

New Student Screening

Documentation of New Student Screening NNPS 618-B 5/89
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Newport News Public Schools maintains screening procedures to assure the identification of children with suspected disabilities residing within its jurisdiction and requiring special education. The Division provides all applicable procedural safeguards. These include written notice to parents of the scheduled screening and, if the child fails the screening, the results of the screening.

I. Written Notice

- A. Each school shall include the following announcement in its school opening newsletter/information packet to parents of first-time enterers.

The Commonwealth of Virginia (Code of Virginia, Section 22-24 and Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children With Disabilities in Virginia effective March 27, 2002) require that students entering public schools for the first time be screened. All children through grade three within 60 business days of initial enrollment in a public school shall be screened in speech, voice, and language to determine if a referral for an evaluation for special education and related services is indicated. All children, with 60 business days of initial enrollment, shall be screened in the areas of vision and hearing to determine if a referral for an evaluation for special education and related services is indicated. In addition, the vision and hearing of all children in grades three, seven, and ten shall be screened during the school year. All children through grade three within 60 business days of initial enrollment, shall be screened for fine and gross motor functions to determine if a referral for an evaluation for special education and related services is indicated. The screening may take place up to 60 business days prior to the start of school. The division may recognize screenings reported as part of the child's pre-school physical examination required

under the Code of Virginia if completed within the above prescribed time line.

II. Screening Procedure

A. Children shall be screened in the following areas to determine if a formal assessment is indicated:

1. Speech, Voice, Language

Primary and elementary students through grade three shall be screened by speech/language pathologist.

2. Vision and Hearing

All students will be screened by the school nurse.

3. Fine- and Gross-Motor Functions

All children (through grade three) shall be screened for fine- and gross-motor functions by physical education teachers.

B. Written notice to parents of the scheduled screening and, if the child fails the screening, the results of the screening.

III. Confidentiality

Results of screening shall be maintained in a confidential manner.

IV. Maintenance of Student's Scholastic Record

A. Results will be maintained on the "school health record."

B. The principal shall maintain individual student results documented on NNPS "school health record" and maintain in the student's file until the student graduates.

V. Screening Techniques and Operational Guidelines

- A. Specific instruments and measures shall include observation and student performance on selected tasks in each area of screening.
- B. Techniques used for screening shall guarantee nondiscrimination.

VI. Newport News Public Schools, at least annually, conducts a public awareness campaign to:

- A. Inform the community of a person's, ages two to 21, inclusive, statutory right to a free appropriate public education and the availability of special education programs and services;
- B. Generate referrals; and
- C. Explain the nature of disabilities, the early warning signs of disabilities, and the need for services to begin early.

VII. The guidelines for informing the community show evidence of the use of a variety of materials and media and:

- A. Provide for personal contacts with community groups, public and private agencies, and organizations; and organizations, and
- B. Provide information in the person's native language or primary mode of communication.

The Division includes the involvement of parents and community members in the required child find and community awareness campaign.