

Series 5000 - Students

1. Elementary and Secondary

A. Attendance

(1) Admission/Placement

Suffield Public Schools shall be open to all children who fulfill requirements established in the Suffield Board of Education policy *Ages of Attendance* (policy 5112). Each such child shall have, and shall be so advised by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to participate in the program and activities of the school system without discrimination on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. Students who are classified as homeless under federal law and therefore do not have a fixed residence, will be admitted pursuant to federal law and policy 5118.1 (Homeless Student).

The parent or person having control of a child five years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is six years of age. The parent or person having control of a child six years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven years of age. The parent or person shall exercise such option by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form. The district shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities available in the school system.

According to Connecticut General Statute 10-76d(b2), special education will be provided for children who have attained the age of three and who have been identified as being in need of special education, and whose educational potential will be irreparably diminished without special education. If a special education student is being considered for an exception, the Planning and Placement Team (PPT) will make a recommendation to the Director of Pupil Services.

Each child entering the Suffield Public Schools for the first time must present a birth certificate or offer legal evidence of birth data, as well as proof of a recent physical examination and required immunizations. If the parents or guardians of any children are unable to pay for such immunizations, the expense of such immunizations shall on the recommendation of the Board, be paid by the town. Proof of domicile may also be requested by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

Any child entering or returning to the district from placement in a juvenile detention school, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement, shall have the educational records of such child provided to the Superintendent of Schools by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Judicial Department. Such information will be shared with the Principal of the school to which the student is assigned. The Principal may disclose them to the staff who teach or care for the child.

Children who apply for initial admission to the Suffield Public Schools by transfer from nonpublic schools or from schools outside the district will be placed at the grade they would have reached elsewhere pending observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the school Principal. After such observations and evaluations have been completed, the Principal will determine the final grade placement of the children.

Children who have attained the age of nineteen or older may be placed in an alternative school program or other suitable educational program if they cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one.

(cf. 0521 - Nondiscrimination)
(cf. 5112 - Ages of Attendance)
(cf. 5118.1 Homeless Students)
(cf. 5141 - Student Health Services)
(cf. 6171 - Special Education)
(cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

- 10-15 Towns to maintain schools
- 10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year olds, as amended by PA 97-247
- 10-76a - 10-76g re special education
- 10-184 Duties of parents (re mandatory schooling for children ages five to sixteen, inclusive)
- 10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board
- 10-233a - 10-233f Inclusive; re: suspend, expel, removal of pupils
- 10-233c Suspension of pupils
- 10-233d Expulsion of pupils
- 10-233k Notification of school officials of potentially dangerous students.
- 10-261 Definitions. State Board of Education Regulations
- 10-76a-1 General definitions (c) (d) (q) (t)
- 10-76d-7 Admission of student requiring special education (referral)
- 10-204a Required immunizations
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §11431 et seq.

Policy adopted: March 3, 2009

SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Suffield, Connecticut