

Public Schools of Brookline
Brookline Early Education Program



**Family
 Handbook
 2026-2027**

Be Safe. Be Helpful. Be a Problem Solver.
Be BEEP!

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Core Values of Public Schools of Brookline:	3
History of BEEP	4-6
Brief Overview of BEEP	
Mission Statement	
Guiding Principles of BEEP	
Family Involvement and Communication	7
Overview of BEEP's Classrooms & Curriculum	8-10
General Information About the School Day	11-14
☐ Snack and Lunch ☐ Promoting a Positive Adjustment/ Teacher strategies ☐ Promoting a Positive Adjustment/Family strategies ☐ Arrival and Departure times ☐ Clothing ☐ Change in personal information ☐ Storm closings and early dismissals	
Nursing Guidelines / Illness and When to Keep Your Child Home	14-18
Financial Information about BEEP	19
BEEP Parent Teacher Organization (BEEP PTO)	20
Community Services & Resources for Families PAGE	21

Town of Brookline Resources & Services for Families	21
Civil Rights and Nondiscrimination Policies	25

CORE VALUES: THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE and The Brookline Early Education Program

Brookline Early Education Program is a high achieving academic and social community of students, faculty, staff and families. Our school promotes the core values of the Public Schools of Brookline. These include Respect for Human Differences, High Achievement for All, Excellence in Teaching, and Collaboration and Educational Equity.

High Achievement for All

Our schools are dedicated to teaching students to be involved, active learners who work hard, think critically and creatively, and communicate effectively. We emphasize high expectations for all students, and support them to reach their full potential in all aspects of achievement, especially in academics, arts, sports, social skills and civic participation, all of which prepare students for success in their lives after high school.

Excellence in Teaching

Passionate, knowledgeable, skillful teachers are the core strength of our school system. We expect our faculty and staff to provide a dynamic and rewarding learning experience for students. Excellent teaching begins with strong relationships between faculty and students and is nurtured by collaboration among colleagues. We are committed to supporting a professional community that creates and sustains an atmosphere of intellectual excitement, innovative instruction and personal growth.

Collaboration

Through collaboration we find new sources of learning and strength. The Public Schools of Brookline actively promote collaborative relationships. We seek out partnerships with community organizations that add value to our school system. We urge and support collaboration and exchange within and across our school community.

Respect for Human Difference

We are committed to acknowledging and celebrating the diversity within our community while affirming the importance of our common humanity. By promoting a safe environment for questioning and challenge, we foster the growth and value that comes from different perspectives, cultures and experiences. Our commitment is to create an atmosphere of safety in which to acknowledge and express differences while advancing true acceptance and respect for all.

Educational Equity

The Public Schools of Brookline are committed to identifying and eliminating barriers to educational achievement in our schools. To this end, we create policies and practices that are fair and just and provide educational opportunities to ensure that every student, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, disability, or economic status, meets our standards for achievement, participation, and growth.

History of BEEP

Welcome to the Brookline Early Education Program, affectionately known as BEEP! Our school was founded in 1972 in collaboration with Children's Hospital of Boston, as a research project called the Brookline Early Education Project. The educators and researchers working on this project sought to identify the components of a high quality early education program, and if attendance in preschool/pre-kindergarten had a long term impact on students' future success. This longitudinal study was funded by generous grants from the Carnegie Mellon and Robert Wood Johnson Foundations. Final results indicated attendance in a high quality early childhood program had a significant positive impact on children's future academic success, as well as on other life variables including being a registered voter! Furthermore, the research identified the following three characteristics as critical components of a high quality early education program: 1) direct instruction in social competency, 2) emphasis on developing strong organization and problem solving skills, and 3) the presence of strong partnerships with families. Today BEEP continues to weave these three critical components into its daily programming.

Brief Overview of BEEP

During the 2026-2027 school year, BEEP will have a grand total of 23 classrooms in seven buildings (Beacon, Driscoll, Hayes, Lynch, Putterham, Ruffin Ridley and Runkle). There are four preschool classrooms (Beacon, Driscoll, Lynch and Putterham) serving children 2.9 – 3.2 years of age; and nineteen pre-kindergarten classrooms that include children who are 3 to 5 years old. BEEP offers a developmentally appropriate educational experience that supports each child's individual needs and nurtures confidence and independence. Each classroom contains a variety of educational materials organized in interest/learning centers. These centers provide engaging and challenging choices that spark exploration, creativity and mastery of new skills. Children learn by doing as they interact with the planned environment and play with one another. The emergent curriculum is based upon each child's strengths, needs and interests.

BEEP programming supports inclusion. This means there are typically developing students, as well as students with identified special educational disabilities (i.e., Autism, Developmental Delay, Intellectual, Sensory, Neurological, Emotional, Communication, Physical, Specific Learning Disability, Health) in the same classrooms. Students with identified disabilities have an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) that details the services and educational supports they require to make effective progress in school. In addition to being a member of their classroom community, students with identified special educational needs may also participate in a variety of therapy services such as speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, play therapy, etc.. The multidisciplinary therapists who provide these therapy services typically work

in the classroom with small groups of children. The mix of needs, abilities and interests of our students along with the insights and expertise of our interdisciplinary team, results in an enriched and supportive learning environment for all.

We remain deeply committed to the project's initial findings and that a close relationship between home and school is a critical component of a quality early childhood program. As parents you are the most important people in your child's life. We need your help to plan a quality program that meets your child's developmental needs. We ask that you become involved in the program and lend support to our efforts. We aim to support you as parents, as well.

Mission Statement

The Brookline Early Education Program (**BEEP**) offers high quality, developmentally appropriate early childhood classrooms to a wide range of learners with and without identified needs. Children from every race, culture, linguistic background, ethnicity and family structure are welcomed as treasured as members of our inclusive community. **BEEP** teachers create welcoming, structured classroom communities that enable children to learn through play, develop meaningful relationships with adults/peers, improve self regulation skills, and expand their view of themselves in the world. Our curriculum focuses on improving students' social competence, cognitive, organizational, motor and language skills. Parents are expected to embrace the concept of inclusion, and model acceptance of all children in the program so that we can create the most supportive community possible.

Guiding Principles of **BEEP**

1. Inclusive and Equitable Educational Community

Inclusive and equitable education are the guiding principles of **BEEP**. Every classroom includes children with a wide range of developmental, learning, and medical needs. Our families are from diverse racial, cultural, linguistic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Teachers create a classroom atmosphere where all individuals are valued members of the classroom community, celebrating our rich diversity and commitment to provide each student with what they need. Our expectation is that parents join us in embracing inclusion and equity, modeling an acceptance of all children in the program so that we can create a supportive community.

