

VACCINATION PROTOCOL

This policy aligns with Section 33(1)(d) of the Alberta *Education Act*, which emphasizes the responsibility of school boards to provide a safe and caring learning environment while respecting parental rights.

Holy Spirit Catholic School Division prioritizes students' overall well-being, including their physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, and moral health, in alignment with Catholic values and Gospel teachings.

1. **Parental Authority:** Parents/guardians are the primary decision-makers regarding their child's healthcare, including immunization. The division does not endorse vaccines but defers to Alberta Health for public health decisions.
2. **Division's Role:** The division and its staff lack the medical expertise to assess immunization needs. All immunization programs are managed by Alberta Health.
3. **Informed Consent:** Immunization is voluntary and requires parental consent. Alberta Health may request the division to distribute health information and consent forms to families.
4. **Facility Use:** The division may allow Alberta Health to use school facilities for immunization programs.
5. **Moral Guidance:** When a new vaccine is introduced, the division will seek written moral guidance from the Bishop, which may be shared with parents.

References **Section 33, *Education Act***
 Public Health Act