a commitment of both student and the parent/guardian. Attendance will be taken at each activity to determine a student's participation. In individual cases regarding participation in extracurricular activities, the principal holds the final determination.

Faculty Meetings

The school will schedule early dismissal days to accommodate faculty meetings and professional development throughout the school year. The dates and times for these early dismissal days are provided on the school calendar. Grades K-8 will be dismissed at 11:30 AM on these days.

Field Trips

Field trips must serve an educational purpose, and their value should be an integral part of the school's instructional program. They broaden the students' educational experiences. Field trips are privileges given to students; no student has a right to a field trip.

It is the policy of the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese that overnight trips, trips to water parks, amusement parks, dude ranches, beaches/pools, and ski slopes are strictly prohibited.

- Field trips are designed to correlate with teaching units and to achieve curricular goals.
- Field trips vary for each grade level.
- Field trips are permissible when advanced planning, location, and the experience ensure a successful learning opportunity.
- Individual teachers in consultation with the administration reserve the right to restrict or deny student participation on any field trip due to, but not limited to, poor academic performance and/or poor conduct or behavior.
- A written official permission slip, signed by the parent/guardian is required before a child will be permitted to attend a field trip. Verbal, emailed, or faxed permission cannot be accepted. Permission slips are due in the office 48 hours before the day of the trip.
- Students participating in field trips must leave and return to school with their class. For insurance purposes, no private transportation will be permitted.

Financial Policies

We make every effort to keep tuition and fees as affordable as possible. We also understand the financial sacrifice that parents/guardians make to send their children to Catholic school. The majority of the school's funding is derived from tuition and fees. The school must operate in a financially sound manner in order to provide a top-quality Catholic education for each and every one of our students.

The school's expectation at the time of registration is that all tuition and fees will be paid on time. Tuition is an annual charge that may be paid in monthly installments. Tuition must be paid directly to FACTS by each month's designated due date.

WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS

Considerable effort and expense are expended throughout the registration period and continues during the summer months as we plan and prepare for your child's inclusion in our school community. We understand that plans and circumstances sometimes change. Should you decide to withdraw your child, the following policy applies:

- If completion of the digital withdrawal form is completed on or before August 15, the entire tuition obligation will be waived, and any payments made will be refunded upon written request to the school.
- If completion of the digital withdrawal form is completed after August 15 and the student does NOT attend, 90% of the annual tuition will be forgiven. You, the family, are obligated to pay the remaining balance of 10% of the annual tuition as billed. If payments were made in excess of 10% of the annual tuition, a refund for that amount will be issued upon written request to the school.
- In the case where a school requires a tuition deposit to complete enrollment, that tuition deposit is not refundable, regardless of withdrawal date.
- If you, the family, choose to withdraw your child(ren) from the school once they begin attending, the family tuition obligation will be calculated as follows:

Withdrawal Date	Annual Tuition Obligation
September	80% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 20%
October	70% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 30%
November	60% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 40%
December	50% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 50%
January	40% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 60%
February	30% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 70%
March	20% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 80%
April	10% of tuition forgiven; family obligation 90%

May	No adjustment; family obligation 100%
June	No adjustment; family obligation 100%

- Calculations will be based on the last month in which the child(ren) attended one or more days of school. If payment has been made in excess of the family obligation, a refund will be granted upon written request to the school.
- Student records can only be provided to the child's new school upon satisfaction of the tuition obligation.
- **Please see the link to the digital withdrawal form here:**
<https://forms.gle/Tp6w5eSCZRP93fb16>

DELINQUENCIES

- A family is considered delinquent if a billed amount -- whether part of the tuition and fees billed in the Payment Plan or incidental fees billed in addition to the Payment Plan -- remains unpaid in whole or in part after the invoiced due date.
- Failure to keep current with tuition obligation jeopardizes a student's placement in school. If tuition and fees cannot be paid on time, families must communicate with school administration in writing to prevent enforcement of delinquency procedures.
- Families with delinquent balances will receive a correspondence from FACTS Financial Management two days after the due date.
- Families whose outstanding balance is delinquent 60 days will receive another correspondence from FACTS, as well as a letter from their principal. If a parent/guardian does not contact the principal within two weeks of receiving this letter, the child or children may not be permitted to attend classes.
- If the family does meet with the principal and agrees to a payment plan for any outstanding balances, failure to address the delinquent balance(s) as outlined in the payment plan may result in financial suspension.
- Records and report cards cannot be transmitted to students with delinquent balances, and financial aid/scholarships provided will be at risk and may be rescinded.
- Families with delinquent balances may be ineligible to re-register or apply for financial aid for the following school year.
- Delinquency also prevents students from participating in school activities and graduation ceremonies. 8th grade students: All fees and tuition must be paid in full by May 1st.

FAILED PAYMENTS

Failed payments made within the FACTS Financial Management system undergo scrutiny by our Treasury and Tuition Management Offices. Instances of multiple failed payments are considered unusual activity, and, in those instances, the following policies apply:

- Three or more failed payments within an academic school year may result in a change of payment terms. Additionally, an email notification will be sent from the Tuition Management Office to the family, informing them that the associated

payment method has been deactivated.

- Five failed payments within an academic school year will result in a final warning regarding potential dismissal from school.
- Seven or more failed payments will result in dismissal from the school without the ability for reinstatement, and the outstanding balance at the time of dismissal will be owed to the school.
- For families on an automatic plan, FACTS will only attempt one collection of payment per scheduled monthly payment. In the instance of a failed attempt, you, the family, are responsible for logging in and resolving an uncollected past due balance.

FEES

- Families are charged an annual \$50 FACTS administrative fee upon activation of their account.
- Accounts with late payments will be assessed a late fee of \$40 for each late payment.
- Checks and electronic payments that fail (i.e., do not clear the bank) will result in a \$20 fee per occurrence.
- Families may be charged for other fees in addition to tuition (i.e., after school programs, meal programs, graduation, technology, or other general fees).
- Fees are not refundable. This includes the Registration Fee paid through FACTS
- Families with accounts requiring collection action will be responsible for paying all associated collection fees, attorney's fees, and costs.

ACCEPTANCE OF THIS TUITION AND FEES POLICY

SCHOOL YEAR: 2026-2027

When completing the registration/re-registration process in FACTS, a digital copy of this policy is available for review, and your electronic acceptance will be requested to successfully complete enrollment. Your electronic acceptance confirms the following:

I have read this policy and agree to the following:

- I understand my obligation to make timely tuition payments.
- I understand that FACTS will charge a \$50 administration fee for its service.
- I understand that my account will be assessed as a \$40 late fee for each late payment.
- I understand that I will be charged a \$20 fee for returned or rejected checks and failed electronic payments.
- I understand that I have a tuition obligation if I withdraw a notice is given after August 15th even if my child does not attend school.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The school provides several fundraising opportunities throughout the school year. We encourage families to participate in these opportunities. Requirements for fundraising are listed on the Tuition and Fees Schedule.

Fire& Emergency Drills/Lockdown Drills

Fire & emergency drills/lockdown drills at regular intervals are required by the law and are an important safety precaution. It is essential that when the fire signal is given, everyone obeys promptly and clears the building by the prescribed route as quickly as possible. Students are not permitted to talk during a fire drill and are to remain outside the building until a signal is given to return inside. Teachers will direct the students. For other emergency drills (e.g., lockdown drills), students are expected to remain quiet and follow teacher directions. Fire drills and emergency drills/lockdown drills may take place on any day and at any time regardless of weather conditions.

Guidance

A guidance program is a resource available to the school students. Service may include counseling, psychological intervention and support for families experiencing change. Ms. Joanne Rubino is our staff guidance counselor available one day a week. We also utilize and recommend ADDAP for our students and families

Guidelines for the Education of Non-Catholics

A Parent/guardian must be made aware of the intentional Catholic witness in our schools. As a Catholic school within the Archdiocese of New York, our school has as its primary mission the formation of children in the Catholic faith.

All children will participate in the total academic life of our school, including religious education. According to the norms of our Church, it is expected that non-Catholics participate as fully as they can in the liturgical and prayer life of the school.

The religious educators of our schools are committed to teaching the fullness of revelation as it is taught by the Roman Catholic Church and as the life and doctrine are set forth in the Religious Education Guidelines of the Archdiocese of New York. While our teachers value ecumenical education, and respect the traditions of other ecclesiastical communities, they always teach within the context of fidelity to the doctrine and traditions of our teaching church.

Harassment/Bullying Policies

All persons have a right to be treated with dignity. In a Catholic school environment all demeaning behavior is unacceptable. Students, parents/guardians, and staff who

become aware of acts of bullying or harassment involving any student must report these incidents to the principal. School staff who receive reports of or witness bullying must report this to the school principal in a timely manner who will investigate in accordance with the Jack Reid Law.

The school provides a safe environment for all and participates in the Archdiocese of New York's Drug Abuse Prevention Program's (ADAPP) anti-bullying curriculum annually. Verbal, internet (including social media), telephone, or written threats (including text messages and group chats) made against the physical or emotional well-being of any individual are taken seriously. Students making such threats, even in jest, face appropriate disciplinary action including detention, suspension, or expulsion. The principal investigates all complaints of harassment and bullying. Students determined to have been involved in harassing and/or bullying behavior are subject to detention, suspension, or expulsion and, where appropriate, will be referred for counseling services and/or reported to the local authorities.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying includes, but is not limited to, written, verbal, or physical acts, which physically harm a student or staff member or damages the student's or staff member's property or has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education or is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying can take many forms including slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendos, demeaning comments, drawings, pranks, gestures, exclusion or other forms of relational aggression, or physical attacks, actions, or threats. Actions may take any form including written, oral, physical, or electronic.

The behaviors listed above, which are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church, are prohibited in all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York and will not be tolerated regardless of time or place.

No student shall be subjected to bullying and harassment on the basis of actual or perceived traits or characteristics i.e., age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, gender, physical attributes, physical or mental ability, ancestry, political beliefs, socioeconomic status, or familial status.

Illness (see Medication)

If a child has an illness or chronic medical condition, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the school and to provide necessary documentation and medication. The school reserves the right to call 911 in any case of a medical emergency. In the event that a child exhibits symptoms related to infectious disease or communicable diseases, the parent/guardian is obligated to notify the school and to keep the child home until properly tested and cleared by a physician or appropriate licensed medical professional.

Immunizations

Students are required to have all inoculations as required by the Department of Health before admission to and for continued attendance at the school. Students will not be permitted to enter school unless all appropriate inoculations are documented on or before the first day. See appendix for most current information published by NYC and NYS Departments of Health. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian and their personal physician to ensure that, as immunization requirements change, students are kept current in their schedule.

Lateness

Student lateness interrupts the learning process for your child and all other children in that classroom. Any student arriving at school after the published opening time is considered late. If late, the student may be admitted to class only with a late pass, obtainable in the main office. Repeated lateness affects your child's ability to be on the honor roll, may lead to disciplinary action and could impede your child's re-registration for the coming year. Excessive absences and lateness may be considered educational neglect. **If a student is late 5 or more times during a marking period, they will not be able to receive honors.**

Liturgy/Religious Education

All Catholic elementary schools will follow and adhere to current Archdiocesan policies and curriculum guidelines in religion.

Students in grades 3 through 8 are required to take the Archdiocesan Final Religion Examination.

Non-Catholic students are expected to participate in the religious formation and education programs of the school, including, but not limited to, liturgies, religious functions, and religion classes for credit.

A parent/guardian of non-Catholic students must be willing to accept the standards, values, and regulations of the school. They must understand and agree to the religious education program of the school at the time of enrollment.

Lunchroom

The school provides a hot lunch through the Archdiocesan Child Nutrition Program or the local Department or Board of Education. In order to participate in a

free or reduced lunch program, the parent/guardian must complete a form that will be distributed in September. Criteria for eligibility is noted on the form.

- **Each child is assigned a seat in the lunchroom and is expected to remain in the assigned seat until dismissed.**
- It is the responsibility of the individual child to keep the area clean.
- Respect and obedience are to be shown at all times to those who work in the lunchroom.
- Restaurant/fast food may not be delivered to the school. Children must come to school with their lunch if they are not eating the school lunch. Hot lunch is available for all students.

Maternity/Paternity Policies

As members of the Church committed to the preservation of life at all levels, the Catholic school must act in ways consistent with that commitment. Catholic schools - elementary as well as secondary - are faced sometimes with the situations of unwed mothers and fathers. School officials will carefully consider the consequences of consequences of any policies that are adopted. At the very minimum, students will be encouraged to finish their work and to receive grades and diplomas. The decision concerning a student's continued school attendance is made by the principal after consultation with his/her parent/guardian, and in consideration of the best interest of the student, the unborn child, and the school's educational expectations.

Medications

If a student needs any kind of medication during the school day, it is the parent's or guardian's responsibility to bring the medication to the school nurse (or school office in the absence of a nurse) to be kept there. A written statement from the parent/guardian requesting administration of the medication in school as ordered by the licensed prescriber is required.

Medication must be presented in a properly labeled container. Prescription medication must be in the original container. On the prescription medication, the pharmacy label should display:

- student name
- name and phone number of the pharmacy
- licensed prescriber name
- date and number of refills
- name of the medication and dosage
- frequency of administration

Medication should not be transported daily to and from school. A Parent/guardian should be advised to ask the pharmacist for two containers – one for home and one for school.

The school may receive a written request from a parent/guardian or physician to permit a student to carry and self-administer his or her own medication. Under certain circumstances, it may be necessary to do so. Such a decision will be made on a case-by-case basis and will reflect the age and maturity of the child, as well as:

- severity of health care problem, particularly asthmatic or allergic conditions.
- prescriber order directing the student be allowed to carry his/her medication.
- written statement from a parent/guardian requesting compliance with prescriber order.
- student has been instructed in the procedure for self-administration and can assume this responsibility.
- The parent/guardian contact is made to clarify the parent/guardian responsibility in monitoring the child on an ongoing basis to ensure the child is carrying and taking the medication as ordered.

Money

Bringing cash to school as a payment is discouraged – except for well-founded and specific situations in which payment cannot be made in any other way. Money that is brought to school for a specific purpose (class trip, book fair, milk money, etc.) must be put into an envelope with the child's name, grade, and amount. Since snacks are sold on a daily basis, students may choose to bring in small amounts of money (less than \$5) for such purchases. If a student does bring money to school, the money should be kept on the student's person and not left in the school bag, coat pocket, lunch box, or desk. The school cannot be responsible for lost money.

Parents/Guardians as Partners

Just as the parent/guardian look to the school to provide the facilities and the trained personnel that are essential to their child's proper development, so the school looks to the parent/guardian to assume active responsibilities that cannot be delegated to others.

No school can be wholly effective in teaching the values of religion and the virtues of honesty, respect for authority, consideration for the rights and property of others, and standards of personal morality and integrity unless these principles have been established, upheld, and valued in the home. If the parent/guardian cooperates with the school, instills respect for the integrity of its teachers and administration, and actively supports their authority in the home, this is likely to be reflected in the positive attitudes of their children. The parent/guardian is invited and encouraged to participate in the spiritual and academic programs developed for the education of their children. The wide spectrum of this involvement includes participation in school celebrations of prayer and

liturgy, volunteer work, participation in parent/guardian-teacher conferences, attendance at meetings and seminars designed to help the parent/guardian assist their children at home, and active involvement in the school's parent/guardian/teacher organization.

The Parent/guardian is asked to take an active role in their child's education by:

- assisting their child in his/her academic and moral development by carefully reviewing class work, test results, progress reports, and report cards; supervising home study; and reinforcing school policies.
- explaining and reviewing periodically the school behavior code with their child. The parent/guardian should discuss school disciplinary episodes in relation to the school behavior code.
- advise teachers/school administration of an emerging issue that may be causing their child emotional distress as soon as they become aware of it to avoid the issue from escalating
- sharing concerns that are directly related to your child. Parents should refrain from sharing the collective concerns of other parents when communicating their concerns to school leaders. Refrain from acting as spokesperson for any group.
- be transparent about your identity when sending email communication to school administrators/pastors. Anonymous emails will not be responded to.
- recognizing their child's talents and interests so they may be developed in cooperation with the classroom teachers.
- seeing that the dress code, including gym uniform, is enforced, and insisting that children dress according to Christian virtue.
- insisting on their child's regular school attendance and punctuality and on complying with attendance rules and procedures.
- making all tuition and fee payments on time and participating in fundraising activities. If tuition payments are not made on time, parents are encouraged to reach out to the school to establish a payment plan.
- providing proper supervision at home, and not tolerating harassment, inappropriate or violent behavior, or viewing of such in videos, movies, song lyrics, and through the use of technology and social media.
- teaching their child respect for law, for authority, for the rights of others, and for public and private property. This includes showing respect for the work of others by not tolerating cheating in any circumstance.

