



New Hope Carolinas

Student & Parent/Guardian Handbook

2021-2022

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WELCOME MESSAGE

Greetings from the New Hope Education Department! We are excited to begin the new school year with a focus on Social and Emotional Learning tools that provide opportunities for our students to grow and thrive emotionally, behaviorally, and academically. We operate a year-round private school that is fully accredited through Cognia (formerly AdvancED). All of our teachers are state certified and many have over ten years of classroom experience. Curriculum materials are aligned with state standards and all coursework and credits earned are fully transferrable. We do offer special education and related services when appropriate. Please never hesitate to contact us at any time with questions or concerns regarding the educational programming at New Hope. We are here to help, and we always look forward to meeting parents/guardians, whether in-person, through email or by telephone.

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

By employing a rigorous and data-driven differentiated program of study in a highly structured environment, we cultivate the development of life-long learning skills. Our goal is to empower students to reach their full academic, social, and personal potential by preparing them to successfully transition back into the community.

THE NEW HOPE PROMISE

We promise to recognize that care delayed is care denied. We will always respond to a child's needs, and those of each child's family and caseworker, promptly and appropriately.

We promise to provide a safe, secure, healthy, and nurturing environment for every child.

We promise to respect the rights, needs, expectations, and individual differences of each child, including the need for safe and stable adult relationships.

We promise to promote an atmosphere of continuous personal and professional growth.

We promise to provide an individualized educational program to meet the learning needs of every student.

OUR SCHOOL CORE BELIEFS

We believe that every attempt should be made to maintain the dignity of both students and adults.

We believe that students should be given the opportunity to make decisions and learn from the results, whether the consequences be good or bad.

We believe that students should have the opportunity to advocate for themselves at a due process hearing when consequences appear to be unfair.

We believe that misbehavior should be viewed as an opportunity for individual problem solving and preparation for the real world.

We believe that there should be logical connections between behavior choices and resulting consequences.

TOBACCO POLICY

All New Hope campuses are tobacco-free. Students admitted to New Hope will not be permitted to smoke or use tobacco products at any time during placement. Visitors are asked to refrain from tobacco use on our campus.

EMERGENCY BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS

New Hope Treatment Centers limits its use of special procedures within the facilities to physical restraint and medication intervention under emergency circumstances. Special procedures will only be used to prevent the student from physically harming themselves or others. The legally responsible person (parent or guardian) for the student will be notified after any occurrence of the use of a special procedure.

SCHOOL-WIDE CRISIS PLAN

Fire drills are conducted once a month. Earthquake drills are conducted once a year, and tornado drills are conducted twice per year. During drills, teachers and staff lead students to designated areas and await an all-clear signal given via walkie. Practice lockdowns, evacuation, and power loss drills are conducted to prepare students and staff for other possible emergency situations.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school and the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. FERPA allows for the disclosure of education records, without consent, between education institutions. However, the Education Department at New Hope Carolinas will not disclose any information that is medical, clinical, or legal in nature without a signed release from the parent/guardian or eligible student.

PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNICATION

Report cards and learning plan updates are issued quarterly in August, November, February, and May. These are emailed to parents/guardians, but can be mailed upon request. Conferences are formally scheduled at the end of each quarter, but teachers are available at any time throughout the year to discuss student progress and address any questions or concerns regarding our educational programming.

Edgenuity, our online learning platform for our high school students, offers a Family Portal feature that gives parents/legal guardians anytime access to attendance logs and progress reports. Automatic emails can also be sent on a regular basis to help keep you informed about progress in the program. For our middle school students who use the online intervention program, MobyMax, a Parent Portal is also available. If you are interested in accessing either of these features, please let us know.



STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

As a student at New Hope Carolinas, you are expected to:

- Come to class prepared to learn.
- Attend classes regularly.
- Abide by classroom and school rules during school hours.
- Be responsible for your own behavior choices.
- Conduct yourself in a manner that does not disrupt your learning or the learning of others.
- Be respectful to staff, teachers, and peers.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Respect materials and property.
- Keep a positive attitude and expect that you will SUCCEED!

STUDENT BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with New Hope's designated Student Responsibilities (please see above). Every classroom teacher employs an individualized positive behavior support system in the classroom that encourages students to participate in the decision-making process with shared control to allow for learning from the consequences of their choices. Classroom and school rule infractions will result in the loss of privileges. Students are never suspended or expelled. If it has been determined that a student is a safety risk to either him or herself or others, he or she may be removed from the classroom setting. Students will not be counted absent if removed for safety and will be provided with the opportunity to complete classwork from another location.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

School attendance is a required component of every student's treatment. Daily attendance is expected. Students are counted absent in the following instances:

- Off-campus doctor appointments
- Off-campus visits
- Refusal to attend class

Students are provided with make-up work and are not penalized unless their absence is the result of a refusal to attend class.

