[SCHOOL LETTERHEAD]

[DATE]

Dear parents,

As of January 1, 2018, Allegheny County requires lead testing for all children in the county. **Children entering Kindergarten this fall will need to show that they have had two tests to measure his or her blood lead level**.

Here is what you need to know:

1. The new regulations require blood lead testing for all children at around 9-12 months old and again at around 24 months old. If your child did not have one or both of these tests, he or she should have a blood lead test as soon as possible.
2. We will accept any written proof from your child’s doctor showing when the blood lead tests were done. [SCHOOL NURSE, SELECT WHICH APPLIES: Our immunization form, which has been updated to include lead testing information, is enclosed OR A sample blood lead level testing form is attached that can be filled out by you and signed by the child’s doctor]. Or, you can provide other written proof showing when the tests were performed.
3. If your child doesn’t have a doctor, doesn’t have insurance, or if your insurance won’t cover blood lead testing, here are health clinics nearby that can do the test:

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| --- |
| [CLINIC 1 – school nurse, please select from map of health centers. The full list of clinics is also available at [www.achd.net/lead](http://www.achd.net/lead)]  Address  City, State ZIP  Phone |
|  |
| [CLINIC 2 – school nurse, please select from map of health centers]  Address  City, State ZIP  Phone |
|  |
| Lead Testing at the Allegheny County Health Department Immunization Clinic  Hartley Rose Building  425 First Avenue, 4th Floor  Pittsburgh, PA 15219  (412) 578-8062  *Tuesdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Thursdays 12-4 p.m.* |

1. You can request an exemption to the blood lead testing requirement if you have strong moral or religious objection to the test. A sample exemption form is included on the second page of the sample blood lead testing form.
2. Talk with your child’s doctor about next steps if your child has elevated blood lead levels. You can also visit [www.achd.net/lead](http://www.achd.net/lead) for more information about resources to reduce lead exposure at home.
3. A child will not be excluded from school if they have not had blood lead tests at 9-12 months and at 24 months, or if you don’t have documentation of tests that have been performed. However, parents should have a “catch up” test as soon as possible.

Thank you for helping to implement universal lead screening in Allegheny County. Please contact my office with any additional ideas or questions. To request additional brochures, or for more resources, please visit [www.achd.net/lead](http://www.achd.net/lead).

Thank you,

[SCHOOL NURSE SIGNATURE]