2. Families as Partners

A principle finding of the initial Brookline Early Education Project research emphasizes the importance of families and teachers working closely together. We continue to believe that regular, ongoing communication between parents/caregivers and teachers helps establish a solid home-school connection. Parents/families are asked to share their hopes and goals for their child. **BEEP** values parents/families as the first and primary teachers for their children, and supports family members as they advocate for their child's future educational progress.

3. Individual programming

The program goals are adapted to meet the needs of individual children through a four-step process: observation, individual goal setting, implementing strategies and evaluation. The following developmental areas are considered as we organize our curriculum: social emotional growth, planning skills and work habits, problem solving, perceptual skills, cognition, language, and physical development.

4. School competency

A fundamental aim of the program is to enhance each child's opportunity for success in school. By operating as an integral part of the school system, the program develops continuity with the Brookline kindergartens and primary grade curriculum. Close working relationships with PSB's kindergarten teachers, elementary counselors, elementary principals, and senior school administrators are vital to the success of the program.

5. Classroom environment

The classroom is organized in a way that encourages planning, working independently and successful completion of activities. The space is designed to allow for activity choices to be available simultaneously in various interest centers. Teachers work to establish a cheerful, and caring environment. As a result, children feel confident and learn to care for one another.

6. Multidisciplinary team

- * Each of our classroom teaching teams consists of a lead **Teacher** and two Educational Support **Paraprofessionals** (or teaching assistants). At times, there may be additional educators in a classroom to support the education of our diverse student population.

- * The **Principal of Early Education** and two **Early Childhood Program Coordinators** oversee the program, providing support for families and teachers, and ensuring the quality of the program.

- *The **Social Worker** is a program wide support for students and families enrolled in BEEP. Our social worker helps students adapt to the classroom environment, form meaningful relationships with peers and helps families access community resources as needed. Throughout the year the social worker provides workshops and training for families such as establishing routines, developing play skills and transitioning to kindergarten.

- * The two **BEEP Team Facilitators** serve as team leaders for children with identified special needs.

Our **Intake Team Facilitator** supports children and families as they transition into the Public Schools of Brookline with developmental concerns, either identified by Early Intervention program, a community childcare program, a parent or pediatrician recommendation.

The program **Team Facilitator** manages the educational teams once a child with confirmed special education needs and an active IEP (Individualized Education Plan) has been signed by the family. These Team Facilitators monitor the timeline of the IEP's, ensure the delivery of specialized services, schedule meetings with parents and service providers, and support a child's transition into Kindergarten when they are eligible.

- * The **Speech & Language Pathologists** provide intervention and support to help children understand and use a language system to communicate, as well as supporting speech and the ability to communicate in a social context.

- * The **Occupational Therapists** provide intervention and support in the areas of small and large muscle coordination and skill development, as well sensory motor development, sensory processing, perceptual, visual motor, self-help, and play skills.
- * The **Physical Therapist** provides intervention and support in the area of large muscle coordination and skill development, including postural control, physical strength and balance.
- * **School Nurses** support the wellbeing of all students and provide health/safety consultation to families.
- * The **Psychologist** completes comprehensive psychological assessments of students who may qualify for special education services, and provides support to families & children.
- * The **Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)** provides intervention and support in the area of self-regulation and autonomy, increasing a child's ability to be a successful participant in the educational program and the social environment in which they live Our early childhood team provides regular classroom observations and consultation to the teachers.

Family Involvement and Communication

Individual Welcome Meetings

Prior to the start of school, individual parent-child visits to the classroom are scheduled to meet the teachers, discuss program information and relevant issues about the beginning of school, and to complete any necessary forms. This is also an opportunity for a parent to highlight information regarding your child and family. In addition, this visit offers an opportunity for your child to explore and play in the classroom, and meet the teachers before the first day of school.

Classroom Participation

We encourage parents to share their interests, read to the children and help in the classroom after the first 6-8 weeks of school. This initial period allows the children to adjust to the routine and group life, as well as make meaningful connections to adults.

Family Meetings

A Back to School Event is scheduled in September/October for families to visit the classroom and learn more about the curriculum and the special education inclusion aspect of the program. Meetings regarding parenting issues are offered during the year.

Family Conferences and Progress Reports

Conferences are scheduled in the fall to discuss your child's adjustment and set goals. At the spring conference, your child's progress in all areas of development is reviewed as documented in our end-of-the-year report. Parents receive a copy of this report. At any point during the school year parents can request a conference.

Brief Informal Communication at Arrival and Pick Up Times

During arrival time, teachers will be busy greeting and supervising children in the classroom. If you have an extensive message to relay during this time, please don't hesitate to notify the teacher through a note or by requesting a phone call. Teachers will establish regular office hours in the fall and notify parents concerning access.

Bi-monthly Curriculum News

Newsletters will be sent home via email and posted outside your child's classroom door. If you have limited access to the internet, you may request a paper copy.

Seesaw

Seesaw is an interactive learning platform for PK-5th grade. Each BEEP classroom has a classroom account and each child has a portfolio in the account. Teachers post pictures, videos and update families on classroom activities. Families can comment on posts. A child's individual portfolio is visible only to their family. Seesaw provides a real time glimpse into the day to day happenings in a BEEP classroom.

Email

Email is often a preferred method of communication between families and teachers. Teachers will provide families with their email contact information. Please note: Teachers are not expected to answer email while their class is in session. Teachers typically respond within 24 hours.

Family Gatherings

Your family will be invited to special classroom events (i.e., Cuddle Up & Read; Math Mornings) to participate in ongoing curriculum, share learning time with your child, and meet other families.

Parent Program Evaluation

Each year PSB seeks feedback from families in a School Climate Survey. This questionnaire will ask you to rate various aspects of the program. In addition, should you have any concerns throughout the school year, we welcome your feedback to a program supervisor or principal.

Overview of BEEP's Classrooms & Curriculum

Play Based and Research Informed

Teaching and learning in BEEP is guided by the Developmentally Appropriate Practices of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). In BEEP, children are active learners, supported by caring adults in a classroom environment that is designed to meet their individual needs while building a community of learners.

Learning in BEEP is joyful, iterative and is "culturally, linguistically and ability appropriate for each child. BEEP curriculum is standards based and grounded in play. Thematic and emergent units foster curiosity and engagement while they guide language, social and executive function skills. Throughout the year teachers observe children in play to assess their needs, skills and areas for continued growth.

