

**Admission/Ages of Attendance/Placement****Admission**

A resident student is a student whose parent or person having control of the student resides in the Town of Bethany or who meets state requirements for school accommodations. Each such child shall have and shall be so advised by the appropriate school authorities, an equal opportunity to participate in the Bethany Public School District's (District) programs and activities without discrimination on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, genetic information or membership in any other protected class. 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 Board of Education Policy or Administrative Regulation.

Each child entering the District school for the first time must present documentation, including but not limited to, a long-form raised seal birth certificate, proof of a recent physical examination and required immunizations as indicated by state law, proof of domicile, military orders, or court documents, as applicable.

**Ages of Attendance**

The District school shall provide education for all persons five (5) years of age and older, having attained age five (5) on or before the first day of September of any school year. For children who will not reach the age of five on or before the first day of September of the school year, the child's parent or guardian may submit a written request to the principal of the school in which the child would be enrolled based on District residency and attendance area requirements seeking early admission to the District. Upon receipt of such written request, the principal and an appropriate certified staff member shall assess such child to determine whether admitting the child is developmentally appropriate. For decisions relating to early admission to the District, the decision of the principal and appropriate certified staff shall be final. Additionally, according to Connecticut General Statutes, special education will be provided for children who have attained the age of three (3) and who have been identified as being in need of special education and whose educational potential will be irreparably diminished without special education. The parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is six (6) years of age. The parent or person having control of a child six (6) years of age shall have the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven (7) years of age.

The parent or person shall exercise such option by personally appearing at the District office and signing an option form. The District shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational opportunities available in the District.

**Placement**

A child who applies for initial admission to the school by transfer from a non-public school or from a school outside the District will be placed at the grade they would have reached elsewhere pending observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, other school staff, and the principal. After such observations and evaluations have been completed, the principal will determine the final grade placement of the child. The principal's decision is final with no appeals.

Nothing in this policy shall serve as barriers to immediate enrollment of students, designated as homeless or foster children as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by ESSA. The District shall work with a child welfare agency, the school last attended, or other relevant agencies to obtain the necessary documentation.

## STUDENTS

5111(b)

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes § 4-176e to 4-180a  
Connecticut General Statutes § 4-181a  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-15  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-15c  
Connecticut General Statutes §§ 10-76a to 10-76g  
  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-184  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-186, as amended  
Connecticut General Statutes §§ 10-233a to 10-233f  
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-261  
Connecticut Agencies Regulation § 10-76a-1  
Connecticut Agencies Regulation § 10-76d-7  
Connecticut Agencies Regulation § 10-204a  
Public Act 19-179  
Public Act 21-86  
The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11431 et seq., as amended  
Public Act 23-208

Policy adopted: September 9, 1991  
Policy revised: September 24, 2003  
Policy revised: November 10, 2004  
Policy revised: May 13, 2015  
Policy revised: June 8, 2016  
Policy revised: December 13, 2017  
Policy revised: April 8, 2020  
Policy revised: December 8, 2021  
Policy revised: April 10, 2024  
Policy revised: February 12, 2025

Source: Shipman

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OPTION TO EXEMPT ATTENDANCE OF  
CHILD FIVE OR SIX YEARS OF AGE FROM SCHOOL**

Pursuant to Section 10-184 of the Connecticut General Statutes, I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
Name of parent/guardian/other

of \_\_\_\_\_,  
Address

the parent, guardian or other person charged with the care of the following minor child,

\_\_\_\_\_, of  
Name of child

\_\_\_\_\_, who was  
Address

born on \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby choose not to send my child to public school during  
Date of birth

\_\_\_\_\_ school year.

Furthermore, before signing this form, a representative of the Bethany Public School District met with me and provided me with information concerning the educational opportunities and school accommodations available in the District.

ACKNOWLEDGED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/guardian/other

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date