

- Grade 1-6 Entry Requirements:
5 Dtap/DTP, 4 Polio, 3 Hepatitis B; 2 MMR, 2 Varicella, or physician documented case of chickenpox for any grade.
- Grade 7-12 Entry Requirements:
Childhood series *and* 1 Tdap, 2 MMR and 2 Varicella or physician documented case of chickenpox.

Medication Policies:

Medications (both prescription and over the counter) should not be taken during school hours, if it is possible to achieve the medication regime at home. Medication to be taken three (3) times a day can be given at home before school, after school and at bedtime.

A prescriber's order is required for ALL prescription and non-prescription (over the counter) medications.

To insure your child's safety, all medications are to be delivered to school:

- In a *pharmacy-labeled container*
Ask the pharmacy to provide separate bottles for home and school
- By a parent/guardian adult, **NEVER WITH THE CHILD**

**MEDICATION WILL ONLY BE
ACCEPTED IN THE PHARMACY
LABELLED CONTAINER.**

**IN THE EVENT OF A DELAYED SCHOOL
OPENING, MEDICATION SCHEDULED
FOR THE REGULAR START TIME WILL
NOT BE ADMINISTERED.**

All medications which must be taken during school hours, either long or short term, require the following forms to be on file in the school health office before any medication can be administered at school:

- A current medication order, signed and dated by the prescribing physician
- A signed and completed Parent consent and medication administration plan
- Current photo of student for identification purposes
- Medication will be counted by the nurse in the presence of the parent/guardian/responsible adult and signed on the medication log.

According to the Nurse Practice Act and Health Department Policy, nurses are not allowed to take orders from a non-licensed person (parent or guardian). This applies to all prescription or over the counter medication.

Medication Pickup:

Parents/guardian may retrieve medications from the School Nurse and signed for in the medication log. All unused, discontinued or outdated medications must be picked up by a parent/guardian at the end of the school year or it will be discarded.

Physical Exam Requirements:

Within 1 year prior to school entry or within 30 days after school entry. Physical exams are required for grades Pre K, K, 4, 7, and 10.

Head Lice:

In accordance with the NO LICE POLICY
Children must be treated, lice free and checked by the School Nurse before being readmitted to school. Prevention is the key to controlling this pesky problem. Please inspect your child's hair frequently and call the school nurse if you have any questions.

Mandated Screening Programs:

Vision, Hearing, Postural & BMI screenings will take place throughout the school year.

If you do not want your child to participate in vision, hearing, postural or BMI screening please notify the nurse in writing.

Vision and Hearing: Vision: year of school entry, PreK-5, grade 7 and 9. Hearing: year of school entry, K-3, grade 7 and 9.

Parents/guardians will be notified of any problems that necessitate a medical follow up.

Postural Screening: The State of Massachusetts mandates that all students in grades 5 through 9 be screened for scoliosis. Parents/guardians will be notified of any problems that necessitate a medical follow up.

Heights and Weights: Students are screened in grades 1, 4, 7 and 10 to calculate BMI. Information is kept confidential.

SBIRT: (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) In March, 2016, the Massachusetts Legislature enacted an Act relative to substance use, treatment, education and prevention (STEP Act) which outlines the requirements for public schools in the Commonwealth to engage in substance use screening and education. This screening occurs in grades 7 and 9 in the Lowell Public Schools. **Information with an opt out letter will be sent to parents/guardians prior to SBIRT screening.**