Principles of BEEP Curriculum:

- Standards Based
- Adaptations and Modifications for children
- Inclusion of family culture, language and beliefs
- Family Engagement: One of our guiding principles
- Observation and Assessment inform decision making
- Predictable, yet flexible daily schedule
- Rich variety of material to encourage curiosity and interest
- Common Language
- Visuals to support learning
- Classrooms rich in print
- Displays of student work make learning visible.

The Classroom Environment

BEEP classrooms are organized to support a variety of learning styles through the use of interest centers that encourage planning, working independently and successful completion of activities. These centers include:

- Library / Quiet Reading
- Literacy / Writing
- Blocks
- Sociodramatic Play (pretend play with peers)
- Science / Discovery
- Table Games (math, puzzles, and perceptual materials/games)
- Art / Easel/Maker Space
- Sensory / Sand and Water

A consistent daily schedule with predictable routines, well organized and clearly defined spaces and classrooms rich in print define the BEEP early learning environment.

Social and Emotional Learning in BEEP

Social and Emotional learning is at the heart of our work with young children and families. Our multi-prong approach to social and emotional learning includes the use of several curriculum: Second Step, the Zones of Regulation, Playmakers and the Pyramid Model. As students move through their PK years they work on identifying feelings- theirs and others-, managing emotions and building problem solving skills. We build home school connections by sharing strategies and language that you can use with your children at home.

The Daily Schedule

The daily schedule includes large group, small group, and individual activities. It includes a balance of active and quieter periods, as well as teacher initiated and child initiated activities. A consistent daily schedule gives the children a sense of security and order.

Meeting Individual Needs

Our teachers are trained to meet the needs of diverse learning styles and offer multi-sensory

activities to help students achieve their individual goals. A variety of instructional groupings, strategies and adaptations are employed throughout the day. The composition of students and number of staff assigned to classrooms are carefully designed to ensure individual students the outreach and support required for their successful participation in each day's activities.

Literacy in a BEEP Classroom

BEEP has made literacy a priority and has aligned it with the kindergarten learning expectations with guidelines and recommendations from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and the International Reading Association.

- Provide an environment that is rich in language and print
- Use visual cues with pictures and print to depict the daily routine and illustrate the sequence of a task/activity.
- Interest centers and materials are clearly labeled.
- Use of classroom libraries, big books, and listening centers with books and tapes.
- Literacy Centers with writing materials where children experiment with print, writing, drawing and storytelling.
- Class books and individual books created from the children's own storytelling.

English Language Arts Curriculum

BEEP aligns some of its English Language Arts curriculum with district initiatives by utilizing the Heggerty and PK Foundations curriculum.

Documenting Learning

BEEP's Profile of Developmental Goals serves as a report form and as a guide for our curriculum by addressing goals and objectives in the following areas: planning skills and work habits, language development, social development, problem solving, physical development, perceptual development, language arts, mathematics, science, and creative representation. Teachers plan activities and experiences that address goals and objectives in all these areas.

Progress children make toward goals and objectives is carefully documented throughout the year. All teachers and assistant teachers document observations of children engaged in activities/projects as well as their interactions with others. They keep samples of children's work during the school year to document progress. Teachers also gain input from families, and specialists who work in the classroom about students' progress.

Individual student's growth and skill development is formally shared during the fall and spring conferences. At each conference, there will be time to discuss important milestones and ongoing goals. At any point during the school year, parents are also welcome to request a phone or in person conference with the lead teacher. Final report forms are sent to parents via email on the last day of the school year.

Transition to Kindergarten

BEEP is committed to supporting a smooth transition for children from our Pre-K program to PSB's Kindergarten. Our team facilitators meet with the guidance counselors at each school during the school year to share information about rising kindergarten students. This is done to help support placement as well as the child's adjustment to Kindergarten.

Procedure for Addressing Concerns

If a parent has a concern about the program or their child they should ask to meet with the

classroom teacher. If this meeting does not adequately address the concerns, the parent should make an appointment with the program supervisor (Rachel Craigen or Erin Hurney) or principal (Margaret Eberhardt).

General Information About the School Day

The BEEP school day is Monday to Thursday, 8 am to 2:30 pm and Friday, 8 am to 1:40 pm. Children should **bring the following items on the first day of school**. Please remember ALL items should be clearly labeled with your child's name

- A **complete change of clothing** in a box or bag. This change of clothing should include underwear (or diapers), socks, pants, shirt and sweater. All should be clearly marked with your child's name. All other clothing worn or carried by the child should also be marked, e.g., coats, sweaters, boots, etc.
- A **snack** in a bag/box
- A **water bottle** labeled with your child's name.
- A **lunch** labeled with your child's name **or** order lunch via PSB's school lunch program.

You will have the opportunity to discuss what your child needs for school with your child's teaching team at your welcome meeting.

Early Dismiss Days

There are several early dismissal (12:40 p.m.) days for parent/teacher conferences. The day before the Thanksgiving break, the day before December break, and the last day of school, all students are dismissed at 12 NOON. No lunch is served. Please check the school and district calendar and mark your personal calendar appropriately.

Early Release Days

Early release days are scheduled for parent conferences in the fall and spring. School is dismissed at 12:40 p.m. The early release dates are given to parents in the Opening Day packet that is sent home the first day of school. Parents are asked to take note of these dates in advance. Children often find it troubling when parents forget the early dismissal time and have to wait in the office after school.

Please refer to the PSB School Calendar for release days:

<https://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/Page/2>

Rolling Drop Off

Families have the option of a "rolling drop off" where they can drop their child off at the school entrance with a BEEP staff member.. More information will be shared about drop off and pick up in your start of school email from your child's teacher. Parents/caregivers are welcome to enter the building and drop their child off at the classroom as well.

Promoting a Positive Adjustment - Teacher Strategies

* Teachers will greet each child by name each morning and introduce him/her to the routine and the classroom environment in a nurturing, reassuring manner.

* Teachers will help children get involved in activities. Sometimes diversion helps children forget about goodbyes and begin their day.

* Teachers will work on developing a special relationship with your child in an effort to get to know your child's strengths, needs, interests and preferences.

* Teachers will put up photographs of each child and his/her family. Sometimes if a child misses someone, looking at a photo can be the next best thing to that person being there.

* If your child is having a difficult transition, the teacher will work with you to develop an appropriate separation plan.

Promoting a Positive Adjustment - Family Strategies

* Bring your child to school on time (8 AM) feeling confident about this new experience.

