

What Is CHILD OUTREACH?

CHILD OUTREACH is a long established program of the Warwick Public Schools that provides families with information about their child's development and offers information about community resources. It is a free service that's offered through a cooperative effort between the Volunteers of Warwick Schools (VOWS) and the Warwick Public School System.

Who May Receive the Services of CHILD OUTREACH?

All Warwick preschool children between the ages of 3 and 5 are offered the Early Screening Inventory—Revised (ESI-R). Screenings may be conducted at a CHILD OUTREACH Clinic, the child's preschool, or at the child's "home" school before entering kindergarten. This service is voluntary and requires the written permission of a parent or legal guardian.

What Is a CHILD OUTREACH Clinic?

A "clinic" is a special time set aside one or two mornings each month when the development of preschool and kindergarten aged children may be assessed, at the request of a parent or legal guardian.

Who Conducts the Screening?

Volunteers who have been extensively trained and certified by the VOWS' CHILD OUTREACH Project Director gather the information through a series of activities with the child.

What does screening involve?

Child Outreach provides a brief assessment in five areas of development:

- Vision
- Hearing
- Speech and Language Skills
- Social/Emotional Development
- General Development, such as gross and fine motor skills, memory, etc.

What happens after screening?

Screening results are reviewed by professionals from the school system. A summary of the results will be sent to you in the mail within a few weeks. In some cases you will be contacted directly by the district. Generally there are three actions that can take place following screening:

1. You receive a letter reporting that your child's development appears to be progressing along a typical path for his/her age
2. The Outreach Team requests that your child participate in rescreening (taking a second look) in one or more of the areas of development
3. Questions and/ or concerns are noted in development that warrant further evaluation to assess a possible need for early intervention services provided at no cost through your school district.

We want to ensure that **ALL** children are off to a good start before entering kindergarten. The outcome of screening is always a family decision based on the individual needs of your child.



How Are CHILD OUTREACH Clinic Appointments Scheduled?

During the school year, CHILD OUTREACH Clinic appointments are scheduled by Dolores Hyle, VOWS' CHILD OUTREACH Project Director. Parents or legal guardians may call Dolores at 734-3230. Appointments are scheduled in the order that calls are received.

Where are CHILD OUTREACH Clinics Held?

CHILD OUTREACH Clinics are held at Holden Elementary School, 61 Hoxsie Ave., Warwick, R.I. 02889

How Often Are CHILD OUTREACH Clinics Held?

Clinics are held once or twice a month on Wednesday mornings during the school year only. **Clinics are not held during summer vacation**. However, a concerned parent or guardian may call the VOWS office at 734-3230 during the summer months and leave a message asking for a screening clinic appointment. Your phone call will be returned and children are scheduled for screenings at a clinic in the order that their parents or legal guardians have called. (This process is adhered to for fairness.)

What Role Does A Parent or Legal Guardian Play?

You will be asked to give your child's Social Security number and other necessary information, either before hand, or on the day of the Clinic. **Under state law we are unable to screen children without the written permission of their parent or legal guardian.** The total appointment time will take approximately 30-45 minutes. This includes the screening, vision, hearing and articulation components. **You are expected to wait on the premises during the entire process.**

When should my child participate in screening?

Much like your well child visit with the pediatrician, children should participate in screening annually, at 3, 4 and 5 years old. Because the activities are based upon what is appropriate for your child's age and experiences at the time of screening, each screening provides families with an up-to-date check on their child's status in vision and hearing, and progress in the developmental areas.

What Happens to the Information Gathered In This Screening?

The results of the Early Screening Inventory—Revised (ESI-R) are **always kept CONFIDENTIAL.** **All VOWS' volunteers are trained to handle privileged information in the most appropriate manner,** as are ALL Warwick Public School Department CHILD OUTREACH professional staff.



"I learned so much about my child's development. What a fabulous opportunity, and its fun! I highly recommend CHILD OUTREACH to any parent of a young child..."

-Parent of a three year old



"I had fun and got some stickers!"

-Four year old child



"I never met a child who didn't want to please!"

-Certified Child Outreach Screener



"CHILD OUTREACH discovered a problem with my daughter's eyesight that we were able to correct early. My husband and I are so grateful."

-Parent of a four year old

Warwick Public Schools

Child Outreach Department

in Cooperation with

The Volunteers of Warwick Schools

CHILD



OUTREACH PROGRAM

Together, we can help all children become "ready to learn".

Every Child /Every
Year

Child Outreach 734-3580
Coordinator: Dr. Jessica Hammond

VOWS 734-3230
Child Outreach Project Director:
Dolores Hyle

Warwick Public Schools 734-3050