- arranging for a time and place for their child to complete homework assignments.
- working cooperatively with the school effort to carry out recommendations made in the best interest of their child, including those related to educational evaluations and counseling.
- attending all Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences and Home-School Association meetings.
- always interacting in a respectful manner when speaking to or about the administration, teachers, and staff of the school. Verbal abuse, improper use of technology and social media, or physical harassment may result in your child being required to withdraw from the school immediately or not being allowed to re-register for the following year.

The education of a student is a partnership between the parent/guardian and the school. Just as the parent/guardian has the right to withdraw a child if desired, the school administration reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student if the administration determines that the partnership is irreparably broken at any given time during the course of the school year.

Parent/Guardian Organizations

A Home-School Organization provides an effective channel of communication between the parent/guardian and teachers for the benefit of the students and the whole community. Its main purposes are:

- to create mutual support and understanding between home and school, and thus bring about a total learning environment for students.
- to provide a means for keeping the parent/guardian informed of school activities, programs, etc., and if any, parent/guardian service requirement.
- to assist the school in meeting its financial obligations, primarily through fundraising activities
- to provide adult education programs
- all parent activities must be done in collaboration with the school principal and all communications must be approved by the principal before they are shared with the school community.

Philosophy and Goals (Forward)

The school endorses the call of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to express its educational ministry through the three objectives: personal spirituality, social justice, and a strong academic program in accord with Christian values. This commitment extends to building Christian community and to fostering Christian service to the whole human family.

Pregnancy Policy

Rationale:

In accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church, St. Theresa School holds that all life is sacred and welcomes the gift of new life regardless of the circumstances. While not condoning sexual activity outside of marriage and being sensitive to victims of sexual crimes, it is the policy of the school to assist any student who becomes pregnant or fathers a child to meet this new responsibility. Students will receive support and encouragement from the school community during a time when they may feel overwhelmed or scared. Teachers and administrators will make reasonable accommodation necessary for the health of the mother and her unborn child and to help the student achieve both his or her educational goals and fulfil his or her responsibilities as a parent.

Policies:

1. When a teacher, guidance counselor, principal or other staff member is made aware that a student has become pregnant or has fathered a child, the student will be encouraged to meet with the Sisters of Life (212-737-0221) for support and encouragement during this challenging time. If he or she is willing, the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York (646-689-2613) may facilitate an introductory meeting with the Sisters of Life at the school. Other efforts of assistance may include helping the student inform his or her parents or guardians (if this has not already been done) and providing referral for appropriate medical evaluation and prenatal care.
2. If the student shares that the pregnancy is a result of a crime of a sexual nature involving a minor, we will follow the reporting policies outlined by the Safe Environment Office (646-794-2810).
3. While responding with compassion and understanding to a crisis pregnancy, under no circumstances will any staff member advise, encourage, assist, facilitate, or cooperate in any way with a student obtaining an abortion. Violation of this policy may result in adverse employment action for that staff member. Any student who assists a pregnant student to obtain an abortion may also be subject to disciplinary action. If a student is being pressured or forced into an abortion by a family member or other person, we will support the student's legal right to freely continue the pregnancy. The

Sisters of Life can help to inform family members of the rights of minors in the case of pregnancy.

4. In the tragic event that a student, or the mother of a student's child, suffers an abortion or a miscarriage, and the school becomes aware, if appropriate, we will encourage him or her to meet with the Sisters of Life for support and healing from this trauma.

5. St. Theresa School does not consider pregnancy in and of itself reason for the dismissal of any student. We will work with the student and her parents to determine how she can best continue her education during her pregnancy and after the birth of her child.

6. This information is intended to cover most cases of student pregnancy, but it also recognizes the circumstances in a particular student's situation may necessitate a deviation from the policy.

7. Guidelines During Pregnancy

- a. The student must submit a letter from her physician which informs the school of her condition, together with any necessary accommodations that the physician recommends for her health and that of her unborn child.
- b. The decision concerning a student's continued school attendance is made by the principal after consultation with her parents or guardians, and in consideration of the best interest of the student, the unborn child, and the school's educational expectations. The principal or guidance counselor should discuss other options open to a pregnant student for educational plans during and after the pregnancy:
 - i. Transfer to a special school for pregnant and/or parenting students
 - ii. Enroll in a special program for housing and education at The New York Foundling, etc.
 - Participating in regular coursework through online portals
 - Independent study or online home-schooling program
 - Home instruction (provided by the public school district)

Before these options are approved, a conference with the principal, parents, guidance counselors, and other administrators is necessary. The Sisters of Life can assist with exploring the available options.

- a. After receipt of a physician's letter concerning a student's pregnancy, the school nurse (if available), the student's guidance counselor (if available, ordinarily excluding Title I personnel), and other administrators (if necessary), should be notified immediately. Any adjustments to the student's schedule (e.g. physical education class, etc.) should be made after consultation with the parents or guardians, school nurse, and guidance counselor.
- b. If the student continues regular studies at the school during her pregnancy, special accommodation may need to be provided especially

during the 1st trimester in case of pregnancy-related illness, in the later months of pregnancy, and following delivery. These may include approved absences, extensions on assignments, and postponement or exemption from tests and exams. The guidance counsellor, school nurse and/or principal should meet with all the student's teachers to develop a consistent and unified policy in the best interests of the student's health and educational goals.

8. Procedures After the Birth of the Child

- a. The student who chooses to resume regular studies at the school must present a letter from her physician stating that she is able to resume a full educational program.
- b. Consultation with all parties concerned should take place prior to the student's return to school. In all cases, the best interests of the mother and child should remain a priority.
- c. If needed, continuing assistance for the care and nurturing of the mother and child can be provided through the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.

Regents Examination Protocol

Scope

This protocol applies to all Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of New York that offer accelerated Grade 8 coursework culminating in one or more New York State Regents Examinations.

Student Eligibility

Grade 8 students may be eligible to take a Regents Examination if they:

- Successfully complete an approved accelerated course aligned to the Regents Examination.
- Meet all applicable New York State Education Department (NYSED) requirements.
- Complete all required laboratory experiences, when applicable.
- Receive approval from the principal or designee.

The principal or designee is responsible for verifying student eligibility prior to registering the student for a Regents Examination.

Examination Administration

Regents Examinations shall be administered in accordance with all NYSED regulations and testing procedures.

Each school shall:

- Register eligible students for the appropriate Regents Examination. Students must be enrolled in the corresponding Regents course in the Student Information System (SIS) no later than the end of Term 2.
- Provide all approved testing accommodations.
- Maintain appropriate testing security and supervision.
- Coordinate examination scoring and reporting in accordance with NYSED requirements.

Examination Timing

Regents Examinations shall be administered only while a student is actively enrolled in Grade 8 at a Catholic elementary school in the Archdiocese of New York.

Students who have graduated, withdrawn, transferred, or otherwise ended their Grade 8 enrollment may not be registered for or take Regents Examinations through their former elementary school.

Students who graduate in early June may still participate in the June Regents Examination administration at their Grade 8 school, as the June Regents testing period is considered part of the same academic year and graduation cycle. Successful completion of a June Regents Examination may satisfy diploma requirements even though the graduation ceremony occurs before the examination date.

Any Regents Examination opportunities after the June Regents administration associated with the student's Grade 8 year are the responsibility of the receiving high school or another NYSED-authorized testing site.

Students are expected to participate in all scheduled Regents Examinations during the Grade 8 school year. The Archdiocese of New York will not provide make-up Regents testing after the conclusion of the June Regents administration for the student's Grade 8 year.

Student Records and Score Reporting

All Regents Examination scores earned in Grade 8 become part of the student's permanent educational record.

Schools shall:

- Maintain official examination records
- Provide examination score reports to parents/guardians
- Forward all official Regents Examination scores to the receiving high school

Families should understand that all Regents Examination scores, including scores below the passing standard, are official examination results and will be forwarded to the receiving high school as part of the student's permanent educational record.

High School Credit and Transcript

Participation in or successful completion of a Grade 8 Regents Examination does not guarantee high school credit.

The receiving high school is responsible for determining:

- High school credit.
- Course placement.
- Transcript entries.
- Graduation requirements.

- Diploma implications.

In accordance with NYSED requirements, all official Regents Examination scores earned by the student, including non-passing scores, become part of the student's permanent academic record and are reported to the receiving high school.

Communication with Families

Schools shall provide parents/guardians with written information regarding:

- Student eligibility
- Examination schedules
- Testing procedures
- Score reporting timelines
- The expectation that Regents Examinations must be completed while the student is enrolled in Grade 8
- The reporting of all official Regents Examination scores to the receiving high school, including scores below the passing standard

Principal Responsibilities

The principal or designee shall:

- Verify student eligibility
- Ensure compliance with all NYSED testing regulations
- Oversee examination administration
- Maintain required testing records
- Ensure timely reporting of official Regents Examination scores to families and receiving high schools

Effective Date

This protocol becomes effective beginning with the 2026–2027 Regents Examination administration cycle.

Re-registration

At the time of re-registration, the parent/guardian will be notified if their child is being invited to return to the school in September or if the child is not being invited back. If the Registration Fee is not paid by the due date as outlined by the school, we cannot guarantee a seat for your child for the upcoming school year.

Release of Students (during school day)

The school has a sign-out book located in the main office. Occasions for the use of a sign-out book are:

- in the event of a student illness, the parent/guardian or an adult designated by the parent/guardian on the school's Emergency Contact list must come to the school and take the child. It is against the law to dismiss a child during school hours except in the direct custody of a parent/guardian or an adult designated by the parent/guardian. If the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, the Administrative Assistant will contact the name listed on the child's emergency contact slip. Emergency Contact slips will be completed in September and must be updated, as necessary.
- for liturgies and services when altar servers leave the school, the students will sign out and in.
- when a student is released to a parent/guardian, that adult (must be 18 years of age or older) must sign the book.
- for a prearranged appointment when the student is released, the parent/guardian, or approved adult must sign the book. **[Please note only the principal may approve the release of a student for a prearranged appointment.]**

School Calendar

A yearly calendar is distributed at the beginning of the school year. Please refer to the School Monthly Calendar/Newsletter for any revisions to the Yearly School Calendar.

The Mid-Year and End-Year Examination schedule for grade 6-8 will be made available to the parent/guardian when testing dates are finalized.

School Publications

All student or parent/guardian publications are subject to review and approved by the school administration prior to publication. The principal must have on file all current log-in information for any digital publication, email or social media accounts that represent or use the school's name. Parent/guardian volunteers and external consultants must submit any and all postings for approval in advance. Maintaining a positive public image for the school is the responsibility of the principal and Superintendent's staff.

School's Right to Amend

The school reserves the right to amend this handbook without prior notice. Notice of amendments will be sent, as necessary.

Security

To ensure the security of the building and the safety of each child, all exterior doors will be locked during the school day. The school strongly enforces its policy of requiring all visitors, even a parent/guardian, to report to the office.

To avoid interruption of the learning process, no one may enter a classroom without permission from the principal.

The school has a crisis management manual, and it is reviewed regularly with the faculty and staff.

Sex Offender Policy

This notice is to remind you of the importance of taking steps to keep your child safe when he or she is involved in outdoor activities, including traveling to and from school. The following are some safety tips that we hope you will share with your children:

- Students should never go home with strangers.
- Students should never talk to strangers.
- Students should never take things from strangers.
- If students are approached by strangers and are still near the school, they should be encouraged to return to the school and immediately inform a staff member.
- Young students should be escorted to and from school.
- Older children should be encouraged to walk/travel to school in groups whenever possible.

The teachers at our school will also remind students of the importance of not responding to strangers and actions each child should take if approached by a stranger, including reporting it to responsible adults.

In addition, over the course of the school year, we may receive from the local police departments notification under the New York State Sex Offender Registration Act that a registered sex offender has moved into the region where our school is located. Copies of all the notifications we receive will be kept accessible to the parent/guardian in the principal's office. You can also find information about registered sex offenders on the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services website, located at <https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/> or by calling 1-800-262-3257.

Finally, if our school is notified during the school year that a registered sex offender has moved within the vicinity of our school, further notice will be sent to you.

These procedures are part of our continuing effort to provide a safe environment for all children in this school.

Smoking

New York State Law prohibits smoking in school buildings and on school property. Smoking is prohibited at all times in the school building, in its parking lot and playing fields. This prohibition applies to faculty, staff, a parent/guardian, and all visitors to the school. Smoking on the sidewalk in front of the school building is not allowed. **This policy includes cigarettes, cigars, pipe or any other matter or substance containing tobacco, as well as the use of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), personal vaporizers, vape pens, e-cigars, e-hookah, vaping devices, mod systems, pod systems or any similar system.**

Special Learning Needs

Students with learning differences are children of God and members of the Church. The school makes every effort to meet individual students' needs by providing accommodation. Sometimes, however, a student may have needs that do not permit him or her to benefit fully from the program. In those cases, your child's teacher and/or principal may schedule a meeting with you to discuss having an evaluation of your child's learning needs. If you suspect your child has a disability and you wish to have your child evaluated to determine if special education services are needed, you must contact the public-school district Committee on Special Education (CSE) in the school district where the Catholic school is located. The public-school district CSE for St. Theresa School is District 8.

The CSE will arrange for and provide the recommended services for your child, including conducting special education individual evaluations, CSE meetings and developing an Individualized Education Services Plan (IESP). The IESP is the document for nonpublic school children with special education services. It is your right

as a parent/guardian to ask the public-school district CSE to evaluate your child at no cost to you. You also have the option as the parent/guardian to have your child evaluated privately, at your own expense.

Once the results of the evaluation are available, the parents/guardians are obligated to share educational/psychological testing results and any resulting plan with the school. The parent/guardian must make an appointment to meet with the principal to discuss the results of the evaluation and the recommendations and provide a copy of the Individualized Education Services Plan (IESP). It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that the child's IESP is kept current. Parents understand they voluntarily enroll their child in a catholic school. While it is our intention to meet the learning needs of all students, the schools may not be able to provide ALL accommodations included on a student's IESP.

If a student transfers in from a public school with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), the parent/guardian must notify the Catholic school. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to then contact the public school district Committee on Special Education (CSE) where the Catholic school is located to have the IEP converted to an IESP. The IESP is the document for nonpublic schools.

When a student qualifies for a 504 Plan, the principal will meet with the parent/guardian to review and discuss the 504 Plan and will then notify the parent/guardian of any reasonable accommodations/modifications that can or cannot be made at the school. If reasonable accommodations can be made, a Student Assistance Plan (SAP) will be written, and a copy of the plan will be placed in the student's confidential file at the school. The accommodation/modifications will be reviewed yearly. If the school cannot make reasonable accommodations, the school reserves the right to negate enrollment of the student.

Summer School

Since most summer schools and programs offer reading, mathematics, and language arts, a student who has failed in one or more of these subjects in three marking periods of the report card will be required to take a remedial course during the summer. Summer school also may be recommended due to poor performance on standardized tests or in the classroom. Proof of successfully completing a summer school program is required to be presented to the principal in September.

The summer school report card must be submitted to the office in September. Failure to attend summer school will result in retention. It is the parent's or guardian's responsibility to provide documentation that summer school has been successfully completed. In cases in which tutoring is allowed for the remediation, it must be undertaken by a qualified teacher who will provide documentation to the school of no less than 25 hours upon completion of the tutoring sessions.

Telecommunications Policy

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

The principal of the school is responsible for maintaining all administrative logins for all social media outlets, blogs, or any school-branded media outlets in existence now or in the future that contain the school's name. Principals must be mindful that their school's social media may be linked to the Superintendent of Schools Office and the Archdiocese of New York media accounts.

All domain names and access must be owned, secured, and maintained by the school principal. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES are these administrative logins, permissions, or oversight to be delegated to any parent/guardian, volunteer or external vendor separate and exclusive from the principal.

In addition to the login and administrative rights to the school website and all current or future social media outlets (Facebook, X formerly known as Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat etc.) the principal is also responsible for reviewing and approving the content on such sites.

