The Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction (OSPI) formally recognized transitional kindergarten (TK) as part of kindergarten in 2018. As a result, the Department of Health (DOH) updated the school immunization requirements. This document explains the changes DOH made to the requirements for the 2022-2023 school year. These changes align with OSPI’s TK definition and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice’s (ACIP) immunization recommendations.

1. Preschool immunization requirements moved from the child care immunization chart to the school chart. New requirements were added for students four years of age.

2. Students in preschool or kindergarten, including TK, who are four years old or older on September 1st are required to have the additional dose of DTaP, IPV, MMR and varicella vaccines. Schools do not need to monitor students who turn four during the school year.

3. Students between the ages of 4 and 5 on September 1st will also need PCV and Hib vaccines for school entry.

Students with summer birthdays will have less time to get vaccinated before the start of school. Parents should plan ahead and schedule their child’s vaccination appointment before the school year starts.

You can find the 2022-2023 school and child care immunization charts at doh.wa.gov/scci.