* A child can sense when a parent is uncertain about leaving, and these parent feelings can make the child anxious. Once a goodbye is said, follow through by leaving. Often when a child is upset within 10 minutes of the parent leaving he or she is calm and playing.

* Prompt arrival and pick up is very important. Part of your child's sense of security while in school is his/her awareness of the daily routine. If for any reason you cannot adhere to the daily routine, please discuss this with the teacher.

* If having your child bring a transitional object to school (e.g. stuffed animal, lovie) will help ease separation, please discuss this with the teacher.

*Remember, each child is different. Some children separate easily from their family members and caregivers, others have greater difficulty. Some children separate and seem to initially adjust very well, but after several weeks when the novelty has worn off, they exhibit a delayed reaction and may get upset in the mornings. All these reactions are typical and the teachers are prepared to help children and their parents make this adjustment.

Arrival

We ask that you follow these guidelines to make for a smooth beginning each day.

* It is our policy and practice that a child arrives each morning with an adult and that the adult dropping off speaks to or makes contact with one of the staff members.. At our school based sites, children are sometimes accompanied by an older sibling. This is arranged on a case by case basis, with the teacher, Principal of BEEP and the Principal of the home school.

* Always say goodbye to your child and tell him/her when you will return or who will be picking him/her up.

* Arriving on time and attending consistently are important for your child to feel comfortable and secure. We depend on all children arriving during the arrival period when teachers are available to individually greet you and your child and support a successful transition. If on occasion you are unable to arrive during the designated arrival period, please call your child's classroom or the school office and a team member will meet you and your child outside.

Departure

* After an active school day, children eagerly await the arrival of their family member or caregiver. In order to help your child feel secure it is essential that they be picked up promptly at the end of the school day according to your family's predetermined pickup plan.

* At pickup time children will only be released to their parents/legal guardians unless you authorize, in writing, that another specified adult(s) has permission to pick up your child. You can write your own letter of authorization or you may update your permissions via the Aspen online system. This system tracks the authorized people who will be picking up your child on a regular basis during the school year.

* Please be sure to read notices and newsletters which will be sent via email and SeeSaw. If you have limited internet access, please inform your child's teacher so you can receive hard copies of these items. Teachers depend on this to keep you connected to the life of the classroom.

Snacks and Lunch

Every child will eat a snack and lunch at school each day.

Please keep in mind the following guidelines regarding food at school

- Families should send in a snack and water bottle every day. Both items should be clearly labeled with your child's name.
- All foods that need to be kept cold should be sent in an insulated lunch bag with an ice pack. If you prefer to send hot food, please use a thermos as we do not have the ability to heat student lunches at school.
- You may choose to order lunch for your child through the PSB Food Services Lunch Program. This service will be free until June 2026, and many BEEP families and students have enjoyed the option of ordering food. More information about how to order will be sent by the Food Services Program in August.
- Healthy foods you might provide include: crackers and cheese, fruits, vegetables, etc. Please refrain from sending in sweets such as candy as part of your child's snack. You will receive further information regarding food policies when Public Schools of Brookline distributes the district wellness policy.

Please note: In the event that a child in the group has a life-threatening allergy, some foods might be restricted. Your child's classroom teacher will inform you of specific foods that might be restricted in your child's classroom.

Clothing

BEEP is a very active and sometimes "messy" place to go to school as we engage in hands-on learning throughout the school day.

*It is important to label all items of clothing, backpacks, & lunchboxes with your child's name.

* Please provide easily washable clothes.

* Sturdy shoes, such as sneakers or other shoes with rubber soles, are essential. Please do not send children in shoes with slippery soles, crocs, or flip flops.

* Send in clothing that is easy for your child to manage, as we will be working on self help skills.

* Periodically check your child's extra clothing bag/box to make sure it has a complete change of clothing appropriate for the season. If you take soiled clothes home to be washed, remember to bring a fresh supply the next morning.

* If your child uses diapers, please make sure there is an adequate supply of diapers and wipes on hand.

* Seasonal Clothing:

Cold Weather: Your child will play outdoors every day except when it is raining or exceptionally cold. Children need plenty of exercise and the freedom to explore snow, ice and even an occasional mud puddle. This means that every day your child should wear appropriate outdoor clothing including a warm coat, snow pants, boots, hat and mittens.

Rainy Days: Children will be going outside in light rain to explore puddles and experience

the elements. Please send a waterproof jacket, rain boots, rain hat, or any other items you'd like your child to use. You are welcome to send spare shoes for your child to change into after outdoor play.

Warm Weather: Children should dress comfortably for the heat. Please feel free to send layers for your child to wear while indoors, as the classrooms are often air conditioned on hot days.

Personal Items from Home

We discourage bringing toys from home to school. Favorite toys can be misplaced or broken, and sharing these treasured items can be difficult. Our goal is to have the child use the classroom toys and materials and to leave his or her personal toys at home.

Birthdays

Each classroom community celebrates birthdays in their own special way. Examples of celebrations include birthday parades, dance parties, special stories, and/or birthday games. However, according to PSB's Wellness Policy and due to food allergies, BEEP does not share edible treats or cupcakes to celebrate birthdays. In addition, we ask that you not send in items such as goodie bags or party favors on your child's birthday. Even without treats and prizes, we have made each child's birthday special in a unique and personalized way.

Storm Closings and Early Dismissal

BEEP follows the Public Schools of Brookline's decision to close or delay the opening of school due to storms. School closings are announced on local television and radio stations, as well as the district website. Announcements including calls to every household, begin at 5:30 a.m. If the school opening is delayed by one or two hours, morning programs will begin accordingly. On occasion, there will be a district wide announcement of cancellation of all afterschool activities. In this instance, please pick up your child accordingly and or check in with your extended day program director..

Change in Personal Information

It is very important that parent(s)/guardian(s)' addresses, work and home telephone numbers, emails and emergency names and telephone numbers be up to date at all times. Please inform the **Office of Registration & Enrollment (ORE)** so your information can be updated in PSB's database. They can be reached at enroll@psbma.org. Please copy your child's teacher on the email so they are aware of any changes.

Policy regarding Staff Providing Private Child Care Services

Teachers and paraprofessionals are not permitted to provide child care services outside of school to any child in their classroom, to maintain the integrity of the program and the professional status of the teachers and support staff.

Nursing Guidelines / Illness and When to Keep Your Child Home

For the sake of the child's comfort and the health of other children, children should be kept at home unless well enough to participate fully in all aspects of the program, including both indoor and outdoor play.

