

WESTWOOD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Westwood, Massachusetts

SCHOOL ENTRY POLICY

All students entering the Westwood Public Schools must have written documentation of having received all the minimum immunization requirements **before** entry into school. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health will specify minimum requirements on a yearly basis. Written documentation includes a form or letter signed and dated by a physician or designee or a dated report from the Massachusetts Immunization Information System.

All students entering the Westwood Public Schools must have a physical examination by a physician duly registered in Massachusetts **within six months before entrance into school or during the first year after entrance and at intervals every three or four years thereafter.* A transfer student should be examined as a newly entering student.

Children entering kindergarten must provide written documentation from their doctor that they have been screened for lead poisoning.

The only acceptable deviations from the immunization and physical exam requirements are as follows:

1. A medical exemption is allowed if a healthcare provider submits documentation that an immunization is medically contraindicated.
2. A religious exemption is allowed if a parent submits a written statement that immunizations or physical exams conflict with his/her sincere religious beliefs.

Any parent exempting his/her child from the immunization requirement will be given the Massachusetts Department of Public Health vaccine preventable disease guidelines.

These requirements are established by the Department of Public Health and can be found in the Code of Massachusetts Regulations at 105 CMR 200.00 and 220.00.

Failure to adhere to these requirements will require exclusion from school until the procedures are completed.

*Regulatory language 200.200A