

## Vaccination Policy

We strongly recommend utilizing the immunization schedule as is recommended and determined by the AAP and CDC.

All children must receive all vaccines recommended by the AAP that are mandated for school entry by the State of NY.

All children must begin receiving vaccines by age 2 months.

If parents/guardians elect to give less than the recommended number of vaccines at a visit, the child must return to the office at 2-4 week intervals to stay within the recommended "window" for the vaccines. A follow up vaccine only appointment should be made when leaving the office after a child's checkup.

All parents/guardians who do not follow the exact AAP vaccine guidelines must sign a waiver that they are utilizing an alternate vaccine schedule, approved by a physician or nurse practitioner and completed at the time of the visit.

In order to make the alternate schedule clear to providers, staff and caregivers, and to minimize vaccine administration errors, providers will enter "refused vaccine" into a patient's EHR immunization record if they didn't get the recommended vaccines on that day.

If a patient misses a "vaccine only" appointment, a receptionist from our office will call to reschedule the appointment. Parents/guardians who are following an alternate vaccine schedule who do not adhere to their agreement and who don't have a medical reason for their child missing the vaccine appointment will be given a warning, and their child's provider will be notified of the missed appointment. If parents/guardians fail to keep a 2nd vaccine appointment, the patient will be discharged from the practice.

Parents/guardians who do not agree with the vaccine policy and do not plan on immunizing their children within the time frame specified will be given a 1-month grace period to find another pediatric practice.