In addition, children should stay home under any of the following conditions:

- * Initial signs of a cold with an excess of coughing, sneezing, or runny nose
- * Fever over 100 degrees

*Vomiting

* Diarrhea

* Untreated infection, e.g. strep throat, ear infection, infectious rashes

If the child has an infection that requires antibiotics, return to school should be delayed until after the temperature is normal and antibiotics have been administered for at least 24 hours. If your child has diarrhea and/or vomiting, return to school should be delayed for at least one full school day after the last episode. If your child is home with a “strep” throat or a communicable disease (such as conjunctivitis), please inform the teacher and/or school nurse. Our staff will inform the other parents as necessary. Keeping a child at home for one or two days at the beginning of an illness can often prevent a longer absence later.

Well Visits

We understand that children have regularly scheduled appointments throughout the year such as routine check-ups and dental visits. Children who have pre-scheduled appointments may return to their classrooms when they are finished. Please be sure to communicate these dates and times to your child’s teacher so they may plan their day accordingly.

Guidelines for Dealing with Specific Symptoms & Diseases

Diarrhea: This may be a sign of intestinal infection and it can be contagious. Keep your child at home for at least one full day after stool returns to normal.

Sore Throat: A child with a continuous sore throat should be checked for a strep infection. Symptoms of strep throat are a red and sore throat, fever, severe headache, and/or rashes. Strep infection can be present without evidence of a fever. Children with strep may return to the program 24 hours after beginning antibiotic medication and if they can maintain their usual level of activity. Parents should notify the school nurse of infection so that other parents can be informed of the exposure.

Colds: Keep your child home during the first stage of severe symptoms. These may include pronounced nasal discharge, persistent coughing and sneezing, and low grade fever. Infectious Conjunctivitis: Very contagious eye infection. Symptoms are redness of eye lining, swelling and pus in the eyes. Antibiotics must be administered for 24 hours before return. Parents should notify school immediately so others can be informed of the exposure.

Fever: Any child with a fever of 100 must not attend school and must be free of fever for 24 hours before returning to school. They should also exhibit the ability to maintain normal levels of activity.

Vomiting: Children with intestinal flu or active vomiting for any reason must remain at home until the vomiting has stopped and the child resumes normal eating habits and is able to maintain normal level of activity. Children must not return to school until 24 hours after vomiting ceases.

Chicken Pox: This is very contagious and appears as small, round, yellowish blisters on the front and back of the torso. Children must be kept home for one week from initial outbreak and 24 hours from when last pox scabbed over. Parents should notify school immediately so that others can be informed of the exposure. Most children are immunized against chicken pox but disease still may break through.

Impetigo: This is a highly contagious skin infection characterized by moist or crusted sores and a red rash. It often appears on the face. Treatment is usually a topical antibiotic and the child may

return to school after 24 hours on medication.

Ticks: A parent will be called if a tick is found on the child. If a parent cannot be located, the pediatrician will be called for further instructions.

Pediculosis (Head Lice):

Recent research by the Harvard School of Public Health and the American Academy of Pediatrics advises a change in screening procedures, exclusion and 'No Nit' policies in schools. There is no scientific evidence that warrants the exclusion of children with head lice. Periodic head checks by parents, resulting in early detection, treatment and removal of live lice and nits, is the most reliable method for controlling pediculosis.

The school nurse is available to educate parents, teachers and children regarding the care and treatment of a child with head lice. The nurse will monitor the treatment of an affected child to ensure that appropriate and timely treatment has occurred. Notification to the entire classroom by the school nurse will no longer be made.

Infection Control

Hand washing procedures are posted in each bathroom and near classroom sinks. Throughout the day children are reminded by staff to wash their hands on arrival at school, after using the bathroom, before/after eating, and when coming inside from outdoors. Disposable paper towels are used to dry hands. Antibacterial solutions are used to disinfect countertops, tabletops, bathrooms, and sink areas daily.

Emergency Messages

If your child becomes sick or an emergency occurs, his/her teacher will call you. This is why it is important to be sure your current home and work telephone numbers are always up to date. If you cannot be reached, one of your emergency contacts will be expected to pick up your child and provide care. Please make sure that the people on your emergency list understand this responsibility. Until the parent or caregiver arrives, the child will be kept comfortable in the nurse's office with a familiar staff person, or in a quiet area of the classroom away from classmates.

Medication

Please inform your child's school nurse if your child will need medication during school hours. All medications administered by the nurse require a physician order and parent/guardian signature authorizing the nurse to administer it, prior to being given. In addition, emergency action plans are requested for life threatening allergies, asthma, and seizures. For more information, please visit the Brookline Public School health services page at the following link:

<https://sites.google.com/psbma.org/nurses/student-health-documents-and-forms>

Guidelines For the Administration of Medications in School

Parent/guardian and physician consent are required for the administration of all medications, both prescription and non-prescription. The only exceptions to this practice are the following:

- Epinephrine will be administered, according to standing emergency medication orders, to individuals having severe, life-threatening allergic reactions.

You may elect, by signing permission on the *Health and Emergency Information Card*, for the nurse to administer the following medications:

1. Tylenol/acetaminophen for fever or discomfort (for grades PreK through 8)
2. Benadryl/diphenhydramine for treatment of an allergic reaction
3. Hydrocortisone ointment to the skin for itching
4. Bacitracin ointment to the skin for scrapes or cuts
5. Cough Drops for minor cough or throat irritation
6. Silver Sulfadiazine cream 1% to skins for burns

On field trips where a nurse is not available for students in some situations may self-administer medications. See the section pertaining to field trips below.

Non-prescription Medications

Over the counter medications require written consent by both the parent/guardian and the physician. The school nurse can supply parents with the appropriate medication administration forms. All medications must be in the original container. Nurses may only administer medications ordered by MDs.

Prescription Medications

A. Aspirin and Ibuprofen

These medications, like all others, will be administered only with both written physician and parent consent. The physician's request must state that the child is not allergic to aspirin. The major indications for the administration of aspirin are usually orthopedic, rheumatoid, or other musculoskeletal diseases. Because there is an association with the use of aspirin and Reye's syndrome, it is administered only with explicit physician and parent consent.

B. Daily Medications: Long Term

All medications must be in the prescription/pharmacy labeled container and accompanied by medication administration forms completed by both the parent/guardian and the physician. These forms include information such as the name, dose, and timing of the medication, the indications for its use, any side effects to be aware of, and parent and physician contact information.

Emergency medications and/or those for the treatment of medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes mellitus, severe allergies, etc. have the same medication administration requirements as the above. There is a specific parent/guardian and physician form for EpiPen administration that is available from the school nurses.