All social media content must follow the Standards of Behavior for student internet use and must reflect the standards and mission of the school.

Student Expectations in Use of the Internet

(Please see below for complete policy requiring student's signature)

Use of School Grounds

Unless students are formally registered for before or after school programs, the school does not have staff available to supervise students present on the school grounds before 7:50 AM and after 3:00 PM. Students must not arrive on the school grounds prior to 7:50 AM and a parent/guardian must arrange to pick up at dismissal times.

Withdrawals and Transfers

When a student transfers from one school to another, enters high school or is withdrawn for any reason, the parents/guardians must notify the school of the student's new learning institution within 5 days, or the appropriate authorities will be contacted. The child's absence will be marked as unexcused until the school receives this notification or a request for records from the receiving school. The new school may request a copy of the permanent record and health card from the former school. Permanent records will not be released directly to parents/guardians. Such a request for records should come directly from the receiving school. An Authorization to Release Records request form must be obtained from the school Administrative Assistant. (Please see appendix.) All

books must be returned. All bills must be paid before the records are transferred to another school.

Schools may disclose a student's cumulative record (i.e., permanent record, attendance record, test results) to another school with legitimate educational interest if a written request is made and when a custodial parent/guardian has given written permission for the release of the child's records. The parent's or guardian's signature is required for release of a student's confidential file (i.e., special education records, psychological reports, disciplinary records, anecdotal information, or reports by the school counselor).

At the discretion of the principal, each school has the right not to certify the student's graduation or provide transcripts of the student's academic record to third parties such as other schools, colleges, or employers, or to issue a diploma to the student, if there has been a breach of a material condition of the educational contract (i.e., failure to meet financial obligations, infractions against the school's code of conduct, etc.).

The school reserves the right to request the parent/guardian withdraw his/her child from the school due to serious disciplinary issues and/or unpaid financial obligations.

Summary Statement

Once students have met the necessary admission requirements and have been accepted in the school, the school warmly welcomes these students for the coming school year and will strive to provide them with a solid Catholic spiritual and academic education in a supportive learning environment. Students and the parent/guardian must always be mindful that attendance at the school is by invitation. It is not a "right" because this is a private school. Admission to and continued enrollment in this school include responsibilities regarding conduct, both inside and outside the classroom and school, and students are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner as to be a credit both to themselves and to their school.

In order to protect its standards of scholarship, discipline and character, the school reserves the right, and students and the parent/guardian concede to the school the right to require the withdrawal of any student at any time, for any reason deemed sufficient in the sole discretion of the school and its administrators. By the student's attendance at the school, a student and his or her parent/guardian acknowledge the important obligations and restrictions contained in this handbook and agree to be bound by the terms of this handbook.

Students attending the school relinquish certain rights they might otherwise be entitled to if they were attending a public school. For example, a student's freedom of speech is limited in many important respects here at our school. Speech, either written or oral, contrary to the Roman Catholic faith, the teachings of the Church or the directives of the local Bishop or Ordinary is prohibited, as is any other speech which is contrary or disruptive to the philosophy and purposes of our school. Another important right all students at the school surrender involves searches and seizures. School administrators

may search a student's person and belongings if there is a reasonable belief, in the sole opinion of the school administrator, that contraband, illegal substances or inappropriate objects are being concealed. Any unauthorized items found may be seized. Additionally, student desks and lockers, which are at all times under the joint control of the school and the student to whom the desk or locker has been assigned, may be searched by school administrators at any time, for any reason or for no reason at all. Students should have absolutely no expectation of privacy with regard to any item in their desks or lockers.

Another important right that a student and his or her parent/guardian give up when they decide to have a student attend this school is the right to sue the school, the parish, the Catholic School Region Corporation, or the Archdiocese of New York, and/or any individuals acting on behalf of the school, such as the school administrators, teachers, staff or any of their agents for any matter relating to academic or disciplinary decisions or other matters covered within this handbook. Each student and his or her parent/guardian, by their acceptance of enrollment at the school, agree to and accept the school's rule and policy that students, a parent/guardian may not bring any civil action in any local, state or federal court or in any administrative agency or body to challenge any school decision on academic or disciplinary matters, including any decision relating to the rules, regulations, procedures or programs covered within this handbook. Students and the parent/guardian agree that any challenge to any school academic or disciplinary action or relating to the rules, regulations, procedures, or programs covered in this handbook may only be challenged or appealed within the hierarchy of the school, subject to the limitations contained in this handbook. This includes any decision relating to a student's enrollment at the school or termination of that enrollment.

While any student and his or her parent/guardian are of course free to consult with legal counsel regarding any school decision taken with respect to a student, the school emphasizes that students and the parent/guardian are not permitted to have legal counsel present during any meetings with school administrators. School administrators are not obligated to meet with legal counsel at any time.

There are several grounds for disciplinary action or expulsion set forth in the "Discipline Codes" section of this handbook. It should be noted, however, that any listing of prohibited conduct is set forth by way of example only and to provide guidance to the student and his or her parent/guardian. It is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of improper conduct or resultant disciplinary action.

Student Expectations in Use of the Internet

The use of the internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use or violation of any of the following standards will result in serious consequences and could result in expulsion from the school.

1. Use of the computer at school is limited to school-related activities. Internet users are expected to behave responsibly in accessing and viewing information that is pertinent to the mission of the school.
2. Vandalism and other infractions of school policy while using the internet will result in immediate cancellation of privileges along with disciplinary action.
3. After School/Home Access requires students to follow the same student expectations as stated in the "Discipline Code for Student Conduct" and "Harassment Policies" in the student handbook.
4. Students must abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette both inside and outside school.
5. Students are responsible for their explorations on the internet and are subject to the consequences of the school's discipline policy.
6. Students must sign a contract indicating their understanding and acceptance of the school's guidelines.
7. A Parent/Guardian must give their permission for their child to use the internet for educational purposes as an individual by signing the Contract Form once conditions are clearly understood. A parent/guardian also has the option of denying permission for their child to use the internet independently at school.

Standards of Behavior for Internet Use:

- Be courteous and respectful in your messages to others.
- Use appropriate language. Do not use vulgar, harassing, obscene, threatening, bullying, abusive, or sexually offensive language, or make any statements that are slanderous or disparaging of any students or adults, including teachers and staff.
- Never visit inappropriate or offensive websites.
- Never download materials from inappropriate or offensive websites.
- Never expose yourself in an inappropriate, vulgar, or sexually offensive manner on any website or via e-mail, either in pictures or videos.
- Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
- Do not reveal your home address or phone number, or that of other students or staff.
- Note that electronic mail (school e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail/school domains. Messages related to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- Review your message before you send it.
- Never agree to get together with someone you "meet" online.
- Only public domain software ("shareware") can be downloaded.
- Copyright laws must be respected. Do not make unauthorized copies of software and do not give, lend, or sell copies of software to others.
- Do not use the network/internet for illegal activities.
- Software applications and games from home may not be used on school equipment without proof of licensure and prior approval of appropriate school personnel.

- Do not reveal personal passwords, use, or try to learn others' passwords. Do not copy, change, read or use another user's files without prior permission from that user. Do not attempt to gain unauthorized access to system programs for computer equipment.
- Do not post personal messages on bulletin boards, list servers or social media platforms. Send personal messages directly to the person to whom you want to write.
- Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network for other users.
- Do not waste or take supplies such as paper or printer cartridges, that are provided by the school.
- Talk softly and work in ways that will not disturb other users. Keep computer work areas clean and do not eat or drink in the computer lab.
- If students encounter material on a network/bulletin board that is not appropriate (vulgar jokes, statements of belief that some might consider immoral, etc.,) the student is responsible for not pursuing this material and must report the matter to appropriate school personnel.
- The use of cell phones, camera phones or other digital media is prohibited during the school day. Cell phones, camera phones, or other personal electronic devices will be confiscated if students use them during the school day without permission. In addition, any student who uses a camera, camera phone or other personal electronic devices in school or in the classroom for any reason may be suspended and/or may face disciplinary action. See Cell Phone policy.
- Taking photos or videos on school property, and or sharing of videos taken on school property is a serious offense and may result in suspension or expulsion.
- Technology use outside normal academic hours and/or off school grounds (including, but not limited to, cell phones, e-mail, text messages, camera-phones, cameras, iPads, iPhones, smart devices, etc.,) are subject to the same guidelines as previously cited in the "Discipline Code for Student Conduct," "Harassment Policies," and the "Summary Statement."
- The school reserves the right to seek financial restitution for any damage caused by a student or other user. The system administrators will deem what is inappropriate use, and their decision is final. The administration, faculty, and staff of the school may request the system administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific privileges. Violation of the rules and code of ethics described above will be dealt with seriously, which may include contacting law enforcement.
- *Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited.* This includes, but is not limited to copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. The use of school computers and networking resources for commercial activities is not permitted. Their use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.

Student Name: _____

Grade _____

Student Signature: _____

Date _____

APPENDIX

St. Theresa School

Parent/Guardian Signature Page – Return Due Date: September, 25 2026

We have received a copy of the school handbook and have read it.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Grade 2 and above Student's signature)

(Grade 2 and above Student's signature)

(Grade 2 and above Student's signature)

(Grade 2 and above Student's signature)

(Grade 2 and above Student's signature)

(Grade 2 and above Student's signature)

St. Theresa School

MEDIA AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

(This form is not required to be returned if it was completed as part of an online application process.)

I hereby consent to the taking of photographs, movies, videos, and images capable of reproduction in any medium of me or my children or children of whom I am the designated guardian.

Names of Children, Parent/Guardian

by the Department of Education, Archdiocese of New York and/or the Catholic School Region and their parent/guardian, affiliates, trustees, directors, members, officers, employees, volunteers, agents, and contractors (the "School").

I hereby grant to School the right to edit, reproduce, use, and reuse images for any and all purposes including, but not limited to, advertising, promotion and display, and I hereby consent to the editing, reproduction, use and re-use of said images in any and all media in existence and all media yet in existence including, but not limited to, video, print, television, internet, and podcasts.

I forever grant, assign, and transfer to School any right, title, and interest that I and/or my child/children may have in any images, including negatives, taken of me and/or my children by School. I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless School from any and all claims, demands, actions, or causes of actions, loss, liability, damage, or cost arising from this authorization.

Print Name

Name of Child/Children [if applicable]

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

SIGNED Form Due by **September 25, 2026**

Return by September 25, 2026

A-2

**Technology Use/Telecommunications Policy
Agreement for 2026-2027 School Year
for St. Theresa School**

adapted from NCEA's From the Chalkboard to the Chatroom . . . 1997.

User

I understand and agree to abide by the Telecommunications Policy/Student Expectations in the Use of the Internet agreement. I further understand that any violation of these regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

User's name (please print): _____

User Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian

As the parent/guardian of this student, I have read the technology use agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I am aware that it is impossible for the school to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired in use. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use of school's technology resources is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission for my child to use the school's technology resources and certify that I have reviewed this information with my child.

Parent/Guardian's name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

**St. Theresa School
Absent Note**

STUDENT'S NAME _____

STUDENT'S CLASS _____

DATE(S) OF ABSENCE _____

REASON FOR ABSENCE _____

Doctor's note is attached. Yes _____ No _____

Textbook/Software/Hardware Request Form

St. Theresa School

2872 St. Theresa Avenue Bronx, NY 10461

NEW YORK STATE TEXTBOOK LAW (NYSTL), SOFTWARE
LAW (NYSSL), LIBRARY LAW (NYSLIB),
AND COMPUTER HARDWARE (NYS CH)

PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUEST FORM FOR SCHOOL YEAR2026-2027

I hereby authorize the school to obtain state-loaned textbooks, software, library materials, and computer hardware for my child _____ who is in grade _____ pursuant to the New York State Textbook, Software, Library, and Computer Hardware Laws.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Address

Date

Title I Participation Notice

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child may be eligible to participate in the New York City Department of Education's Office of Nonpublic Schools Title I Program for the 2026-2027 school year, a federal program that provides supplemental educational services to eligible students at no cost to you, the parent/guardian. The Title I program is designed to enable all students to obtain a high-quality education. Your child's school is working with a third-party vendor to provide supplemental educational services.

Your child may be enrolled in one or more of the Title I programs listed below.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Literacy Instruction Services | 2. Mentoring Services |
| 3. Math Instruction Services | 4. Tutoring Services |
| 5. Distance Learning Services | 6. Academic Counseling Services |
| 7. Additional services not listed above as determined in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools Office, Regional Superintendent and Principal. | |

Title I Literacy Instruction Services: Your child will receive direct instruction aimed at improving literacy skills, including but not limited to, comprehension, fluency, and writing across content areas. This service is provided in a separate location from their regularly scheduled class, other than English Language Arts, during the school day.

Title I Math Instruction Services: Your child will receive direct instruction aimed at improving math concepts and skills. This service is provided in a separate location from their regularly scheduled class, other than Math, during the school day.

Title I Mentoring Services: Your child will receive support aimed at improving academic skills, including but not limited to, communication and organizational skills. This service is provided before and after school or during non-core instructional periods.

Title I Tutoring Services: Your child will receive support aimed at improving student learning across a variety of subjects. This service is provided before and after school or during non-core instructional periods.

Title I Academic Counseling Services: Your child will receive academic counseling support during the school day to assist with mitigating any barriers to learning. This service is provided in a separate location from their regularly scheduled instructional periods.

Parent/guardian may be invited to attend a parent/guardian orientation meeting to further explain the Title I-funded Program. You may also be invited to attend additional workshops to assist you in supporting your child at home.

2026-2027 New York State Immunization Requirements

2026-27 School Year New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance¹

NOTES:

All children must be age-appropriately immunized to attend school in New York State. The number of doses depends on the schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Intervals between doses of vaccine must be in accordance with the [ACIP-Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#). Doses received before the minimum age or intervals shown on the schedule are not valid and do not count toward the number of doses listed below. See footnotes for specific information for each vaccine. Children who are enrolling in gradeless classes must meet the immunization requirements of the grades for which they are age equivalent.

