

IMMUNIZATION PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

Massachusetts law, (MGL ch 76 sec.15) mandates that each student meet state immunization requirements before entry to school. If your child is a new kindergarten student, the physical exam report must include the result of lead level tests and vision screening.

New Families: Parents/Guardians must bring proof of immunizations (translated if not in English) to registration for the registration process to begin. If the student does not have the appropriate immunizations, the student will not be allowed to attend school. Parents should review immunizations with their child's health care provider before the registration period. The type and number of immunizations varies with age. See Massachusetts immunization requirements.

Immunizations Certificate of Immunization

- Diphtheria/Pertussis/Tetanus (DPT/DTaP/TD) - 5 Doses
A booster of Tdap is required for 7th grade
- Polio Vaccine - 4 Doses (last dose must be **after the 4th birthday**)
- Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) - 2 Doses before entrance to Kindergarten
- Hepatitis B - 3 Doses
For entrance to Kindergarten
For entrance into 7th grade - All students K-11
- Varicella - 2 doses
- Lead Screening is required for entrance into Kindergarten
- Meningococcal vaccine recommended at age 11 or 12
- HPV-2 doses recommended at age 11 or 12

Continuing students: If your child is a 4th, 7th or 10th grader, you must submit documentation of a recent physical examination (conducted within the last 13 months to your school nurse. The immunization records on these reports will be examined by the school nurse. Please check with your child's Primary Care Provider (PCP) to be sure that your child has received the required booster immunizations. Note that students in 7th grade have additional requirements, including Tdap and the recommended Meningococcal immunization. Noncompliant students will be excluded from school.

EXCEPTIONS:

In the case of an outbreak of a preventable communicable disease, any student who is not immunized will (by law) be excluded from school until the outbreak is contained, as determined by the MDPH.

RELIGIOUS: Students at any level whose parent or guardian provides a statement in writing that vaccination or immunization conflicts with his/her sincere religious beliefs. This must be renewed annually.

MEDICAL: Students at any level who present a physician's certificate exempting a child from immunization because of health reasons. This must be renewed annually.

HOMELESS: Children who are considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has immunization recommendations based on grade.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS:

Full immunization compliance is required for all students visiting from any foreign country, regardless of length of visit. Immunization document must be submitted (in English) prior to entry to school.

VISITORS FROM WITHIN THE US:

All states within the United States have similar immunization requirements, set forth by CDC and ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices), which are expected to be enforced at the local level. Documentation of compliance may be requested in case of recent outbreak of vaccine preventable illness.

The School Health Services collaborates with our department of public health regularly. Brookline Department of Public Health shares procedures and guidance when indicated. Appointments can be made for the public health nurse to administer required immunizations for school entry if families do not yet have health care provider