C. Daily Medications: Short Term

All medications must be in a prescription/pharmacy labeled container and should be brought to the clinic by the parent. The parent/guardian must include either: 1.) a note which grants permission to the school nurse for the administration of the medication or 2.) a parent medication administration form to be completed by a parent/guardian. Antibiotics or other short-term medications given less than 4 times per day should not be given during school hours. If your child goes to an afterschool program, please make arrangements for her/him to receive medication there. If a student has a contagious illness, he/she should not attend school for at least 24 hours after the administration of an initial medication dose.

D. Medications on Field Trips

School nurses are rarely present on field trips. When no nurse is present on the trip, students will receive medications as follows:

A staff member, delegated by the school nurse, will administer medication if permitted by MDPH regulation. Exemptions include non-emergency medications for which an assessment is needed; i.e., neither Tylenol or Benadryl can be delegated to unlicensed staff.

OR

A student may take the medication from envelopes that the parent/guardian has prepared. Each envelope will contain individual doses of medication. The staff member will hold the medication for safekeeping.

Students may carry and self-administer their own medications such as inhalers for asthma and in some cases EpiPens, when appropriate to do so.

Please be sure to discuss the specific medication practices for the field trip with the school nurse 48 hours before a day trip and two weeks before an overnight trip.

Please contact the school nurse if you have any questions about the medication administration practices.

Sunscreen

If you would like us to apply sunscreen at school please complete a Medication Administration Plan and ask your child's health care provider to fill out their section. Then return the form to your child's school nurse:

Deb Troderman for BEEP @ Beacon or Lynch

Lucy Lukoff for BEEP @ Putterham or

The school nurse at Driscoll, FRR, Hayes or Runkle. The nurse will let your child's teacher know if they have received the authorization to apply sunscreen.

We encourage all families to apply sunscreen (if they wish) before their child comes to school. The U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates sunscreens as over-the-counter (OTC) drugs rather than cosmetics, subjecting them to rigorous ingredient, testing, and labeling standards to prevent skin cancer and sunburn. This is why the district requests you submit the Medication Administration Plan signed by the family and the health care provider. Here is a link to the FDA information.

PARENTS

Access of Non-Custodial Parents to Student Records

Access to student records by a non-custodial parent is governed by the provisions of M.G.L. c. 71, s. 34H and 603 C.M.R. 23.00. Ordinarily, non-custodial parents are entitled to receive copies of their child's student records, unless one or more of the limitations set forth in M.G.L. c. 71, s. 34H applies. In order to gain access to his or her child's records, a non-custodial parent must first make a written request to the principal of his or her child's school. Once this request has been made, the principal or their designee must notify the student's custodial parent of the request, who then has 21 days to respond. If the custodial parent's response does not include certain records that are identified in the law and which limit or restrict the non-custodial parent's access to the records, the non-custodial parent will be given access to his or her child's student record in accordance with the law.

See: M.G.L. c. 71, s. 34H; 603 CMR 23.00; Policy Manual of the Public Schools of Brookline, Section J(4)(d).

Adult Visitors/Access to School Building During the Day

We make every effort to be conscious about security precautions. All visitors must sign in at the main office and wear a visitor's badge while in the building. Before leaving, visitors must sign out. **During school hours all side and back doors are locked and visitors must - without exception - enter through the front doors only.** Please use the doorbell to gain access to the buildings.

Financial Information about BEEP

Funding for BEEP classrooms, staff salaries and classroom materials come from several sources listed below, with the first two sources providing the largest sources of revenue.

1. Tuition fees (Revolving Fund)
2. The Public Schools of Brookline - General Fund (tax payer funded)
3. Grants from The Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)
4. The Brookline Community Foundation (BCF) and Brookline Education Foundation (BEF)
5. Private Donations and Grants from friends and families of BEEP.

Information about Tuition Payments

1. When families are accepted to BEEP, they provide a deposit which secures the space. This deposit is applied to tuition for the school year. The deposit is non-refundable if a family withdraws from the program at any time.

2. Each family receives a tuition contract specifying the total cost and the payments due for their program. Families receiving tuition assistance will have the amount of assistance deducted from the tuition total. Tuition contracts offer three options for payment. Schedules for the school year are:

- Option 1: One payment due August 1
- Option 2: Two payments due August 1 and January 1
- Option 3: Ten payments due the first of each month from August through May.

Tuition Payments

Tuition can be paid by check or electronically

Make checks payable: BEEP Town of Brookline

Mail to: Brookline Early Education Program
333 Washington St.
Brookline, MA 02445

To pay electronically, please [click here](#) for instructions.

BEEP's Tax ID number is: 04- 600 1102

If a family falls behind with payments (without prior knowledge from the Principal or Program Coordinators) you will be asked to pay the remainder of the balance in full in order for your child to continue to attend the program.

Please see the contract for other terms and conditions, including extended school closures and termination of contract.

Tuition Assistance

BEEP participates in PSB Tuition Assistance programs, where based on financial information submitted by a family they may receive a sliding scale reduction in tuition (100%, 75%, 50%, 25%). Information and forms for PSB's tuition assistance are available [here](#).

Brookline Early Education Program's Parent Teacher Organization (BEEP PTO)

The BEEP PTO was founded in the fall of 2002 with a three-fold mission

- 1) **Bringing People Together:** The BEEP PTO facilitates communication among families, teachers, and administration, as well as encourages relationships and networking among families. For more information, email beeppto@gmail.com.
- 2) **Supporting Young Children in Brookline:** BEEP's PTO provides financial support for the activities/needs of BEEP through fundraising and donations from families, local businesses, and community organizations. The BEEP PTO is a non-profit organization. All donations are gratefully received and are tax-deductible as allowed by the IRS.
- 3) **Advocating for Early Education:** The BEEP PTO advocates on behalf of Brookline's young children and their families to the Town and Commonwealth. The PTO serves as a voice for BEEP families in Brookline. The PTO President attends monthly meetings with the Superintendent of Schools. The PTO has been instrumental in improving the town-wide Kindergarten registration process and has been involved in local and statewide legislation regarding grant funding and accessible playgrounds for all young children. For more information about these and other activities Email: beeppto@gmail.com

Contact Information

BEEP Administrative Office

599 Brookline Ave.
Brookline, MA 02445
Phone 617-713-5471
Fax 617-264-6421

Administrators

Margaret Eberhardt Principal
617-713-5471

Erin Hurney
Program Coordinator
617-264-6430

Rachel Oliver Craigen
Program Coordinator

617-713-5482

Intake Team Facilitator

Riva Rosenberg

617-713-5483

Program Team Facilitators

Lisa Lamont Harris, M.A. Ed.