Dose requirements MUST be read with the footnotes of this schedule

Vaccines	Pre-Kindergarten (Child Caring Center, Day Care, Head Start, Nursery or Pre-K)	Kindergarten and Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5	Grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11	Grade 12
Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine (DTaP/DTP/Tdap/Td) ³	4 doses	5 doses or 4 doses if the 4th dose was received at 4 years or older and the series was started at less than 1 year of age or 3 doses if 7 years or older and the series was started at 1 year or older	3 doses	
Tetanus and Diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine adolescent booster (Tdap) ³	Not applicable			1 dose given at age 10 years or older
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV) ⁴	3 doses	4 doses or 3 doses if the 3rd dose was received at 4 years or older		
Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine (MMR) ⁵	1 dose	2 doses		
Hepatitis B vaccine ⁶	3 doses	3 doses or 2 doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax) for children who received the doses at least 4 months apart between the ages of 11 years through 15 years		
Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine ⁷	1 dose	2 doses		
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) ⁸	Not applicable			Grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11: 1 dose given at age 10 years or older Grade 12: 2 doses or 1 dose if the dose was received at 16 years or older
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib) ⁹	1 to 4 doses	Not applicable		
Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine (PCV) ¹⁰	1 to 4 doses	Not applicable		



Department
of Health

1. Demonstrated serologic evidence of measles, mumps or rubella antibodies or laboratory confirmation of these diseases is acceptable proof of immunity to these diseases. Serologic tests for polio are acceptable proof of immunity only if the test was performed before September 1, 2019, and all three serotypes were positive. A positive blood test for hepatitis B surface antibody is acceptable proof of immunity to hepatitis B. Demonstrated serologic evidence of varicella antibodies, laboratory confirmation of varicella disease or diagnosis by a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner that a child has had varicella disease is acceptable proof of immunity to varicella.
*Serological titers are never accepted for tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, meningococcal, haemophilus influenzae type b, and pneumococcal diseases.
2. Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine. (Minimum age: 6 weeks)
 - a. Children starting the series on time should receive a 5-dose series of DTaP vaccine at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and at 15 through 18 months and at 4 years or older. The fourth dose may be received as early as age 12 months, provided at least 6 months have elapsed since the third dose. However, the fourth dose of DTaP need not be repeated if it was administered at least 4 months after the third dose of DTaP. The final dose in the series must be received on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose.
 - b. If the fourth dose of DTaP was administered at 4 years or older, and at least 6 months after dose 3, the fifth (booster) dose of DTaP vaccine is not required.
 - c. Children 7 years and older who are not fully immunized with the childhood DTaP vaccine series should receive Tdap vaccine as the first dose in the catch-up series; if additional doses are needed, use Td or Tdap vaccine. If the first dose was received before their first birthday, then 4 doses are required, as long as the final dose was received at 4 years or older. If the first dose was received on or after the first birthday, then 3 doses are required, as long as the final dose was received at 4 years or older.
 - d. For further information, refer to the [Catch-Up Guidance for Children 4 Months through 6 Years of Age](#).
3. Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis (Tdap) adolescent booster vaccine. (Minimum age for grades 6 through 12: 10 years).
 - a. Students 11 years or older entering grades 6 through 12 are required to have one dose of Tdap given at age 10 years or older.
 - b. In addition to the grade 6 through 12 requirement, Tdap may also be given as part of the catch-up series for students 7 years of age and older who are not fully immunized with the childhood DTaP series, as described above.
 - c. Students who are 10 years old in grade 6 and who have not yet received a Tdap vaccine are in compliance until they turn 11 years old.
 - d. For further information, refer to the [Catch-Up Guidance for Children 7 through 9 Years of Age](#).
 - e. For further information, refer to the [Catch-Up Guidance for Children 10 through 18 Years of Age](#).
4. Inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) or oral polio vaccine (OPV). (Minimum age: 6 weeks)
 - a. Children starting the series on time should receive a series of IPV at 2 months, 4 months and at 6 through 18 months, and at 4 years or older. The final dose in the series must be received on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose.
 - b. For students who received their fourth dose before age 4 and prior to August 7, 2010, 4 doses separated by at least 4 weeks is sufficient.
 - c. If the third dose of polio vaccine was received at 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose, the fourth dose of polio vaccine is not required.
 - d. For children with a record of OPV, only trivalent OPV (tOPV) counts toward New York State school polio vaccine requirements. Doses of OPV given before April 1, 2016, should be counted unless specifically noted as monovalent, bivalent or as given during a poliovirus immunization campaign. Doses of OPV given on or after April 1, 2016, must not be counted.
 - e. For further information, refer to the [Catch-Up Guidance for Children 4 months through 18 Years of Age](#).
5. Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. (Minimum age: 12 months)
 - a. The first dose of MMR vaccine must have been received on or after the first birthday. The second dose must have been received at least 28 days (4 weeks) after the first dose to be considered valid.
 - b. Measles: One dose is required for pre-kindergarten. Two doses are required for grades kindergarten through 12.
 - c. Mumps: One dose is required for pre-kindergarten. Two doses are required for grades kindergarten through 12.
 - d. Rubella: One dose is required for pre-kindergarten. One dose is required for grades kindergarten through 12.
6. Hepatitis B vaccine
 - a. Dose 1 may be given at birth or anytime thereafter. Dose 2 must be given at least 4 weeks (28 days) after dose 1. Dose 3 must be at least 8 weeks after dose 2 AND at least 16 weeks after dose 1 AND no earlier than age 24 weeks (when 4 doses are given, substitute "dose 4" for "dose 3" in these calculations).
 - b. Two doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombinax) received at least 4 months apart at age 11 through 15 years will meet the requirement.
7. Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. (Minimum age: 12 months)
 - a. The first dose of varicella vaccine must have been received on or after the first birthday. The second dose must have been received at least 28 days (4 weeks) after the first dose to be considered valid.
 - b. For children younger than 13 years, the recommended minimum interval between doses is 3 months (if the second dose was administered at least 4 weeks after the first dose, it can be accepted as valid); for persons 13 years and older, the minimum interval between doses is 4 weeks.
8. Meningococcal conjugate ACWY vaccine (MenACWY). (Minimum age for grades 7 through 12: 10 years).
 - a. One dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine is required for students entering grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.
 - b. For students in grade 12, if the first dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine was received at 16 years or older, the second (booster) dose is not required.
 - c. The second dose must have been received at 16 years or older. The minimum interval between doses is 8 weeks.
9. Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine. (Minimum age: 6 weeks)
 - a. Children starting the series on time should receive Hib vaccine at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and at 12 through 15 months. Children older than 15 months must get caught up according to the ACIP catch-up schedule. The final dose must be received on or after 12 months.
 - b. If 2 doses of vaccine were received before age 12 months, only 3 doses are required with dose 3 at 12 through 15 months and at least 8 weeks after dose 2.
 - c. If dose 1 was received at age 12 through 14 months, only 2 doses are required with dose 2 at least 8 weeks after dose 1.
 - d. If dose 1 was received at 15 months or older, only 1 dose is required.
 - e. Hib vaccine is not required for children 5 years or older.
 - f. For further information, refer to the [Catch-Up Guidance for Healthy Children 4 Months through 4 Years of Age \(Pedvax-HIB only\)](#).
 - g. For further information, refer to the [Catch-Up Guidance for Healthy Children 4 Months through 4 Years of Age \(ActHIB, Hiberix, Pentacel, Vaxelis, or Unknown\)](#).
10. Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV). (Minimum age: 6 weeks)
 - a. Children starting the series on time should receive PCV vaccine at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and at 12 through 15 months. Children older than 15 months must get caught up according to the ACIP catch-up schedule. The final dose must be received on or after 12 months.
 - b. Unvaccinated children ages 7 through 11 months are required to receive 2 doses, at least 4 weeks apart, followed by a third dose at 12 through 15 months.
 - c. Unvaccinated children ages 12 through 23 months are required to receive 2 doses of vaccine at least 8 weeks apart.
 - d. If one dose of vaccine was received at 24 months or older, no further doses are required.
 - e. PCV is not required for children 5 years or older.
 - f. For further information, refer to the [Catch-Up Guidance for Children 4 months through 4 Years of Age](#). *Depending on vaccine brand, schedule may change.

For further information, contact:

New York State Department of Health
Division of Vaccine Excellence
Room 649, Corning Tower ESP
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 473-4437
OSAS@health.ny.gov

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
School Compliance Unit, Bureau of Immunization
42-09 28th Street, 5th floor
Long Island City, NY 11101
(347) 396-2433
school_immunizations@health.nyc.gov

New York State Department of Health/Division of Vaccine Excellence
health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/

Año escolar 2026-2027

Requisitos de vacunación del Estado de Nueva York para el ingreso o la asistencia a las escuelas¹

NOTAS:

Todos los niños deben estar vacunados de acuerdo a su edad a fin de asistir a las escuelas en el Estado de Nueva York. La cantidad de dosis depende del calendario recomendado por el Comité Asesor de Prácticas de Vacunación (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, ACIP). Los intervalos entre las dosis de vacunación deben ser acordes al [Calendario de vacunación para niños y adolescentes recomendado por el ACIP \(ACIP-Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule\)](#). Las dosis que se administren antes de la edad mínima o antes de los intervalos estipulados en el calendario no se consideran válidas y, como tales, no forman parte de la cantidad de dosis descrita a continuación. Vea las notas al pie para obtener información específica sobre cada vacuna. Los niños que se encuentran inscritos en clases sin grado deben cumplir con los requisitos de vacunación de los grados a los que deberían asistir según su edad.

Los requisitos de las dosis se DEBEN leer junto con las notas al pie de este calendario.

Vacunas	Prekínder (centro de atención infantil, centro de cuidado diurno, Head Start, guardería o prekínder)	Kínder y grados de 1.º a 5.º	Grados de 6.º a 11.º	12.º grado
Vacuna con toxoide tetánico y diftérico y vacuna contra la tos ferina (DTPa/DTP/Tdap/Td) ²	4 dosis	5 dosis o 4 dosis si la cuarta dosis se administró a los 4 años o más y si la serie se comenzó a administrar con menos de 1 año o 3 dosis a los 7 años o más y si la serie se comenzó a administrar al cumplir 1 año o más	3 dosis	
Vacuna con toxoide tetánico y diftérico y vacuna de refuerzo contra la tos ferina para adolescentes (Tdap) ³	No corresponde		1 dosis administrada a los 10 años o más	
Vacuna contra la poliomielitis (IPV/OPV) ⁴	3 dosis	4 dosis o 3 dosis si la tercera dosis se administró a los 4 años o más		
Vacuna contra el sarampión, las paperas y la rubéola (SPR) ⁵	1 dosis	2 dosis		
Vacuna contra la hepatitis B ⁶	3 dosis	3 dosis o 2 dosis de la vacuna contra la hepatitis B para adultos (Recombivax) para los niños que recibieron las dosis con un intervalo de al menos 4 meses, y entre los 11 y 15 años		
Vacuna contra la varicela ⁷	1 dosis	2 dosis		
Vacuna antimeningocócica conjugada tetravalente (MenACWY) ⁸	No corresponde		Grados de 7.º a 11.º: 1 dosis administrada a los 10 años o más	12.º grado: 2 dosis o 1 dosis si la dosis se administró a los 16 años o más
Vacuna contra Haemophilus influenzae tipo b conjugada (Hib) ⁹	1 a 4 dosis	No corresponde		
Vacuna contra el neumococo conjugada (PCV) ¹⁰	1 a 4 dosis	No corresponde		



**Department
of Health**

1. Las pruebas de serología que demuestran la presencia de anticuerpos contra el sarampión, las paperas o la rubéola o la confirmación de laboratorio de estas enfermedades es prueba aceptable para constatar la inmunidad ante estas enfermedades. Las pruebas de serología para la poliomielitis son pruebas aceptables para constatar la inmunidad si la prueba se realizó antes del 1.º de septiembre de 2019 y los resultados de los tres serotipos fueron positivos. Un análisis de sangre positivo de los anticuerpos de superficie de la hepatitis B es prueba aceptable de que se tiene inmunidad ante la hepatitis B. Las pruebas de serología que demuestran la presencia de anticuerpos contra la varicela, la confirmación de laboratorio de esta enfermedad o el diagnóstico que detalle que un niño ha tenido varicela por parte de un médico, auxiliar médico o personal de enfermería especializado es prueba aceptable para constatar la inmunidad ante la varicela.
* Nunca se aceptan títulos de serología para el tétanos, la difteria, la tos ferina, el meningococo, el haemophilus influenzae de tipo b ni las enfermedades neumocócicas.
2. Vacuna contra los toxoides diftérico y tetánico y la tos ferina acelular (DTPa). (Edad mínima: 6 semanas)
 - a. Los niños a los que les comience a administrar la serie a tiempo deberían recibir una serie de 5 dosis de la vacuna contra la DTPa a los 2 meses, a los 4 meses, a los 6 meses y entre los 15 y los 18 meses, y a los 4 años o más. La cuarta dosis se debe administrar a partir de los 12 meses, siempre y cuando hayan transcurrido al menos 6 meses desde la tercera dosis. Sin embargo, no es necesario repetir la cuarta dosis de la DTPa si se administró al menos 4 meses después de la tercera dosis de la DTPa. La dosis final de la serie se debe administrar en la fecha en la que el niño cumple 4 años o después y al menos 6 meses después de recibir la dosis anterior.
 - b. Si la cuarta dosis de la DTPa se administró a los 4 años o más y al menos 6 meses después de la tercera dosis, no es necesario aplicar la quinta dosis (refuerzo) de la vacuna contra la DTPa.
 - c. Los niños de 7 años o más que no se encuentren vacunados por completo con la serie de vacunas contra la DTPa para infantes deben recibir la vacuna contra la Tdap como la primera dosis de la serie de actualización; si se debe aplicar dosis adicionales, utilice la vacuna de Td o de Tdap. Si la primera dosis se administró antes de cumplir 1 año, entonces se deben aplicar 4 dosis, siempre y cuando la dosis final se haya aplicado a los 4 años o más. Si la primera dosis se administró en la fecha en la que el niño cumple 1 año o después, entonces se debe aplicar 3 dosis, siempre y cuando la dosis final se haya aplicado a los 4 años o más.
 - d. Para obtener más información, consulte la [Guía de actualización para niños de 4 meses hasta 6 años](#).
3. Vacuna de refuerzo contra los toxoides tetánico y diftérico y la tos ferina acelular para adolescentes (Tdap). (Edad mínima para 6.º grado hasta 12.º grado: 10 años)
 - a. Los estudiantes de 11 años o más que ingresen a los grados de 6.º a 12.º deben tener una dosis de Tdap aplicada a los 10 años o más.
 - b. Además del requisito que se debe cumplir para los grados de 6.º a 12.º, también se debe administrar la vacuna de Tdap como parte de la serie de actualización para los estudiantes de 7 años y más que no hayan sido vacunados por completo con la serie de DTPa para infantes, según se detalla más arriba.
 - c. Los estudiantes de 10 años que estén en 6.º grado y que aún no han recibido la vacuna de Tdap cumplen con los requisitos hasta que cumplan los 11 años.
 - d. Para obtener más información, consulte la [Guía de actualización para niños de 7 hasta 9 años](#).
 - e. Para obtener más información, consulte la [Guía de actualización para niños de 10 hasta 18 años](#).
4. Vacuna contra el virus inactivado de la poliomielitis (IPV) o vacuna oral contra la poliomielitis (OPV). (Edad mínima: 6 semanas)
 - a. Los niños a los que se les comience a administrar la serie a tiempo deberían recibir una serie de la vacuna de IPV a los 2 meses, a los 4 meses y entre los 6 y los 18 meses, y a los 4 años o más. La dosis final de la serie se debe administrar en la fecha en la que el niño cumple 4 años o después y al menos 6 meses después de recibir la dosis anterior.
 - b. Para los estudiantes que hayan recibido su cuarta dosis antes de los 4 años y antes del 7 de agosto de 2010 es suficiente la aplicación de 4 dosis con un intervalo de al menos 4 semanas.
 - c. Si la tercera dosis de la vacuna contra la polio se administró a los 4 años o más y al menos 6 meses después de aplicarse la dosis anterior, no es necesario aplicar la cuarta dosis de la vacuna contra la polio.
 - d. Los estudiantes que tienen un registro de OPV, solo la OPV trivalente (OPV) se tiene en cuenta para los requisitos de vacunación contra la polio en las escuelas del Estado de Nueva York. Se deben contar las dosis de OPV que se administraron antes del 1.º de abril de 2016, a menos que se indique específicamente que son monovalentes, bivalentes o que se hayan aplicado durante una campaña de vacunación contra el poliovirus. No se debe tener en cuenta las dosis de OPV que se hayan administrado el 1.º de abril de 2016 o después.
 - e. Para obtener más información, consulte la [Guía de actualización para niños de 4 meses hasta 18 años](#).
5. Vacuna contra el sarampión, las paperas y la rubéola (SPR). (Edad mínima: 12 meses)
 - a. La primera dosis de la vacuna contra el SPR se debe administrar en la fecha en la que el niño cumple 1 año o después. La segunda dosis se debió haber administrado al menos 28 días (4 semanas) después de la primera dosis para que se la considere válida.
 - b. Sarampión: Se requiere una dosis para prekindergarten. Se requieren dos dosis para kindergarten hasta 12.º grado.
 - c. Paperas: Se requiere una dosis para prekindergarten. Se requieren dos dosis para kindergarten hasta 12.º grado.
 - d. Rubéola: Se requiere una dosis para prekindergarten. Se requiere una dosis para kindergarten hasta 12.º grado.
6. Vacuna contra la hepatitis B.
 - a. Es posible que se administre la dosis 1 en la fecha de nacimiento o en cualquier otro momento después de esa fecha. Se debe administrar la dosis 2 al menos 4 semanas (28 días) después de la dosis 1. La dosis 3 se debe aplicar al menos 8 semanas después de la dosis 2 y al menos 16 semanas después de recibir la dosis 1 y no antes de cumplir 24 semanas (cuando se administran 4 dosis, reemplace la "dosis 4" por la "dosis 3" en estos cálculos).
 - b. Cumplirán con los requisitos las dos dosis de la vacuna contra la hepatitis B para adultos (Recombivax) que se apliquen con un intervalo de al menos 4 meses a los 11 años hasta los 15 años.
7. Vacuna contra la varicela. (Edad mínima: 12 meses)
 - a. La primera dosis de la vacuna contra la varicela se debe administrar en la fecha en la que el niño cumple 1 año o después. La segunda dosis se debió haber administrado al menos 28 días (4 semanas) después de la primera dosis para que se la considere válida.
 - b. Para los niños menores de 13 años, el intervalo mínimo entre las dosis que se recomienda es de 3 meses (si la segunda dosis se administró al menos 4 semanas después de la primera dosis, se puede aceptar como válida); para las personas de 13 años o más, el intervalo mínimo entre las dosis es de 4 semanas.
8. Vacuna antimeningocócica conjugada tetravalente (MenACWY). (Edad mínima para 7.º grado hasta 12.º grado: 10 años)
 - a. Se requiere una dosis de la vacuna antimeningocócica conjugada para los estudiantes que ingresen a los grados de 7.º a 11.º.
 - b. Para los estudiantes de 12.º grado, si se les administró la primera dosis de la vacuna antimeningocócica conjugada a los 16 años o más, no es necesario aplicar la segunda dosis (refuerzo).
 - c. La aplicación de la segunda dosis está prevista a los 16 años o más. El intervalo mínimo entre las dosis es de 8 semanas.
9. Vacuna contra Haemophilus influenzae tipo b conjugada (Hib). (Edad mínima: 6 semanas)
 - a. Los niños a los que les comience a administrar la serie a tiempo deberían recibir la vacuna de Hib a los 2 meses, a los 4 meses, a los 6 meses y entre los 12 y los 15 meses. A los niños mayores de 15 meses se les debe aplicar una actualización, según el calendario de actualización del ACIP. La dosis final se debe administrar a los 12 meses o después.
 - b. Si se aplicaron 2 dosis antes de cumplir 12 meses, únicamente se deben administrar 3 dosis con la dosis 3 al menos a los 12 meses hasta los 15 meses y al menos 8 semanas después de recibir la dosis 2.
 - c. Si se aplicó la dosis 1 a los 12 meses hasta los 14 meses, únicamente se deben administrar 2 dosis con la dosis 2 al menos 8 semanas después de recibir la dosis 1.
 - d. Si se aplicó la dosis 1 a los 15 meses o más, únicamente se debe administrar una dosis.
 - e. No es necesario aplicar la vacuna de Hib en niños de 5 años o más.
 - f. Para obtener más información, consulte la [Guía de actualización para niños saludables de 4 meses hasta 4 años \(solo PedvaxHIB\)](#).
 - g. Para obtener más información, consulte la [Guía de actualización para niños saludables de 4 meses hasta 4 años \(ActHIB, Hiberix, Pentacel, Vaxelis o desconocido\)](#).
10. Vacuna contra el neumococo conjugada (PCV). (Edad mínima: 6 semanas)
 - a. Los niños a los que se les comience a administrar la serie a tiempo deberían recibir la vacuna contra el PCV a los 2 meses, a los 4 meses, a los 6 meses y a los 12 meses hasta los 15 meses. A los niños mayores de 15 meses se les debe aplicar una actualización, según el calendario de actualización del ACIP. La dosis final se debe administrar a los 12 meses o después.
 - b. Los niños que no hayan sido vacunados desde los 7 hasta los 11 meses deben recibir 2 dosis, con un intervalo de al menos 4 semanas, y luego se les debe aplicar la tercera dosis desde los 12 hasta los 15 meses.
 - c. Los niños que no hayan sido vacunados desde los 12 hasta los 23 meses deben recibir 2 dosis de la vacuna con un intervalo de al menos 8 semanas.
 - d. Si una dosis de la vacuna se aplicó a los 24 meses o más, no se requiere aplicar más dosis.
 - e. No es necesario aplicar la vacuna de PCV en niños de 5 años o más.
 - f. Para obtener más información, consulte la [Guía de actualización para niños de 4 meses hasta 4 años](#). * Según la marca de la vacuna, el calendario puede cambiar.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con:

New York State Department of Health
Division of Vaccine Excellence
Room 649, Corning Tower ESP
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 473-4437
OSAS@health.ny.gov

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
School Compliance Unit, Bureau of Immunization
42-09 28th Street, 5th floor
Long Island City, NY 11101
(347) 396-2433
school_immunizations@health.nyc.gov

Departamento de Salud del Estado de Nueva York (New York State Department of Health)
División de excelencia en vacunación (Division of Vaccine Excellence)
health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/

17384 (Spanish)

6/2026

Fight the Flu

at Home and School

Influenza (flu) spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it completely.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Make sure people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, are also vaccinated.
- The vaccine is especially important for young children, older adults, and people of all ages with certain health conditions. The flu can make asthma, diabetes, heart, and lung conditions worse.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems for children or teenagers who have the flu.
- Young children and those with certain medical conditions, like asthma, diabetes, and heart or lung disease, are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu.
- If your child gets flu symptoms, call their health care provider and ask if antiviral treatment is right for them.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

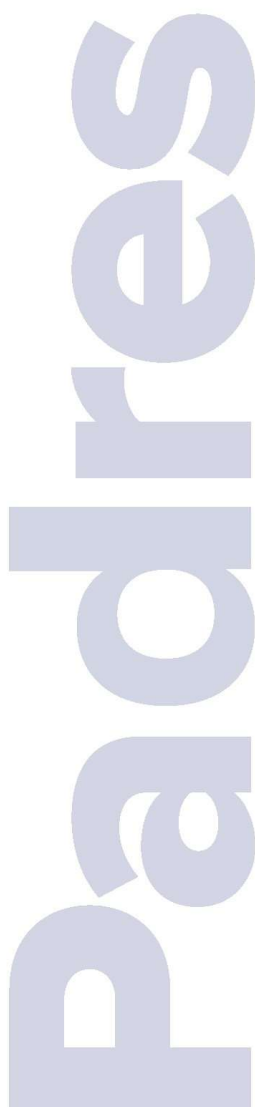
Don't spread flu!

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

health.ny.gov/flu



Department
of Health



Combatamos la gripe

en casa y en la escuela

La influenza (gripe) se contagia fácilmente y puede hacer que las personas se enfermen mucho, en especial los niños. ¡Ustedes pueden ayudar a prevenir la gripe!

Algunos síntomas de la gripe son:

Fiebre o escalofríos, dolor en el cuerpo, tos, dolor de garganta, dolor de cabeza, secreción o congestión nasal, sensación de cansancio. Algunas personas, en especial los niños, pueden tener problemas estomacales y diarrea. A diferencia del resfriado, la gripe aparece de repente.

¡Prevenamos la gripe!

- La vacuna antigripal es la mejor protección contra la gripe. Se recomienda que todas las personas mayores de 6 meses reciban la vacuna de forma anual.
- Vacúnense ustedes y sus hijos contra la gripe todos los años. La vacuna hace que la gripe sea más leve o la previene por completo.
- Si se vacunan a principios de otoño, estarán protegidos cuando comience la temporada de gripe.
- Asegúrense de que las personas cercanas a sus hijos, como niñeras o parientes, también se vacunen.
- La vacuna es de particular importancia para los niños pequeños y las personas con ciertas afecciones de salud, como asma, diabetes y enfermedades cardíacas o pulmonares, ya que la gripe puede empeorarlas.

Si sus hijos contraen gripe:

- Deberán hacer reposo y beber mucho líquido.
- Manténgalos en casa durante al menos 24 horas después de que haya desaparecido la fiebre sin haber tenido que usar medicamentos antifebriles. Así, no contagiarán a otras personas.
- Hablen con el proveedor de atención médica de sus hijos antes de darles cualquier medicamento de venta libre.
- No les den a sus hijos pequeños o adolescentes aspirina ni medicamentos que contengan aspirina porque causa problemas graves.
- Los niños pequeños y las personas que tienen ciertas afecciones de salud, como asma, diabetes y enfermedades cardíacas o pulmonares, tienen mayor riesgo de enfermarse gravemente con gripe.
- Si sus hijos presentan síntomas gripales, llamen al proveedor de atención médica y pregunten si corresponde hacer un tratamiento antiviral.
- Si están preocupados por sus hijos, comuníquense con el proveedor de atención médica.

¡No propaguemos la gripe!

- Si están enfermos, quédense en casa.
- Lávense las manos seguido con agua y jabón durante por lo menos 20 segundos.
- Si no cuentan con agua y jabón, usen desinfectante para manos a base de alcohol.
- Tosan o estornuden en un pañuelo o en el codo, no en las manos. Tiren los pañuelos usados a la basura.
- No se toquen los ojos, la nariz ni la boca porque así se propagan los gérmenes.
- Evite el contacto con personas enfermas.

health.ny.gov/flu



**Department
of Health**

All children 6 months to 5 years old enrolled in child care **must receive influenza vaccine by December 31.**



The influenza vaccine benefits your whole family:

- Your child will be protected from serious illness caused by influenza.
- You'll be less likely to miss work because your child is sick from influenza.
- Vaccinating your child helps stop influenza from spreading in your home and in the community and protects vulnerable groups, like the elderly.

Make an appointment with your child's health care provider or call 311 to find a location to be vaccinated. Visit nyc.gov/flu for more information.

The New York City Health Department recommends that everyone six months old and older get an influenza vaccine every year.





**Department
of Health**

**Office of Children
and Family Services**

**State Education
Department**

June 14, 2019

**Statement on Legislation Removing Non-Medical Exemption
from School Vaccination Requirements**

On June 13, 2019, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed legislation removing non-medical exemptions from school vaccination requirements for children. The United States is currently experiencing the worst outbreak of measles in more than 25 years, with outbreaks in pockets of New York primarily driving the crisis. As a result of non-medical vaccination exemptions, many communities across New York have unacceptably low rates of vaccination, and those unvaccinated children can often attend school where they may spread the disease to other unvaccinated students, some of whom cannot receive vaccines due to medical conditions. This new law will help protect the public amid this ongoing outbreak.

What did the new law do?

As of June 13, 2019, there is no longer a religious exemption to the requirement that children be vaccinated against measles and other diseases to attend either:

- public, private or parochial school (for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade), or
- child day care settings.

For those children who had a religious exemption to vaccination, what are the deadlines for being vaccinated?

Children who are attending child day care or public, private or parochial school, and who had a religious exemption to required immunizations, must now receive the first age appropriate dose in each immunization series by June 28, 2019 to attend or remain in school or child day care. Also, by July 14, 2019 parents and guardians of such children must show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses. The deadlines for follow-up doses depend on the vaccine. The New York State Department of Health follows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices catch-up immunization schedule and expects children to receive required doses consistent with Table 2 at the following link in order to continue to attend school or child day care: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-child-combined-schedule.pdf>

What is the deadline for first dose vaccinations if my child is not attending school until September?

Parents and guardians of all children who do not have their required immunizations are encouraged to have them receive the first dose as soon as possible. The deadline for obtaining first dose vaccinations for children attending school in the fall is 14 days from the first day of school. Within 30 days of the first day of school, parents and guardians of such children must show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses.

Additional information will be forthcoming.



Department
of Health

Office of Children
and Family Services

State Education
Department

Frequently Asked Questions About Legislation Removing Non-Medical Exemptions from School Vaccination Requirements

Overview:

On June 13, 2019, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed legislation removing non-medical exemptions from school vaccination requirements for children. The United States is currently experiencing the worst outbreak of measles in more than 25 years, with outbreaks in pockets of New York primarily driving the crisis. As a result of non-medical vaccination exemptions, many communities across New York have unacceptably low rates of vaccination, and those unvaccinated children can often attend school where they may spread the disease to other unvaccinated students, some of whom cannot receive vaccines due to medical conditions. This new law will help protect the public amid this ongoing outbreak.

1. What did the new law do?

As of June 13, 2019, there is no longer a religious exemption to the requirement that children be vaccinated against measles and other diseases to attend either:

- public, private or parochial school (for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade), or
- child day care settings.

2. When did the law become effective?

The law became effective on June 13, 2019.

3. How will schools and child day care settings be notified?

A joint notification by the NYS Department of Health, State Education Department, and Office of Children and Family Services was distributed to schools and child day care settings beginning on June 15, 2019.

4. For those children who had a religious exemption to vaccination, what are the deadlines for being vaccinated?

Children who are attending child day care or public, private or parochial school and who had a religious exemption to required immunizations, must now receive the first age appropriate dose in each immunization series by **June 28, 2019** to attend or remain in school or child day care. Also, by **July 14, 2019** parents and guardians of such children must show that they have scheduled appointments for all required follow-up doses. The deadlines for follow-up doses depend on the vaccine. The Department follows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) catch-up immunization schedule for all

immunizations that are required to attend school in New York State, and expects children to receive required doses consistent with Table 2 of ACIP's Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for ages 18 years or younger. (Please note that the guidelines contain all ACIP recommended vaccines, including some that are not currently required for schools and child day care programs in New York State.)

5. Where can I find the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) catch-up immunization schedule?

The ACIP catch-up immunization schedule is available at the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-child-combined-schedule.pdf>

(Please note that the guidelines contain all ACIP recommended vaccines, including some that are not currently required for schools and child day care programs in NYS.)

6. Are the vaccination requirements, as described in Question 5, required for my child to attend summer schools that are overseen by NYSED and summer child day care programs that are overseen by OCFS?

Yes. This requirement applies to summer school and summer child day care programs.

7. What is the deadline for first dose vaccinations if my child is not attending school until September?

The Department encourages parents and guardians of all children who do not have their required immunizations to receive the first dose in each immunization series as soon as possible. The deadline for obtaining first dose vaccinations in each immunization series for children attending school in the fall is 14 days from the first day of school or enrollment in child day care. Within 30 days of the first day of school, parents and guardians of such children must show that they have scheduled appointments for all required follow-up doses.

8. Does this new legislation apply to my child attending college?

The new legislation did not change the vaccination requirements for college attendance. Students attending college in NYS can still obtain a religious exemption. The Department requires that every student attending college be vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), unless the student has a valid religious or medical exemption.

9. Does this new legislation affect my child's medical exemption?

No. The new legislation does not affect valid medical exemptions.

10. What is a valid medical exemption?

A valid medical exemption must:

1. Be on a sample medical exemption form issued by the Department <https://www.health.ny.gov/forms/doh-5077.pdf> or the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or on a signed statement that certifies that the immunization may be detrimental to a child's health;
2. Be signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in New York State;
3. Contain sufficient information to identify the medical contraindication to a specific immunization. The Department recommends that health care practitioners consult the ACIP guidelines for contraindications and precautions to childhood vaccinations, available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html>. (Please note that the guidelines contain all ACIP recommended vaccines, including some that are not currently required for schools and child day care programs in New York State); and
4. Be confirmed annually.

11. My child is not being allowed to attend school and/or child day care program based on vaccination status. How do I appeal this decision?

Education Law §310(6-a) allows an appeal to the Commissioner of the State Education Department from persons considering themselves aggrieved by an action taken by "a principal, teacher, owner or other person in charge of any school in denying a child admission to, or continued attendance at, such school for lack of proof of required immunizations in accordance with" Public Health Law §2164. Such appeal may include a request for a "stay" of the school's action while the appeal is pending before the Commissioner. Information regarding the appeal process is available at: <http://www.counsel.nysed.gov/appeals/>.

There is no appeal process for child day care programs. Programs must be in compliance with all applicable laws.

12. What are the penalties for a school and child day care program if it does not comply?

All public, private and parochial schools are required to comply with the law. The Department will determine the cause of a school's violation or noncompliance and, where appropriate, seek civil penalties from noncompliant schools. NYS OCFS regulates child day care programs and may sanction programs that do not comply with the law.

13. How does New York State verify vaccination rates at schools and child day care programs?

The NYSDOH annually conducts surveys of school and child day care immunization coverage and exemption rates. Schools and child day care settings are required to participate in the surveys. Additionally, the NYSDOH audits a sample of schools each year for compliance with PHL Section 2164 and to verify the rates reported in their survey. If any students out of compliance with PHL Section 2164 are discovered during the audit, then the NYSDOH will require the students be excluded from school until they comply with the law. The Department will determine the cause of a school's noncompliance and, where appropriate, seek civil penalties from noncompliant schools. In some counties, the Department has delegated the county health department with authority to assist in conducting audits of schools to verify compliance.

NYS OCFS reviews vaccination records for compliance.

14. Does the new law apply to students who receive special education services?

Yes, the new law applies to students who receive special education services. However, the new legislation does not affect valid medical exemptions, and the United States Department of Education ("USDE") has issued guidance to assist schools in ensuring that students with disabilities under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA") who are medically unable to receive vaccines due to a disability are not discriminated against on the basis of disability. USDE's Office for Civil Rights' [Fact Sheet: Addressing the Risk of Measles in Schools while Protecting the Civil Rights of Students with Disabilities](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/ocr-factsheet-measles-201503.pdf) is available at: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/ocr-factsheet-measles-201503.pdf>.

