



Date: May 7, 2021

Subject: Vaccination Policy for Lime Hollow Forest Preschool, Campers, and Staff

The leadership team at the Lime Hollow Nature Center puts the health and safety of our visitors, preschoolers, campers, and staff as our primary concern. In 2018-2019, New York State experienced the largest measles outbreak in more than two decades. Over 500 individuals were infected with the measles virus in multiple areas of NYS, including New York City, Rockland, Orange and Sullivan Counties. The measles outbreak of 2018-2019 and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has heightened our awareness of protecting our team against vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs).

According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH), there has been an increase in the number of cases of vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs) in the United States over the past several years. The CDC and NYSDOH agree that the best protection against VPDs is broad vaccination coverage. The Lime Hollow Board of Directors concurs with this assessment and will adhere to these agencies' recommendations regarding vaccinations for our preschoolers, campers, and staff. In accordance with NYS DOH guidelines, the Lime Hollow Nature Center will adhere to the following VPD policy:

- Lime Hollow Forest Preschoolers and Summer Campers will meet the same immunization requirements as school-aged children as indicated in Public Health Law (PHL) Article 21, Title 6, Section 2164. Refer to New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance, available at:

<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf>

As is NYS DOH policy regarding school age children, *"this is true unless they have a valid medical exemption to immunization. A medical exemption is allowed when a child has a medical condition that prevents them from receiving a vaccine. There are no nonmedical exemptions to school vaccine requirements in NYS."*

- For the optimal health and safety of all Forest Preschool and Summer Camp staff, Lime Hollow staff will adhere to the NYSDOH recommendations that all staff meet the age appropriate immunization schedule as set forth by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP): <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>

Maintaining Vaccination Records. In accordance with NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) guidelines and NYS DOH Subpart 7-2 of the New York State Sanitary Code, Lime

Hollow will maintain immunization records for all Forest Preschoolers and Summer Campers which includes dates for all immunizations against diphtheria, haemophilus influenza type b, hepatitis b, measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, tetanus and varicella (chickenpox). The record must be kept on file for every camper and updated annually. Lime Hollow will also maintain current, complete immunization records for all camp staff.

If you have further questions, please speak with your primary healthcare provider or Lime Hollow's Health Director at 607.662.4632/ info@limehollow.org

Thank you for your partnership and efforts to keep our preschoolers, campers, and staff free from vaccine preventable diseases, and to provide a safe and healthy immersion in the natural world for the Lime Hollow community.

Original Signed

Forrest Earl

Lime Hollow Board President