617-264-6406

Riva Rosenberg, LICSW

617-713-5483

Social Worker

Danna Leibensperger, LICSW

617-713-5474

Services & Resources for Families

The **BEEP** Main Office is located at 599 Brookline Avenue, Brookline MA is open Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 3:30pm. You can reach the office by calling 617-713-5471 or via email at BEEP@psbma.org.

Grant Funded Early Literacy Programs PC+ and Community Playgroups

ParentChild+

Program Coordinator: Matina Lang, matina_lang@psbma.org

ParentChild+ is a learning-through-play experience for parents and their children, ages 1.5 to 3. Bringing specially selected books and toys, a trained home visitor meets with a parent and a child twice weekly for a two year period. The program helps to develop a child's verbal and communication skills and prepares a foundation for future school success.

Playgroups

The Brookline Community Playgroup is a free weekly parent-child learning experience. Funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement grant from the Department of Early Education and Care, playgroups are open to all Brookline families. Young children and parents/guardians/grandparents come together for 1 1/5 hours to play in a "pop-up class. A teacher leads the group through circle times with songs and stories, as well as facilitative active and pretend play, discovery and creative activities. Families are encouraged to play and learn together. Playgroup teachers reinforce parent expertise as their child's first teacher. Please contact Kathleen Jones for more information.

:

Kathleen Jones

Community Outreach Coordinator

Brookline

617-599-6200

[Follow us on Instagram: @brooklineplay](#)

Adult Education

Brookline Adult and Community Education (BACE)

BACE is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit, non-credit public education programs in Massachusetts, with roots in the community dating back to 1832. For much of its history, BACE was an entirely self-sustaining program of the Brookline public schools, funded solely through course registrations from the thousands of residents and learners who took part each year. BACE is now under the leadership of the Brookline Recreation Department.

Meredith Forse

Adult Education Coordinator

mforse@brooklinema.gov

Phone: [\(617\) 730-2394](tel:6177302394)

Community Services & Resources for Families

Child Care Resources & Information

Child Care Choices of Boston (CCCCB) - Child care, resource and referral agency
105 Chauncy Street 2nd Floor Boston, MA 02111 617 542-5437 (KIDS)

Mental Health

The Brookline Center - Community Mental Health Center
43 Garrison Road Brookline, MA 02445
617 277-8107 A 24-hour answering service is available at this number.

Early Intervention Programs & Agencies

Local Early Intervention (EI) programs provide services to children aged birth-3 years who have a developmental delay or may be at risk for delays. Services include assessments, home visiting, therapy and education support, and family consultation/support. Early Intervention Programs are accredited by the state Department of Public Health and are paid for by the family's insurance and/or by the MA Department of Public Health. Families in Brookline typically use one of the following early intervention agencies for services:

Thom Boston Early Intervention 617 383-6522

Children's Community Early Intervention 617 971-2470

Criterion Early Intervention 617 469-3080

Dimock Early Intervention 617 442-1870

As a child nears their third birthday (typically at two years and six months), they can be referred to **BEIP** to begin the transition process from early intervention to PSB. This process will include special education evaluations to determine if the child has an educational disability, and if they need special education services to make effective progress in school. If the child has a disability that impacts their functioning in school and they require specialized education or therapy services, the team will develop an Individual Educational Program (IEP) for the child.

Any family may contact the **BEIP** team to begin the special education evaluation process if they are concerned about their child's development and/or think their child may have an educational disability that requires an IEP for educational and/or therapeutic services. For referral information call **BEIP's** Intake Early Childhood Team Facilitator, at 617-713-5483.

Town of Brookline Resources & Services for Families

Public Library

<https://www.brooklinelibrary.org/>

The Brookline Public library system offers story hours, film and craft programs, puppet theater performances, CD's and cassettes. There are changing exhibits for residents of all ages.

Main Branch

361 Washington Street

617 730-2370

Putterham Branch

959 West Roxbury Parkway

617 730-2385

Coolidge Corner Branch

31 Pleasant Street

617 730-2380

Brookline Health Department

<https://www.brooklinema.gov/446/Health-Department>

The Health Department offers a wide variety of programs such as blood pressure clinics, TB testing, chest x-rays, influenza immunizations, alcohol and drug help, a weekly child care clinic for preschoolers, newborn home visiting, lead poison screening and dental clinics.

11 Pierce St.,

Brookline 02445

General Information 617 730-2300

Human Relations/Youth Resources

11 Pierce St. Brookline 617 730-2330

Housing Authority

<https://www.brooklinehousing.org/>

Main Office: 90 Longwood Ave., Brookline MA 02446

617 277-2022

Recreation Department

<https://www.brooklinerec.com/>

The Recreation Department sponsors a variety of sport activities as well as a summer camp program for children ages 4 - 13.

Recreation Main Office

133 Eliot St., Brookline MA, 02445

617 730-2069

Parks Department

<https://www.brooklinema.gov/745/Parks>

Brookline School Department

brookline.k12.ma.us

PSB Main Office - Fifth Floor Town Hall

333 Washington St., Brookline, MA 02445

617 730-2401

Food Resources

Brookline Food Pantry

Address: 210 Harvard St, Brookline, MA 02446

Phone: (617) 800-5339

<http://brooklinefoodpantry.org/>

Brookline Thrives

Is a non-profit organization that is part of the Brookline Food Pantry and offers convenient, free food bags to local families who could benefit from additional food options for their children over the weekend.

<https://brooklinefoodpantry.org/brookline-thrives/>

Non-Discrimination Policy of Early Education Program of the Brookline Public Schools

The Brookline Early Childhood Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, ethnic origin, marital status, disability, sexual orientation or political affiliation.

Brookline Early Education Program is supported by a grant from the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC). This material does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of EEC or the federal government.

Bullying Prevention Policy

Please see the Public Schools of Brookline's Bully Prevention and Investigation Policies at

[Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan](#)

BEHAVIOR/CONDUCT

BEEP is committed to providing every student with a safe, secure learning environment in which they can thrive. Along with all of the schools in the Public Schools of Brookline, BEEP has adopted the [PSB Student Code of Conduct](#). Consistent with the PSB core values of High Achievement of All, Educational Equity, and Respect for Human Differences, this policy is designed to guide a general code of discipline and expected student behavior based upon respect for others, respect for self, and respect for property.

