



HARKER

MIDDLE SCHOOL PERTUSSIS BOOSTER

Pertussis Immunization Booster/Tdap (Whooping Cough)

California law requires all students entering seventh grade to show proof of having received a booster shot containing pertussis (whooping cough) after the age of 7. The last time your child had this immunization was just before entering kindergarten and immunity to pertussis wanes over time. Most pediatricians give this shot, called Tdap (tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis) at the annual physical exam when a child turns 11 or 12. When you check your child's immunization record for the Tdap, it will be in the sixth slot of the DTP section.

By law, students who have not submitted proof of their record of immunization by the start of school will not be able to attend school until documentation is submitted. We find that many incoming seventh graders have not yet received their Tdap shot, so be sure there is proof of Tdap immunization on your record before submitting it.

**For questions or clarification, please contact the
middle school nurse at 408.553.0311**

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TDAP:

A new school immunization law requires all students entering grades 7-12 in California to be immunized with a pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine booster called Tdap.

The new law states that, in order to begin school, each student must have a Tdap booster on or after their 10th birthday AND the school must have a "Notice of Tdap Booster Requirement" form, OR a copy of your immunization record with current Tdap, on file for each student.

Parents are also encouraged to contact their doctor's office for further clarification and/or confirmation as to whether their child has had the booster.

Please visit the following California Department of Public Health link for more information:

Shots for School - www.shotsforschool.org

Immunizations may be given by your family physician or are available at area clinics. Call the clinics for information regarding days, times, fees and appointments.