Questions may be directed to the State Education Department's Office of Special Education, Policy Unit, 518-473-2878, SPECED@nysed.gov or to the appropriate [Special Education Quality Assurance Regional Office](#), SEQA@nysed.gov.

15. My child receives educational services from a public, private or parochial school off school grounds. Do they need to be vaccinated?

If a student is enrolled in the school, regardless of where they receive educational services, they will need to comply with the vaccination requirements for schools.

Version: June 18, 2019 – Document will be reissued with additional questions in the future.



Department
of Health

Office of Children
and Family Services

State Education
Department

Effective June 13, 2019, Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019 repealed non-medical exemptions from vaccination for children attending school.

This document is in follow-up to [FAQs issued on June 18, 2019](#).

The [2019-20 School Year New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance](#) is available online.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) [catch-up immunization schedule](#) is available online.

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO ALL STUDENTS

Public Health Law §2164, as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019 applies to students attending all schools as defined in Public Health Law §2164 to include any public, private or parochial child caring center, day nursery, day care agency, nursery school, kindergarten, elementary, intermediate or secondary schools.

Public Health Law §2164, as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019 prohibits a school from permitting any child to be admitted to such school, or to attend such school, in excess of 14 days without sufficient evidence that the child has received all age appropriate required vaccinations. The 14 days may be extended where the student is transferring from out of state or from another country and can show a good faith effort to get the necessary evidence or where the parent, guardian or any other person in parental relationship can demonstrate that a child has received the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series and that they have age appropriate scheduled appointments for follow-up doses to complete the immunization series in accordance with the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 through 18.

1. Does the new law apply to children's camps issued a permit by the State or local health department?

No. The new legislation applies to schools as defined in Public Health Law §2164 and does not apply to children's camps that are issued a permit by the State or local health department.

2. My child had a religious exemption and attends summer school, or extended school year (ESY) for students with disabilities, which are not children's camps. Does the new law apply to summer school/ESY and if so, what is the

7/22/2019

timeline I must follow to get my child vaccinated so my child can continue to attend school?

Yes, the law applies to both summer school and ESY. Proof of immunization must be provided within 14 days after the first day of summer school/ESY. The 14 days may be extended where the student is transferring from out of state or from another country and can show a good faith effort to get the necessary evidence; **or**, where the parent, guardian or any other person in parental relationship can demonstrate that a child has received the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within the 14 days and that they have age-appropriate scheduled appointments for follow-up doses to complete the immunization series in accordance with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices ("ACIP") "Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedules for ages 18 years or younger."

Thereafter, if such students require additional vaccinations due to entering a new grade level when school starts again in the future, those students must provide evidence of having received any additional age-appropriate required immunizations within 14 days of the first day instruction commences. The 14 days may be extended where the parent, guardian or any other person in parental relationship can demonstrate that a child has received the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within the 14 days and that they have age-appropriate scheduled appointments for follow-up doses to complete the immunization series in accordance with the ACIP "Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedules for ages 18 years or younger."

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/child-adolescent.html>.

3. When do parents need to provide proof of immunization in the fall for students who did not attend summer school or ESY?

Proof of immunization must be provided within 14 days after the first day of instruction in September. The 14 days may be extended where the student is transferring from out of state or from another country and can show a good faith

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effort to get the necessary evidence **or** where the parent, guardian or any other person in parental relationship can demonstrate that a child has received the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within the 14 days and that they have age appropriate scheduled appointments for follow-up doses to complete the immunization series.

4. Does the new law apply to attendance at activities that are on school property but open to the general public? Examples may include: SAT prep, sporting events, and plays.

No. The new legislation does not apply to attendance at activities on school property that are open to the general public.

5. My child's school operates year-round, excluding ESY and summer school. When did the new law start applying to year-round schools?

The change in the law took effect on June 13, 2019 and allowed 14 days for children to get their first dose of each required vaccine in order to be admitted to or continue attending school. Therefore, children at year-round schools were required to be vaccinated with the first doses by June 28, 2019. These children must be excluded from school immediately if they do not meet this requirement.

6. Does this new law apply to students aged 18 and older?

No. The mandatory vaccination law only applies to a child, which Public Health Law §2164(1)(b) defines as a person between the ages of two months and 18 years. Once a student reaches the age 18, he/she is no longer required to show proof of immunization.

7. My child's school operates a year-round day care center. When did the new law start applying to these year-round day care centers in schools?

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The change in the law took effect on June 13, 2019 and allowed 14 days for children to get their first dose of each required vaccine. Therefore, children at year-round day care centers are required to be vaccinated with the first doses by June 28, 2019. These children must be excluded from day care centers in school immediately if they do not meet these requirements.

8. My child had a religious exemption before the new law was enacted. Is my religious exemption still valid?

No. Religious exemptions are no longer valid in New York State.

9. Does the new requirement apply to charter schools?

Yes.

10. Do I need to schedule all of my child's appointments for all required doses, including all follow-up doses, within 30 days of the first day of attendance?

Parents and guardians must demonstrate, within 30 days of the first day of attendance, that their child has age-appropriate appointments scheduled for the next follow-up doses to complete the immunization series in accordance with the ACIP schedule. However, the actual appointments for the follow-up doses may be more than 30 days out, so long as they are in accordance with the ACIP schedule available online at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/child-adolescent.html>.

11. When are follow-up doses required for children who received their first doses prior to the change in law and are overdue for their next doses?

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Such students must still receive their next doses as soon as they are due, in accordance with the ACIP schedule. Children must receive all first doses, or overdue follow-up doses if they already received prior doses in a series, within 14 days of school or child day care attendance, and must provide evidence of age appropriate appointments for the next follow-up doses, in accordance with the ACIP schedule, within 30 days of the first day of attendance. All required vaccine schedules must be completed in accordance with the ACIP schedule. Here is a link for the routine immunization and catch up schedules:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/child-adolescent.html>

12. Is the rotavirus vaccine required to attend school?

No.

13. My child never received the pneumococcal vaccine or Haemophilus Influenzae type B (Hib) vaccine as a baby. Now my child is entering kindergarten. According to the ACIP schedule, healthy children age 5 and older don't need these vaccines. Does my child still need these vaccines to attend school?

No. Pneumococcal and Haemophilus Influenzae type B (Hib) vaccines are only required for day cares and pre-kindergarten programs. Children in kindergarten through grade 12 do not need to receive a pneumococcal or Hib vaccine.

14. Who may issue a medical exemption?

Pursuant to Section 2164 of the Public Health Law, only physicians licensed to practice medicine in NYS may issue a medical exemption.

15. Is serological evidence of immunity acceptable proof of immunization for school enrollment?

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A positive serologic test can be accepted as proof of immunity for school enrollment only for the following diseases: measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chickenpox), hepatitis B and all three serotypes of poliomyelitis found in the polio vaccines.

16. If I'm a Group Family Child Care Provider, with my own children in my home, in addition to day care children, what are my options regarding my own children who remain in the home during day care hours and are not vaccinated? Can they remain in another part of the house during day care hours?

In home-based child care programs (family day care and group family day care), a provider's own non-school aged children count in the program's capacity and are considered to be enrolled in the program. The provider must comply with Public Health Law and New York State Child Care Regulations regarding immunizations, and must keep documentation of immunizations all enrolled children have received, including the provider's own children.

17. Are "homeoprophylaxis vaccines" acceptable alternatives for required vaccinations?

No. Only licensed vaccines recommended by the ACIP are acceptable.

18. Are out-of-country immunization records acceptable?

Yes, as long as they are official records and can be read and understood by the school or have been reviewed and signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in NYS.

19. Are children allowed to follow a delayed vaccination schedule for required vaccines?

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No. The ACIP schedule must be used. Delayed vaccination schedules are not permitted.

20. What does the June 30, 2020 date mean in the law?

Until June 30, 2020, a child can attend school if they receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within 14 days from the first day of school attendance and can show within 30 days that they have scheduled age-appropriate appointments for required follow-up doses. This allows students who were not fully up-to-date on their vaccinations on June 13, 2019, when the law was enacted, to continue to attend school, as long as they receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within 14 days from the first day of school attendance and can show within 30 days that they have scheduled age-appropriate appointments for required follow-up doses. By June 30, 2020, all students who were attending school at the time the law was enacted are expected to be fully up-to-date on their required immunizations and therefore the 30-day extension allowing such children to be enrolled as long as they have scheduled appointments to complete their immunization series according to the ACIP schedule will expire.

21. Can all required vaccines be given at the same time? Can the schedule be spread out?

Scientific data show that getting several vaccines at the same time does not cause any health problems. If combination vaccines are used, the number of injections can be reduced. The highest number of vaccines that a child might need to attend school or daycare is seven. However, the number varies by age, and older children need fewer doses to catch up. It is important to note that infants routinely get multiple vaccines at once, according to the ACIP schedule. The ACIP schedule is approved by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Practice, and is the standard of practice for vaccination in the United States. Vaccines can be

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spread out to start, so long as a child receives the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within 14 days of the first day of attendance.

22. If a school doesn't receive State Aid, can it offer religious exemptions to the vaccination requirement?

No. All schools must comply with the immunization requirements, regardless of whether they receive State Aid. Public Health Law §2164(1)(a) defines "school" to include any public, private or parochial child caring center, day nursery, day care agency, nursery school, kindergarten, elementary, intermediate or secondary school.

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Department
of Health

Office of Children
and Family Services

State Education
Department

Effective June 13, 2019, Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019 repealed non-medical exemptions from vaccination for children attending school.

This document is in follow-up to [FAQs issued on June 18, 2019](#) and on [June 22, 2019](#). The Department of Health filed emergency regulations on August 16, 2019 to implement the statutory amendments to the Public Health Law and adhere to the legislative intent of the statutory amendments, which is to protect the public health. This guidance is intended to assist schools in implementing the statutory and regulatory amendments.

The [2019-20 School Year New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance](#) is available online.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) [catch-up immunization schedule](#) is available online.

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO ALL STUDENTS

Public Health Law §2164, as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019, applies to students attending all schools as defined in Public Health Law §2164 to include any public, private or parochial child-caring center, day nursery, day care agency, nursery school, kindergarten, elementary, intermediate, or secondary school.

Public Health Law §2164, as amended by Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019, prohibits a school from permitting any child to be admitted to such school, or to attend such school, in excess of 14 days without sufficient evidence that the child has received all age-appropriate required vaccinations. The 14 days may be extended to not more than 30 days where the student is transferring from out of state or from another country and can show a good faith effort to get the necessary evidence **or** where the parent, guardian or any other person in parental relationship can demonstrate that a child has received the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series and that they have age-appropriate scheduled appointments for follow-up doses to complete the immunization series in accordance with the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 through 18.

I. All Students

A. Application of Statute.

(1) Does this apply to students attending an independent preschool?

Yes.

(2) Does this apply to students attending approved State-operated and State-supported schools, approved private residential and non-residential schools for the education of students with disabilities, and Special Act School Districts?

Yes.

Students placed by a Committee on Special Education (CSE) on a day or residential basis in one of these settings must comply with the mandatory vaccination laws.

Students placed residentially by a State Agency, Court, or Local Social Services District in a childcare institution with an affiliated approved private residential school or Special Act School District must comply with mandatory vaccination laws.

(3) Does this apply to students who are receiving homebound instruction, commonly referred to as home/hospital-instruction (students who are receiving homebound instruction are not the same as students who are homeschooled under [8 NYCRR §100.10](#))?

Yes. Homebound instruction is a form of tutorial services, provided to public or nonpublic students, by the public school district of residence. These services are provided to students who are unable to attend their public or nonpublic school because of physical, mental, or emotional illness or injury.

(4) When are schools required to assess compliance with the immunization requirements for students participating in interscholastic athletics whose season commences in August 2019?

For students participating in interscholastic athletics in August 2019, schools can consider the beginning of the academic year to be the start of the 14-day time period. For students not attending year-round instruction, the 14-day time period commences on the first day of instruction for the school year (July for students attending summer school or September for students not attending summer school) or first enrollment during the school year. See FAQ issued on June 22, 2019.

(5) If a parent chooses not to vaccinate his/her child, what are the options for the child's education in New York?

Parents who choose not to vaccinate their children, and whose children do not have a valid medical exemption, still must ensure that children of compulsory school age are educated and, thus, would need to provide home instruction ("homeschooling") for those children.

Information regarding compulsory school age is available here:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ssss/lawsregs/>.

B. Homeschooled Students (8 NYCRR §100.10)

(1) If I provide homeschooling for my child, will he or she be allowed to attend State tests (e.g. 3-8 State assessments, Regents examinations) held at the school if he/she is not immunized?

No. Only those students who have been vaccinated consistent with Public Health Law §2164 or have a valid medical exemption will be allowed to take such examinations at the school.

(2) May groups of parents provide homeschooling collectively by engaging the services of a tutor to provide group instruction to their children?

Parents providing homeschooling to their child may arrange to have their child instructed in a group situation for particular subjects but not for a majority of the home instruction program. Where groups of parents organize to provide group instruction by a tutor for a majority of the instructional program, they are operating a nonpublic school and are no longer providing home instruction.

(3) Can a homeschooled student who is not immunized audit or intermittently attend some classes at a nonpublic school without the required immunizations?

No. Homeschooled students who are not immunized consistent with Public Health Law §2164 or who do not have a valid medical exemption cannot audit or intermittently attend some classes at a nonpublic school.

(4) Can students who are not immunized and do not have a valid medical exemption be transported using school transportation with other students?

No. students who have not been immunized consistent with the requirements of Public Health Law §2164 and do not have a valid medical exemption may not be transported on a school bus or vehicle with other students.

(5) If a school district provides bus transportation to students attending another school (i.e., a nonpublic school), is the school district that provides the bus transportation responsible for ensuring that the students from other schools have all their required immunizations?

No. Each school arranging for bus transportation through their school district of location is responsible for ensuring that the children enrolled in or attending such school receive the required immunizations or valid medical exemptions in accordance with the law.

II. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

A. Are students with disabilities who have not been immunized entitled to special education services?

Parents who choose not to vaccinate a student with a disability must still ensure that children of compulsory school age are educated and, thus, would need to provide homeschooling for those children. Where students with disabilities are provided homeschool instruction under [8 NYCRR §100.10](#), such students are eligible to receive special education services from their school district. Under Education Law §3602-c(2-c), these students are entitled to receive special education services in accordance with an individualized education services program (IESP) from the public school district in which the home school is located. Where the student is educated at home, the school district of location is the same as the student's school district of residence.

B. Is it considered a change in placement when a student with a disability, who previously attended public school under a non-medical exemption from vaccination requirements, is now being homeschooled because the student does not meet vaccination requirements under State law?

No. It is not considered a change in placement when a student with a disability who previously attended public school under a non-medical exemption from vaccination requirements is now being homeschooled solely because the student does not meet the vaccination requirements under Public Health Law §2164.

C. What are the requirements for a homeschooled child to receive special education services?

To be eligible to receive special education services, a homeschooled student must:

- be entitled to attend the public schools without payment of tuition pursuant to Education Law §3202(1); and
- have an individualized home instruction plan that the superintendent of schools of the school district in which the homeschool is located has determined to be in compliance with §100.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

D. What is the difference between an IESP and an individualized education program (IEP)?

For homeschooled students who are students with disabilities, the committee on special education (CSE) would develop an individualized education services program (IESP) for the student. An IESP is developed in the same manner as an IEP, but an IESP is developed in consideration of the parents' decision to educate their child at home.

E. Where are special education services provided to homeschooled students with an IESP?

A board of education determines the location where special education services will be made available to homeschooled students, which could include delivery of services by school staff or contractors in the child's home, on school property or at another location. However, for a homeschooled student's special education services to be delivered at a public, private or parochial school, the child must either be immunized consistent with Public Health Law §2164(7) or have a valid medical exemption in order to receive special education services in a school setting.

Students who are not immunized and do not have a valid medical exemption could receive their special education services in their home or at another location (e.g. therapy provider's office; or public gathering sites that are open and accessible to the general public, such as community centers).

If special education services are provided at a location other than the student's home the district would remain responsible for providing transportation. (See also Section I.(A), Question #4: "[S]tudents who have not been immunized consistent with the requirements of Public Health Law §2164 and do not have a valid medical exemption may not be transported on a school bus with other students.")