All staff work collaboratively to support student growth and learning. has defined the "Keys to Success" to include the following three formal Keys to Success:

- Be Ready to Learn
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful

When necessary, the administrative team will contact parents to enlist their support in addressing more significant areas of concern. We ask that parent/guardians work with us to support their children as ever growing and changing learners.

Bullying Prevention and Reporting

Please see the Public Schools of Brookline's Bully Prevention and Investigation Policies at

[Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan](#)

The Public Schools of Brookline (PSB) is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment for every student. Bullying and retaliation are prohibited throughout the Public Schools of Brookline.

Bullying is the repeated use of written, verbal, electronic, or physical behavior by one or more students or staff members that causes physical or emotional harm, creates reasonable fear of harm, creates a hostile school environment, infringes on a student's rights at school, or substantially disrupts the educational process or operation of the school.

This prohibition applies to bullying that occurs:

- On school grounds or property adjacent to school grounds;
- At school-sponsored or school-related activities, whether on or off school grounds;
- At school bus stops or on school transportation;
- Through technology or electronic devices owned, leased, or used by PSB; and
- Outside of school or through personal technology when the behavior creates a hostile environment at school, infringes on a student's rights at school, or materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or school operations.

Cyberbullying is included within PSB's prohibition against bullying.

Retaliation is also prohibited. No person may intimidate, harass, or retaliate against someone for reporting bullying, participating in an investigation, witnessing bullying, or providing information about possible bullying.

Reporting Bullying

Students, families, staff, and community members are encouraged to report concerns about possible bullying or retaliation as soon as possible. Reports may be made directly to a school staff member or administrator or by completing the online incident reporting form, which can be found here: <https://www.psbma.org/district/educational-equity/incident-reporting>

When PSB receives a report of possible bullying or retaliation, school administrators follow the procedures established in the district's Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan, including assessing the student's immediate safety needs and investigating the report.

Bullying related to a student's protected class, including race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or disability, may also be addressed under PSB's policies prohibiting discrimination, sexual harassment, and retaliation.

For complete definitions, reporting and investigation procedures, and information about prevention and intervention, please review the PSB Bullying Policy and Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Please [visit](#) the Public Schools of Brookline website for additional information regarding non-discrimination policies and procedures..

Notice of Non-discrimination and Civil Rights

The PSB has designated and authorized the following employees to handle inquiries or complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Karen Shmukler

Interim Deputy Superintendent of Student Services

District Title IX and Title VI Coordinator (Students)

Physical Address: Town Hall, 333 Washington Street, 5th Floor, Brookline, MA 02445

Email: karen_shmukler@psbma.org

Telephone: (617) 730 – 2444

Matthew Dubois

Section 504 & McKinney Vento Coordinator (Students)

Town Hall, 333 Washington Street, 5th Floor,

Brookline, MA 02445

matthew_dubois@psbma.org

(617) 730 - 2460

Jullie Cullinane

Human Resources/Labor Relations (Employees)

Title VI and Title IX Coordinator (Staff)

Physical Address: Town Hall, 333 Washington Street, 5th Floor, Brookline, MA 02445

Email: julie_cullinane@psbma.org

Telephone: (617) 730 – 2410

Any individual may report discrimination or harassment at any time, including during non-business hours, by mail, phone, or email. Reports can also be made to any school building or school administrator.

A copy of the District's Non-discrimination Policy, grievance process, and Title IX procedures can be found on the PSB District Website. Please go to:

www.brookline.k12.ma.us

On the main District Website page click on Civil Rights/Nondiscrimination, this is conveniently located in the QUICK LINKS Section.

Upon receiving notice of Civil Rights-based harassment or discrimination, the coordinator will promptly respond in accordance with PSB policies and procedures.

Inquiries about the compliance with Civil Rights and application of Title VI/ IX may be referred to the District's Title VI/IX/ Civil Rights Coordinators, to the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), or both.

[Office for Civil Rights \(OCR\)](#)

US Department of Education

Statement of Non-Discrimination Individual Procedure for Filing

The Brookline School Committee and the Brookline Public Schools are committed to equal employment and educational opportunities for all employees and applicants, students, and members of the school community without unlawful regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation or disability in all aspects of employment and education. The members of the school community include the School Committee, administration, faculty, staff, students, volunteers and parties contracted to perform work for the Brookline Public Schools.

We are also committed to maintaining a work and educational environment free from all forms of discrimination and harassing conduct. We expect all employees, students, and other members of the school community to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner with concern and respect for all members of the school community.

Harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, and disability in any form will not be tolerated. Such harassment includes, but is not limited to, unsolicited remarks, gestures, or physical contact, display or circulation of written materials or pictures derogatory to either gender or to racial, ethnic, religious, age, sexual orientation or disability.

Sexual harassment is unwanted sexual attention from peers, subordinates, supervisors, clients or anyone the person may interact with in order to fulfill school or job duties, where the individual's responses may be restrained by fear of reprisals. The range of behaviors include: verbal comments, subtle pressure for sexual activity, leering, pinching, patting and other forms of unwanted touching, as well as rape and attempted rape.

Individuals who believe they are the subject of sexual or other kinds of harassment should report the conduct to appropriate staff and/or supervisors and procedures to resolve the problem should begin as soon as possible. No individual will be subject to any form of coercion, intimidation, retaliation, interference, or discrimination for filing a sexual harassment report.

All reports of harassment will be investigated promptly and in an impartial and as confidential a manner as possible, to ensure prompt and appropriate action. At each school, there is an individual complaint manager serving at the request of the principal. Any individual who is found, after appropriate investigation, to have engaged in sexual or other forms of harassment of a member of the school community, will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment or for students, suspension or expulsion.

Sexual harassment may constitute child abuse under Massachusetts law, G.L. c. 119, Sect. 51A. Brookline Public Schools will comply with Massachusetts law in reporting suspected cases of child abuse.

However, if a satisfactory resolution cannot be achieved informally, an employee or student may file a written complaint with the Superintendent of Schools or their designee. The Superintendent or their designee shall respond in writing within 30 days. If the individual is not satisfied with the response, he/she may take the complaint to Massachusetts Department of Education, Program Quality Assurance, 350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148-5023 or other appropriate Federal or State agencies. The Section 504 and Title IX Coordinator for the Brookline Public Schools is the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, 333 Washington Street, Brookline, MA 02445, Tel: (617) 730-2444. [See: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; 20 USC s. 1681 et seq.; M.G.L. c. 151C]

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Public Schools of Brookline (PSB) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national origin (Title VI), sex (Title IX), disability (Section 504/Title II), and/or age in its educational programs or activities. The requirement not to discriminate extends to employment.