

DAILEY ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS POLICY

The Morris E. Dailey Elementary School (“Charter School”) Governing Board, Fresno Innovative Charter Schools, Inc. (“FICS”) adopts the following policy regarding health examinations and immunizations.

Health Examinations

Health Examination Certificates or Waivers

On or before the 90th day after a student’s entrance into first grade at Dailey Elementary Charter School, all students must provide a certificate approved by the California Department of Health Services documenting that within the prior eighteen (18) months, the child had received the appropriate health screening and evaluation services as provided by Health & Safety Code section 124040. Alternatively, the student must provide a waiver signed by the student’s parents/guardians indicating that they do not want or are unable to obtain the health screening and evaluation services for their child. If the waiver indicates that the parents/guardians are unable to obtain services for the child, the reasons why should be included in the waiver. If the student fails to provide the required documentation, the student will be excluded from Charter School for not more than five (5) days. In limited circumstances, up to five (5) percent of Charter School’s first grade enrollment may obtain exemptions from exclusion if Charter School contacts the student’s parents/guardians at least twice before the 90th day after entrance to the first grade and they refuse to provide either a certificate or waiver. These exemptions shall only be used in extraordinary circumstances, including, but not limited to, family situations of great dysfunction or disruption, including substance abuse by parents or guardians, child abuse or child neglect.

Health Examinations by the Charter School

The FICS Board recognizes that periodic health examinations of students may lead to the detection and treatment of conditions that impact learning. Health examinations also may help in determining whether special adaptations of Charter School’s program are necessary.

A parent/guardian may file annually with the Charter School’s Executive Director a statement in writing, signed by the parent/guardian stating that he/she will not consent to a physical examination of his/her child. The student will thereafter be exempt from physical examinations, but if there is good reason to believe that the student is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the student will be sent home and not be permitted to return to school until the Charter School Executive Director is satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist.

The Charter School shall conduct health examinations of students as needed to insure proper care of the students.

Vision and Hearing Tests: Upon first year of enrollment in the Charter School and at least every third year thereafter until the child has completed the eighth grade, the Charter School shall test the student's vision. The vision test shall include tests for visual acuity and color vision, although the color vision shall be appraised once and only on male students, the results of which shall be entered in the health records and need not begin until the student is in first grade. Each pupil shall be given a hearing screening test in kindergarten or first grade and in second, fifth, eighth, tenth or eleventh grade and first entry into the California public school system. Classroom teachers are responsible for continuous observation of the appearance, behavior and complaints of students that might indicate vision or hearing problems.

The vision evaluation may be waived by the parents/guardians if they present a certificate from a physician and surgeon or an optometrist setting out the results of a determination of the child's vision, including visual acuity and color. Parents/guardians may also avoid the testing and observation if they file with the Charter School Executive Director a statement in writing that they adhere to the faith or teachings of any well-recognized religious sect, denomination, or organization and in accordance with its creed, tenets or principles depend for healing upon prayer in the practice of their religion.

Immunizations

To protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases, the FICS Board desires to cooperate with state and local health agencies to encourage immunization of all district students against preventable diseases.

Admission:

The Charter School will adhere to all law related to legally required immunizations for entering students pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 120325-120375, and Title 17, California Code of Regulations Sections 6000-6075.

California law requires that an immunization record be presented to the school staff before a child can be enrolled in school. The Charter School requires written verification from a doctor or immunization clinic of the following immunizations:

Students entering kindergarten will need the following immunizations:

Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus (DPT)	Five (5) doses
Polio	Four (4) doses
Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)	Two (2) doses
Hepatitis B	Three (3) doses

Varicella (chickenpox)	One (1) dose
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The Charter School's verification of immunizations will be completed with written medical records from the child's doctor or immunization clinic.

Any child leaving the United States for a short vacation to or long stay in any country considered by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") to have increased risk of TB exposure (such as Mexico, the Philippines, India or Southeast Asia) MUST contact the County Tuberculosis Clinic for a TB Screening upon return.

Students may be conditionally admitted in accordance as set forth in Title 17, California Code of Regulations Section 6035. The Executive Director or designee shall notify the student's parents/guardians of the date by which the student must complete all the remaining doses when they become due. The Executive Director or designee shall review the immunization record of each student admitted conditionally every thirty (30) days until that student has received all the required immunizations. If a student conditionally admitted fails to fulfill the conditions of admission, the School will prohibit the student from further attendance until that student has been fully immunized as required by law.

Immunization records shall be part of the mandatory permanent pupil record and shall be kept in accordance with the Charter School's record-keeping policy. Charter School will file a written report on the immunization status of all new entrants to Charter School with the Department of Health Services as required by law.

Charter School shall immediately admit a foster child, as defined in Education Code § 48853.5(a), and a homeless child, as defined in Section 11434a(2) of Title 42 of the United States Code, whose immunization records are not available or are missing. However, this does not alter Charter School's obligation to obtain immunization records for foster and homeless students or to ensure the full immunization of foster and homeless students as required by law.

If the Charter School discovers that an admitted student has not received all required immunizations, the School will notify his/her parent/guardian. If, within ten (10) school days of the notice, the child does not provide documentation of having received all required immunizations, the Charter School shall exclude the student from attendance. The student shall remain excluded from Charter School until he/she is fully immunized. The student shall also be reported to the school's Executive Director. Whenever there is good cause to believe a student has been exposed to a communicable disease for which immunization is required, that student may be temporarily excluded from Charter School until the local health officer is satisfied the student is no longer at risk of developing the disease.

Exemptions from Requirements:

All students must be fully immunized in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, the California Code of Regulations, and this Policy with the following exceptions:

- Students who show proof of a medical exemption pursuant to California Health and Safety Code § 120370; and
- Students who, prior to January 1, 2016, submitted a letter or affidavit on file at a public or private elementary or secondary school in California stating beliefs opposed to immunization, and who provides said letter or affidavit to Charter School, shall be allowed to enroll in Charter School without being fully immunized until the student enrolls in the next grade span pursuant to California Health and Safety Code § 120355(g);
 - “Grade span” means each of the following:
 - Birth to preschool,
 - Kindergarten and grades 1 to 6, inclusive, including transitional kindergarten,
 - Grades 7 to 12, inclusive.

This Policy does not prohibit a pupil who qualifies for an individualized education program (“IEP”) pursuant to federal law and California Education Code § 56026 from accessing any special education and related services required by his or her IEP.

The Executive Director, or designee, may arrange for qualified medical personnel to administer immunizations at Charter School to any Student whose parent/guardian has consented in writing.