F. What is the deadline for parents of homeschooled students to submit a written request for special education services?

For homeschooled students who are students with disabilities, the parent must request special education services in writing to the board of education of the school district of location by June 1 preceding the school year for which the request for services is made. However, for a student who is first identified as a student with a disability after the first day of June preceding the school year for which the request is made and prior to the first day of April of such current school year, the parent must submit the written request for services within 30 days after the student was first identified. A request may also be submitted within 30 days of a change in the student's school district of residence.

G. Are there any exceptions to the June 1 deadline for requesting services?

If a parent does not file a written request by June 1, nothing prohibits a school district from exercising its discretion to provide services subsequently requested for a student, provided that such discretion is exercised equally among all students with disabilities who file after the June 1 deadline. For the 2019-20 school year, school districts are encouraged to honor parent requests for special education services for homeschooled children who may be impacted by the repeal of religious exemptions to vaccination requirements.

II. What options do parents have if they disagree with the recommendations on an IESP?

Parents of homeschooled students with disabilities who disagree with the IESP recommendation of the CSE would be entitled to the due process procedures set forth in Education Law §4404.

I. Can parents of homeschooled children choose which services they want their child to receive or must parents accept all or none of the services recommended on an IESP?

Parents must submit a request in writing if they want special education services provided to their child. Unless otherwise indicated, the parent's written request is for all services on the IESP. However, a parent could request that only specific services be provided (e.g., speech therapy). The school district should maintain documentation of the parent's request.

III. PRESCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

A. Does Chapter 35 of the Laws of 2019 apply to students attending preschool special education programs approved pursuant to §4410 of NYS Education Law?

Yes.

B. If a parent chooses not to immunize a preschool child, does this impact the preschool special education services that the child may receive?

Preschool students with disabilities continue to be entitled to special education programs and services through an IEP developed by the committee on preschool special education (CPSE). The IEP will identify the location where special education services will be provided to preschool students with disabilities.

If the CPSE recommends special education services that can only be delivered in an approved preschool special education program, the child must either be immunized consistent with Public Health Law §2164 or have a valid medical exemption in order to attend or be admitted to that program and receive those special education services.

C. What options do parents have if they disagree with the recommendations on an IEP?

Parents of preschool students with disabilities who disagree with the IEP recommendation of the CPSE would be entitled to the due process procedures set forth in Education Law §4404.



**Department
of Health**

**State Education
Department**

Additional Frequently Asked Questions About School Vaccination Requirements

October 4, 2019

Definitions for school vaccination requirements can be found at:
<https://regs.health.ny.gov/volume-1a-title-10/content/section-66-11-definitions>

What vaccines are due within the first 14 days of school?

Children must receive all first age/grade level appropriate doses, or overdue follow-up doses if they already received prior doses in a series, within 14 days of the first day of instruction for the school year, and must provide evidence of age appropriate appointments for the next follow-up doses, in accordance with the ACIP schedule, within 30 days of the first day of attendance. All required vaccine schedules must be completed in accordance with the ACIP schedule. Here is a link for the routine immunization and catch up schedules: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/child-adolescent.html>

When should a child who has received at least the first dose of all required immunization series be excluded?

Schools may permit a child who has received at least the first dose of all required immunization series to attend school so long as the child remains "in process." A child must receive the subsequent dose of each vaccine series within 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch up schedule, or the child is no longer in process.

For example, a child receives their first dose on September 18, 2019 (Day 0), and is not due for the next dose for 28 days following the first dose (October 16, 2019, Day 28). The child is due for the next dose on October 16, 2019. October 16 is the date of the "missed dose." A child must receive the subsequent dose of each vaccine series within 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch up schedule (October 16 - October 30, 2019). If the child has still not received the subsequent dose, the child is over-due and no longer "in process" on October 31.

Can a child get multiple live vaccine immunizations on the same day?

Yes. Multiple live vaccines may be given on the same day. In the case of live vaccines, however, a child should wait 28 days after one live vaccine administration before receiving a different live vaccine, if the vaccines were not given on the same day. The child remains in

process during these 28 days. This exception only applies to live vaccines (MMR, MMRV, or Varicella).

What timeframe is required for follow-up doses of vaccines?

Children who are not fully immunized can only continue to attend school if they are in the process of completing the immunization series based on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for ages 18 years or younger. *If a child does not receive subsequent doses of vaccine in an immunization series according to the age appropriate ACIP catch-up schedule, including at appropriate intervals, the child is no longer in process and should be excluded from school within 14 days after the missed dose, if not otherwise exempt in accordance with 10 NYCRR §66-1.3.*

Have the rules around the due dates for school vaccines changed this summer?

No, the due dates for receiving school vaccines have not changed. Vaccines must still be received in accordance with the ACIP schedules. Note that 10 NYCRR §66 1.1 defines "in process" and establishes the due dates for receiving vaccines.

Can a child be re-excluded throughout the year for over-due doses?

Yes. If a child does not receive subsequent doses of vaccine within 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch up schedule, the child is no longer in process.

Can a child remain in school so long as they show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses?

Yes. So long as the appointment to receive subsequent doses of vaccine is not later than 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch up schedule.

Can a child remain in school so long as they show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses spread throughout the school year until June 30, 2020?

No, not necessarily, because appointments to receive subsequent doses of vaccine must not be later than 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch up schedule.

When a parent has a good faith belief that a child is immunized against a disease but there is no acceptable evidence of immunity, what should the school do?

When there is no acceptable evidence of immunity, serologic tests may be requested for the following disease: measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, and hepatitis B. (Serologic tests for all three types of polio that were submitted to a school prior to September 1, 2019, are acceptable evidence of the child's immunization against polio, but serologic tests for polio can no longer be

requested to provide evidence of immunization against polio.) Laboratory confirmation of disease may be requested for measles, mumps, rubella, or varicella. Such positive serologic tests or laboratory confirmation of disease are acceptable evidence of the child's immunization. Children lacking evidence of immunity to DTaP, Tdap, polio or (for applicable grades) meningococcal disease, *Haemophilus influenzae* type B disease or pneumococcal disease will need to complete the vaccination series even if the parents believe the child may have previously been immunized against these diseases, unless the child has a medical exemption to those vaccines.

When is a child who is obtaining serologic tests “in process”?

A child who is obtaining serologic tests is in process within 14 days of when such testing is requested. The school may permit the child to attend school so long as the child receives a positive serologic test (for measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, or hepatitis B), or laboratory confirmation of disease (for measles, mumps, rubella, or varicella) within 14 days.

What if the serologic test or laboratory confirmation of disease test is negative?

When a serologic test or laboratory confirmation of disease test is negative or equivocal, the school must notify the parent or guardian of the child to complete, or begin completion, of the immunization series for all disease which test negative. The child must provide the school with a certificate of immunization documenting that the child has been vaccinated as indicated in the ACIP Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule for ages 18 years or younger within 30 days of notification of the parent/guardian to complete, or begin completion, of the immunization series. A principal or person in charge of a school shall not admit a child to school unless the school has been furnished with a certificate of immunization or documentation that the child is in process. If a child does not receive doses of vaccine in an immunization series according to the ACIP schedule, including at appropriate intervals, the child is no longer in process and may be excluded from school within 14 days of the missed dose.

What does the June 30, 2020 date mean in the law?

Until June 30, 2020, a child can attend school if they receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within 14 days from the first day of school attendance and can show within 30 days that they have scheduled appointments for required follow-up doses within 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch-up schedule. This allows students who were not fully up-to-date on their vaccinations on June 13, 2019, when the law was enacted, to continue to attend school, as long as they receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series within 14 days from the first day of school attendance and can show within 30 days that they have scheduled age-appropriate appointments for required follow-up doses in accordance with the ACIP catch-up schedule. *By June 30, 2020, all students who were attending school at the time the law was enacted are expected to be fully up-to-date on their required immunizations and therefore the 30-day extension allowing such children to be enrolled as long as they have scheduled appointments to complete their immunization series according to the ACIP schedule will expire.*

Does my child have until June 30, 2020 to catch up on all required vaccinations?

No. A child must receive the subsequent dose of each vaccine series within 14 days after the minimum interval identified by the ACIP catch up schedule, or the child is no longer in process.

Can a child remain in school while a medical exemption is under review?

A child who has submitted a medical exemption within the first 14 days of school may attend school while the medical exemption is being reviewed. A valid medical exemption:

- Is submitted on a signed, completed medical exemption form issued by NYSDOH or NYC Department of Education;
- Specifies which immunizations may be detrimental to the child's health;
- Contains sufficient information to determine if a medical contraindication to a specific immunization exists; and
- Specifies the length of time the immunization is medically contraindicated.

The principal or person in charge of the school may require additional information supporting the exemption. Medical exemptions must be reissued annually.

Immunization Requirements for School Attendance Medical Exemption Statement for Children 0-18 Years of Age

NOTE: THIS EXEMPTION FORM APPLIES ONLY TO IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Instructions:

1. Complete information (name, DOB etc.).
2. Indicate which vaccine(s) the medical exemption is referring to.
3. Complete contraindication/precaution information.
4. Complete date exemption ends, if applicable.
5. Complete medical provider information. Retain copy for file. Return original to facility or person requesting form.

1. Patient's Name _____
2. Patient's Date of Birth _____
3. Patient's Address _____
4. Name of Educational Institution _____

Guidance for medical exemptions for vaccination can be obtained from the contraindications, indications, and precautions described in the vaccine manufacturers' package insert and by the most recent recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) available in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention publication, Guide to Vaccine Contraindications and Precautions. This guide can be found at the following website: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/vac-admin/contraindications.htm>.

Please indicate which vaccine(s) the medical exemption is referring to:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Haemophilus Influenzae type b (Hib) | ☐ Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) |
| ☐ Polio (IPV or OPV) | ☐ Varicella (Chickenpox) |
| ☐ Hepatitis B (Hep B) | ☐ Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) |
| ☐ Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (DTaP, DTP, Tdap) | ☐ Meningococcal Vaccine (MenACWY) |

Please describe the patient's contraindication(s)/precaution(s) here: _____

Date exemption ends (if applicable) _____

A New York State licensed physician must complete this medical exemption statement and provide their information below:

Name (print) _____ NYS Medical License # _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

For Institution Use ONLY: Medical Exemption Status ☐ Accepted ☐ Not Accepted Date: _____

School Letterhead

Sample: Immunization Request Letter to Parents/Guardians of Students in PreK-12

Dear Parent/Guardian of: (student name) _____ Date: _____

According to our records, your student is missing one or more immunizations (shots) for school.

All students entering or attending school in NYS, including remote school attendance, must be age-appropriately immunized in accordance with the [NYSDOH Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance Chart](#). Please share this information with your student's healthcare provider or local health department so that they can provide the immunizations (shots) or required proof.

Please note: Each year, immunization requirements may change. Be sure to use the most current NYSDOH Immunization Requirements chart.

The following immunizations are needed:		Acceptable Proof of Immunization:
Immunization Name	# of Doses Needed	NYS Immunization Records
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP or Tdap)		An immunization certificate signed or stamped by your health care provider or health department.
Polio		An electronic health office record from your healthcare provider.
Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)		A record issued by NYSIIS or NYCIR.
Hepatitis B		Out-of-State/Country/Previous School
Varicella (Chickenpox)		An official immunization registry from another state or an official record from a foreign country.
Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY)		Unofficial records (from a private healthcare provider) must be reviewed and signed by a health practitioner licensed in NYS.
Hemophilus Influenzae (HIB)		An official copy of the immunization record transferred directly from your child's previous school, including the dates given.
Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV)		Blood tests/titers
Tdap Booster		A blood test (titer) lab report showing a positive result for immunity to measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chicken pox), or hepatitis B, signed by the healthcare provider.
Notes:		A signed medical note verifying history of varicella (chicken pox) diagnosed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.

Immunizations are also available through the local health department at:

Phone: _____ Address: _____

Please return your student's immunization record/documentation to the School Health Office.

School Nurse: _____ School: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____

School Letterhead

Sample: Exclusion Notification for Missing Immunizations (Shots)

Dear Parent/Guardian of: (student name) _____ Date: _____

All children must receive the immunizations (shots) required by the New York State Public Health Law Section 2164 to attend school.

You are receiving this letter because your student is missing the required immunization(s), or the doses were not given at the right time in accordance with the [ACIP- Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#). **You must provide proof of immunization.**

Your student will not be allowed to attend school beginning ____/____/____ unless valid proof is provided showing that your student has received the required immunizations.

The following immunizations are needed:		Acceptable Proof of Immunization:
Immunization Name	# of Doses Needed	NYS Immunization Records
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTaP or Tdap)		An immunization certificate signed or stamped by your health care provider or health department.
Polio		An electronic health office record from your healthcare provider.
Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)		A record issued by NYSIIS or NYCIR.
Hepatitis B		Out-of-State/Country Immunization Records
Varicella (Chickenpox)		An official immunization registry from another state or an official record from a foreign country.
Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY)		Unofficial records (from a private healthcare provider) must be reviewed and signed by a health practitioner licensed in NYS.
Hemophilus Influenzae (HIB)		Blood tests/titers
Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV)		A blood test (titer) lab report showing a positive result for immunity to measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chickenpox), or hepatitis B, signed by the healthcare provider.
Tdap Booster		A signed medical note verifying history of varicella (chicken pox) diagnosed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.
Notes:		

The required immunizations can be obtained from your health care provider or from the local county health department. _____

Address: _____ Phone number: _____

As the parent/guardian, you have the right to file a 310 appeal to the Commissioner of Education within 30 days of receiving this notice. Information can be found at www.counsel.nysed.gov/appeals.

Sincerely,

School Principal: _____



New York State Center for School Health
Supporting Student Success Through Health and Education



NYS
Required



NYC
Required



NYS
Optional



NYC
Optional

NYS and NYC Screening & Health Exam Requirements														
	New Entrant	Pre K or K*	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
HEARING SCREENING:														
Pure Tone	X	X	X		X		X		X				X	
SCOLIOSIS SCREENING														
Boys											X			
Girls							X		X					
VISION SCREENING														
Color Perception	X													
	X													
Fusion		X	X											
Near Vision	X	X	X		X		X		X				X	
	X	X	X		X		X							
Distance Acuity	X	X	X		X		X		X				X	
	X	X	X		X		X							
Hyperopia	X													

*Determine if your Kindergarten or Pre K students are your district's new entrants.

Health Examination Overview														
	New Entrant	Pre K or K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Health Examination**	X	X	X		X		X		X		X		X	
	X													
Dental Certificate	X	X	X		X		X		X		X		X	

**Health Examinations may be either a Health Appraisal (health exam performed by the School Medical Director) or Health Certificate (health exam performed by the student's primary medical provider). They must be dated no more than 12 months prior to the start of the school year in which they are required, or the date of entrance to the school for new entrants.

