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VACCINE POLICY STATEMENT

Vaccines are the most important and safest way to protect the children of our office from very dangerous and easily spread diseases. Some vaccines protect individual children directly, some protect the spread of dangerous illnesses that could seriously injury or even kill very young patients in our office. As it is our goal to fight illness and disease in all its forms, our practice firmly believes that **all children and young adults should receive the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics.**

We are also aware of the anxiety around vaccines with the large amount of both information and misinformation available to parents on the internet. With this in mind, **our practice does allow parents to work with a physician to come up with an approved delayed schedule** so we can support your concerns while maintaining health.

With that in mind, **these are the vaccine policy rules in our office:**

- **You must start vaccines by the 4 month visit. If you have not, you will be dismissed from the practice.**
- **If you would like to delay vaccines or space them, you must come up with a signed alternative schedule with your physician before the 4 month visit. You must then follow this schedule.**
- **You can not go two consecutive well visits without receiving vaccines according to the signed alternative schedule**
- **You must be caught up with all your vaccines by the 2 year visit.**
- **If you do not follow these policies or you decide at a later date you would not like to vaccinate your child anymore with the AAP, CDC, and IDPH required vaccines, we will dismiss you after a final physical for that school year.**
- **We will honor religious exemptions that were signed before 2019. We will no longer be signing new religious exemptions for ongoing patients. Signing a new religious exemptions form will be followed with a letter of dismissal.**

WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO DISCUSS VACCINES WITH YOUR PEDIATRICIAN IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS. Every provider in our practice has dedicated their life to protecting children from disease and we firmly believe you should be aware of what we are protecting you from. If you have questions about the vaccines or this policy, please ask one of our providers. We are here for you. And we will always do our best to explain our recommendations, support your needs, and help your child grow healthy and safely