This sample resource was created by the New York State Center for School Health and is located at www.schoolhealthny.com in the Laws | Guidelines | Memos - Effective July 2018

REQUIRED NYS SCHOOL HEALTH EXAMINATION FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY PRIVATE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER OR SCHOOL MEDICAL DIRECTOR IF AN AREA IS NOT ASSESSED, INDICATE NOT DONE					
Note: NYSED requires a physical exam for new entrants and students in Grades Pre-K or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11; annually for interscholastic sports; and working papers as needed; or as required by the Committee on Special Education (CSE) or Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE).					
STUDENT INFORMATION					
Name:		Affirmed Name (if applicable):		DOB:	
Sex Assigned at Birth: ☐ Female ☐ Male		Gender Identity: ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Nonbinary ☐ X			
School:			Grade:		Exam Date:
HEALTH HISTORY					
If yes to any diagnoses below, check all that apply and provide additional information.					
☐ Allergies	Type: ☐ Medication/Treatment Order Attached ☐ Anaphylaxis Care Plan Attached				
☐ Asthma	Type: ☐ Intermittent ☐ Persistent ☐ Other: ☐ Medication/Treatment Order Attached ☐ Asthma Care Plan Attached				
☐ Seizures	Type: ☐ Medication/Treatment Order Attached ☐ Date of Last Seizure: ☐ Seizure Care Plan Attached				
☐ Diabetes	Type: ☐ 1 Type: ☐ 2 ☐ Medication/Treatment Ordered Attached ☐ Diabetes Medical Management Plan Attached				
Risk Factors for Diabetes or Pre-Diabetes: Consider screening for T2DM if BMI % > 85% and has 2 or more risk factors: Family History T2DM, Ethnicity, Sx Insulin Resistance, Gestational Hx of Mother, and/or pre-diabetes.					
BMI _____ kg/m2 Percentile (Weight Status Category) ☐ <5 th ☐ 5 th - 49 th ☐ 50 th - 84 th ☐ 85 th - 94 th ☐ 95 th - 98 th ☐ 99 th and >					
Hyperlipidemia: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Done			Hypertension: ☐ Yes ☐ Not Done		
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION/ASSESSMENT					
Height:		Weight:		BP:	
				Pulse:	
				Respirations:	
Laboratory Testing	Positive	Negative	Date	Lead Level Required for PreK & K	
TB-PRN	☐	☐		☐ Test Done ☐ Lead Elevated ≥ 5 µg/dL	
Sickle Cell Screen-PRN	☐	☐			
☐ System Review Within Normal Limits ☐ Abnormal Findings—List Other Pertinent Medical Concerns Below (e.g., concussion, mental health, one functioning organ)					
☐ HEENT	☐ Lymph nodes	☐ Abdomen	☐ Extremities	☐ Speech	
☐ Dental	☐ Cardiovascular	☐ Back/Spine/Neck	☐ Skin	☐ Social Emotional	
☐ Mental Health	☐ Lungs	☐ Genitourinary	☐ Neurological	☐ Musculoskeletal	
☐ Assessment/Abnormalities Noted/Recommendations:			Diagnoses/Problems (list): ICD-10 Code*		
☐ Additional Information Attached			*Required only for students with an IEP receiving Medicaid		

Name:		Affirmed Name (if applicable):		DOB:	
SCREENINGS					
Vision & Hearing Screenings Required for New Entrants, PreK or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, & 11					
Vision	With Correction ☐ Yes ☐ No	Right	Left	Referral	Not Done
Distance Acuity		20/	20/	☐ Yes	☐
Near Vision Acuity		20/	20/	☐ Yes	☐
Color Perception Screening ☐ Pass ☐ Fail					☐
Notes:					
Hearing Passing indicates student can hear 20dB at all frequencies: 500, 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000 Hz; for grades 7 & 11 also test at 6000 & 8000 Hz.					Not Done
Pure Tone Screening	Right ☐ Pass ☐ Fail	Left ☐ Pass ☐ Fail	Referral ☐ Yes		☐
Notes:					
Scoliosis Screening Required for Boys grade 9 and Girls grades 5 & 7		Negative	Positive	Referral	Not Done
		☐	☐	☐	☐
Notes:					
FOR PARTICIPATION IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION/SPORTS*/PLAYGROUND/WORK					
☐ Family cardiac history reviewed – required for sports (Dominic Murray Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act)					
☐ Student may participate in all activities without restrictions.					
If Restrictions Apply , complete the information below.					
☐ Student is restricted from participation in:					
☐ Contact Sports: Basketball, Competitive Cheerleading, Diving, Downhill Skiing, Field Hockey, Football, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, or Wrestling.					
☐ Limited Contact Sports: Baseball, Fencing, Softball, or Volleyball					
☐ Non-Contact Sports: Archery, Badminton, Bowling, Cross-Country, Golf, Riflery, Swimming, Tennis, or Track & Field.					
☐ Other Restrictions:					
☐ Other Accommodations*: (e.g., brace, orthotics, insulin pump, prosthetic, sports goggles, etc.) Use the additional space below to explain.					
*Check with the athletic governing body if prior approval/form completion is required for use of the device at athletic competitions.					
MEDICATIONS					
☐ Order Form for medication(s) needed at school attached					
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE			IMMUNIZATIONS		
☐ Confirmed free of communicable disease during exam			☐ Record Attached ☐ Reported in NYSIIS		
HEALTHCARE PROVIDER					
Healthcare Provider Signature:					
Provider Name: <i>(please print)</i>					
Provider Address:					
Phone:			Fax:		
Please Return This Form to Your Child's School Health Office When Completed.					

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Communicable Disease Reporting Requirements

Reporting of suspected or confirmed communicable diseases is mandated under the New York State Sanitary Code (10NYCRR 2.10, 2.14). The primary responsibility for reporting rests with the physician; moreover, laboratories (PHL 2102), school nurses (10NYCRR 2.12), day care center directors, nursing homes/hospitals (10NYCRR 405.3d) and state institutions (10NYCRR 2.10a) or other locations providing health services (10NYCRR 2.12) are also required to report the diseases listed below.

Anaplasmosis	Cyclosporiasis	Hospital associated infections (as defined in section 2.2 10NYCRR)	Poliomyelitis	Streptococcal infection (invasive disease) ⁵
Amebiasis	Diphtheria	Influenza, laboratory-confirmed	Psittacosis	Group A beta-hemolytic strep
Animal bites for which rabies prophylaxis is given¹	E.coli O157:H7 infection ⁴	Legionellosis	Q Fever²	Group B strep
Anthrax²	Ehrlichiosis	Listeriosis	Rabies¹	Streptococcus pneumoniae
Arboviral infection³	Encephalitis	Lyme disease	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) laboratory-confirmed	Syphilis, specify stage⁷
Babesiosis	Foodborne Illness	Lymphogranuloma venereum	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) pediatric fatalities	Tetanus
Botulism³	Giardiasis	Malaria	Rocky Mountain spotted fever	Toxic shock syndrome
Brucellosis²	Glanders²	Measles	Rubella	Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies ⁸ (TSE)
Campylobacteriosis	Gonococcal infection	Melioidosis²	(including congenital rubella syndrome)	Trichinosis
Chancroid	Haemophilus influenzae ⁵ (invasive disease)	Meningitis	Salmonellosis	Tuberculosis current disease (specify site)
Chlamydia trachomatis infection	Hantavirus disease	Aseptic or viral	Shigatoxin-producing E.coli ⁴ (STEC)	Tularemia²
Cholera	Hepatitis A	Haemophilus	Shigellosis ⁴	Typhoid
Coronavirus	Hepatitis A in a food handler	Meningococcal	Smallpox²	Vaccinia disease⁹
COVID-19 (SARS CoV-2)	Hepatitis B (specify acute or chronic)	Other (specify type)	Staphylococcus aureus ⁶ (due to strains showing reduced susceptibility or resistance to vancomycin)	Varicella (not shingles)
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)	Hepatitis C (specify acute or chronic)	Meningococcemia	Staphylococcal enterotoxin B poisoning²	Vibriosis ⁹
Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)	Pregnant hepatitis B carrier	Mpox		Viral hemorrhagic fever²
Cryptosporidiosis	Herpes infection, infants aged 60 days or younger	Mumps		Yersiniosis
		Pertussis		
		Plague²		

WHO SHOULD REPORT?

Physicians, nurses, laboratory directors, infection control practitioners, health care facilities, state institutions, schools.

WHERE SHOULD REPORT BE MADE?

Report to local health department where patient resides.

Contact Person _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____

WHEN SHOULD REPORT BE MADE?

Within 24 hours of diagnosis:

- Phone diseases in bold type,
- Report all other diseases promptly to county health department where individual resides.
- In New York City use form PD-16.

SPECIAL NOTES

- Diseases listed in **bold type** warrant prompt action and should be reported **immediately** to local health departments by phone followed by submission of the confidential case report form (DOH-389). In NYC use case report form PD-16.
- In addition to the diseases listed above, any unusual disease (defined as a newly apparent or emerging disease or syndrome that could possibly be caused by a transmissible infectious agent or microbial toxin) is reportable.
- Outbreaks: while individual cases of some diseases (e.g., streptococcal sore throat, head lice, impetigo, scabies and pneumonia) are not reportable, a cluster or outbreak of cases of any communicable disease is a reportable event.
- **Cases of HIV infection, HIV-related illness and AIDS (Stage 3) are reportable on the Medical Provider HIV/AIDS and Partner/Contact Report Form DOH-4189. The form may be obtained by contacting:**
 Division of Epidemiology, Evaluation and Partner Services
 P.O. Box 2073, ESP Station
 Albany, NY 12220-2073
 (518) 474-4284
 In NYC: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
 For HIV/AIDS reporting, call: (212) 442-3388

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1. Local health department must be notified prior to initiating rabies prophylaxis.
2. Diseases that are possible indicators of bioterrorism.
3. Including, but not limited to, infections caused by eastern equine encephalitis virus, western equine encephalitis virus, West Nile virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, La Crosse virus, Powassan virus, Jamestown Canyon virus, dengue and yellow fever.
4. Positive shigatoxin test results should be reported as presumptive evidence of disease.
5. Only report cases with positive cultures from blood, CSF, joint, peritoneal or pleural fluid. Do not report cases with positive cultures from skin, saliva, sputum or throat.
6. Proposed addition to list.
7. Any non-treponemal test ≥1:16 or any positive prenatal or delivery test regardless of titer or any primary or secondary stage disease, should be reported by phone; all others may be reported by mail.
8. Including Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Cases should be reported directly to the New York State Department of Health Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias Registry at (518) 473-7817 upon suspicion of disease. In NYC, cases should also be reported to the NYCDOHMH.
9. Persons with vaccinia infection due to contact transmission and persons with the following complications from vaccination; eczema vaccinatum, erythema multiforme major or Stevens-Johnson syndrome, fetal vaccinia, generalized vaccinia, inadvertent inoculation, ocular vaccinia, post-vaccinia encephalitis or encephalomyelitis, progressive vaccinia, pyogenic infection of the infection site, and any other serious adverse events.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on disease reporting, call your local health department or the New York State Department of Health Bureau of Communicable Disease Control at (518) 473-4439 or (866) 881-2809 after hours. In New York City, 1 (866) NYC-DOH1.

PLEASE POST THIS CONSPICUOUSLY

DATA PRIVACY CONSENT FORM for St. Theresa School

St. Theresa School puts premium value to the privacy and security of personal data entrusted by its students and parent/guardian for legitimate purposes in connection with the Technology Use/Telecommunications Policy and any hardware and software used in connection therewith.

When we speak of “personal data,” the term includes the concepts of personal information, sensitive personal information, and privileged information. The first two are typically used to distinctively identify you.

Processing of Personal Data

A. Collection of Information. We collect your personal data that you provide to us during your application for admission, information we acquire or generate upon enrollment, and during the course of your education with us in order to carry out the purposes associated with our Technology Use/Telecommunications Policy.

1. Information you provide us during your application for admission. Upon application for admission, we collect information about personal circumstances and contact information, including, but not limited to, name, address, email address, telephone number and other contact details, family history, previous schools attended, academic performance, disciplinary record, medical record, etc.
2. Information we acquire or generate upon enrollment and during the course of your education with us. Upon enrollment and during the course of your education with us, we collect information on your academic or curricular undertakings, the classes you enroll in and scholastic performance, attendance record, medical record, etc. We will also collect information for and in relation to co- curricular matters, such as outreach activities, as well as extra-curricular activities, such as membership in student organizations, leadership positions and participation and attendance in seminars, competitions, and programs. We will also collect information in connection with any disciplinary incident, including accompanying sanctions that you may be involved in. We will also collect information in connection with your use of hardware and software provided to you during the course of your education with us, including, but not limited to, address, telephone number, email address, other unique identifier, passwords or PINs, and account credentials (e.g., username and password).

B. Access to Information. Your personal information is accessed and used by us. We use and share your information as permitted or required by law to pursue our legitimate interests as an educational institution, including a variety of academic, administrative, historical, and statistical purposes. Some examples of situations when

we may use your information to pursue our legitimate interests as an educational institution are as follows:

1. evaluating applications for admission.
2. processing confirmation of incoming students and transfer students in preparation for enrollment.
3. recording, generating, and maintaining student records of academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular progress.
4. establishing and maintaining student information systems.
5. maintaining directories and records.
6. compiling and generating reports for statistical and research purposes.
7. providing services such as health, counseling, information technology, library, sports/recreation, transportation, safety, and security.
8. managing and controlling access to campus facilities and equipment.
9. communicating official school announcements; sharing marketing and promotional materials regarding school-related functions, events, projects, and activities; and
10. soliciting your participation in research and non-commercial surveys.

C. Sharing of Information. Some examples of when we may share or disclose your personal information to others include:

1. sharing information to persons, including parent/guardian, or next of kin, as required by law or on a need-to-know basis as determined by the school to promote your best interests, or protect your health, safety, and security, or that of others.
2. providing academic institutions, companies, government agencies, private or public corporations, or the like, upon their request, with scholastic ranking information or certification of good moral character for purposes of admission.
3. reporting and/or disclosing information to government bodies or agencies (e.g., Commission on Higher Education, Department of Education); and
4. conducting research or surveys for purposes of institutional development; and

5. sharing of information to various third-party vendors who provide services associated with our Technology Use/Telecommunications Policy and any hardware and software used in connection therewith.

Data Protection

We shall implement reasonable and appropriate organizational, physical, and technical security measures for the protection of personal data which we collected. The security measures shall aim to maintain the availability, integrity, and confidentiality of personal data and are intended for the protection of personal data against any accidental or unlawful destruction, alteration, and disclosure, as well as against any other unlawful processing. We only permit your data to be accessed or processed by authorized personnel who hold such information under strict confidentiality, including all third-party vendors.

Any data security incident or breach that comes to the knowledge of us will be recorded and reported as required by law. We will take all necessary and reasonable steps to address such incident or breach and mitigate any negative effect of such incident or breach. If there is strong suspicion that an incident affects your personal information, we will notify you of such incident in an appropriate manner.

Consent

I have read this form, understood its contents and consent to (a)the collection, use, processing and transfer by St. Theresa School of certain personal information about you (the "Data"); (b)any transfer of Data by any such authorized person for the purposes of implementing, administering and managing the purposes outlined above; (c)the use of such Data by any such authorized person for such purposes; and (d)the transfer to and retention of such Data by third parties in connection with such purposes. I further agree and acknowledge that while St. Theresa School has taken all necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that all third parties protect such Data, ST. Theresa School has no control over how the third party will use or disseminate my information. I agree to release and hold harmless St. Theresa School, its representatives, officers, employees, contractors, agents, and assignees, from any and all claims of action or damages of any kind arising from, or in any way connected to, the release or use of any information or records by any third party pursuant to this form and as allowed by all applicable laws.

DATA PRIVACY CONSENT FORM for St. Theresa School 2026-2027

I have read the Data Privacy Consent Form.

Complete Name of Student/Child/Ward: _____

Signature of Student: _____

Date: _____

If below 18 years old,

As the parent/guardian of this student, I have read the data privacy consent form, understood its contents, and provide consent to use the personal information collected as outlined and in accordance with this form. I hereby give permission to use the personal information collected as outlined and in accordance with this form and certify that I have reviewed this information with my child.

Parent/Guardian's name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Grade 8 Regents Examination Acknowledgment Form

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Regents Examination(s): _____

School Year: 2026–2027

Parent/Guardian and Student Acknowledgment

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have received, reviewed, and understand the Grade 8 Regents Examination Protocol. We understand and agree that:

- The student is enrolled in an accelerated course that may culminate in one or more New York State Regents Examinations.
- Eligibility for Regents testing is determined by the school and must meet all NYSED requirements.
- Regents Examinations are administered in accordance with NYSED regulations and Archdiocesan procedures.
- Regents Examinations may only be taken while the student is actively enrolled in Grade 8 at a Catholic elementary school in the Archdiocese of New York.
- Students who graduate, withdraw, transfer, or otherwise complete Grade 8 may not return to their elementary school to take a Regents Examination.
- Students who graduate in early June may still participate in the June Regents Examination administration at their Grade 8 school, as the June Regents testing period is considered part of the same academic year and graduation cycle. Successful completion of a June Regents Examination may satisfy diploma requirements even though the graduation ceremony occurs before the examination date.
- Any future Regents testing after Grade 8 is the responsibility of the receiving high school or another NYSED-authorized testing site.
- All official Regents Examination scores earned in Grade 8, including scores below the passing standard, become part of the student's permanent educational record and will be forwarded to the receiving high school.
- The receiving high school determines whether high school credit is awarded, course placement, transcript entries, graduation requirements, and diploma implications in accordance with NYSED requirements and school policy.
- Participation in a Grade 8 Regents Examination does not guarantee high school credit.
- The student is expected to complete all course requirements and participate in all scheduled Regents Examinations.

Parent/Guardian

Name (Print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student

Name (Print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

School Representative

I certify that the Grade 8 Regents Examination Protocol has been provided to the student and parent/guardian.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return this signed acknowledgement to the school by: _____.