Students may not exceed 10 absences in order to receive credit for courses in which they are enrolled. New Hope will count any days attended prior to enrollment from a previous school placement.

Students may be excluded from class for the following health conditions: fever, sores that cannot be covered, vomiting/diarrhea, conjunctivitis, and other contagious health conditions as deemed necessary by the physician or nurse practitioner. If a student absence is the result of a health condition, students will not be penalized and will be given work to complete throughout their time of illness.

New Hope does not close due to inclement weather.

| May 2021 | | | | | | |
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| July 2021 | | | | | | |
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| August 2021 | | | | | | |
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| November 2021 | | | | | | |
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| December 2021 | | | | | | |
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| January 2022 | | | | | | |
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| February 2022 | | | | | | |
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| March 2022 | | | | | | |
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| April 2022 | | | | | | |
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| May 2022 | | | | | | |
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| KEY | | 2021-2022 School Calendar Days by Quarter |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Holiday | ◇ | Quarter 1: 53 |
| Teacher Workday | □ | |
| Professional Development Day | ♥ | Quarter 2: 55 |
| Professional Learning Communities | △ | |
| Girls One-Week Break | ◡ | Quarter 3: 52 |
| Boys One-Week Break | ○ | |
| Strategic Planning | ☁ | Quarter 4: 55 |
| Total Instructional Days: 215 days | | |

GRADING SCALE

New Hope follows a ten-point grading scale:

| | |
|---|----------|
| A | 90 – 100 |
| B | 80 – 89 |
| C | 70 – 79 |
| D | 60 – 69 |
| F | 0 – 59 |



CREDIT ACQUISITION

Carnegie units are used to measure the amount of time, or seat hours, that a student spends studying in a subject area. These units are calculated based on attendance and are used in conjunction with a student's final grade to determine whether credit can be issued for a course at the end of a semester or school year. Every state requires that students earn an established type and number of credits to be eligible for graduation from high school. These requirements vary by state and can also vary by public school district. The graduation requirements for the state of South Carolina are listed below.

| Subject Area | Required Units/Credits |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| English/Language Arts | 4.0 |
| Mathematics | 4.0 |
| Science | 3.0 |
| Social Studies | 3.0 |
| Physical Education | 1.0 |
| Health | 1.0 |
| Computer Science | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language or CTE course | 1.0 |
| Electives | 6.0 |
| Total | 24.0 |

During registration, students are enrolled into courses that most closely align with his or her home state's requirements for graduation and promotion to the next grade level placement.

STUDENT PROMOTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Promotion requirements vary by state and may also be subject to change by public school districts within a state. The promotion requirements for York County, South Carolina are listed below.

To be promoted to **Grade 10**, a student must earn a minimum of 4 units of credit to include:

- 1 English/Language Arts credit
- 1 Mathematics credit
- 2 Credits from any area

To be promoted to **Grade 11**, a student must have earned a minimum of 10 units of credit to include:

- 2 English/Language Arts credits
- 2 Mathematics credits
- 1 Science credit
- 1 Social Studies credit
- 4 Credits from any area

To be promoted to **Grade 12**, a student must have earned a minimum of 16 units of credit to include:

- 3 English/Language Arts credits
- 3 Mathematics credits
- 2 Science credits
- 2 Social Studies credits
- 6 Credits from any area

When determining promotion or retention for a student, the student's home state requirements for promotion are followed.

Credit recovery is offered as a fast-track option to earn credit for any coursework that was not successfully completed. This option allows students to demonstrate mastery and test out of subject material learned in a previous attempt at taking a course.

High school students are enrolled into two online courses per quarter. It is expected that the courses are completed within a three-month period so that enough credits for promotion are acquired. Students are responsible for following the pacing guide provided by the online program and their teacher to ensure work completion rates align with deadlines.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM POLICY

I. Terms Defined

- * Cheating is defined as using prohibited tools such as notes, textbooks, websites, and peers or adults to gain information that will be used on assessments intended to measure a student's previously acquired knowledge.
- * Plagiarism is defined as using material written or created by another individual and presenting it as one's own work for academic credit.

II. Cheating Policy

- * 1st Infraction – Student will be allowed an assessment re-take with a maximum score of 60 points out of 100.
- * 2nd Infraction – Student will not be allowed an assessment re-take and will receive a score of 0 points for the assessment.

III. Plagiarism Policy

- * 1st Infraction – Student will be allowed to re-submit the assignment with a maximum score of 75 points out of 100.
- * 2nd Infraction – Student will be allowed to re-submit the assignment with a maximum score of 60 points out of 100.
- * 3rd Infraction - Student will not be allowed to re-submit the assignment and will receive a score of 0 points for the assignment.

IV. Reporting Policy

- * Any instances of cheating/plagiarism will result in a student/teacher conference.
 - * Instances of cheating/plagiarism will be reported to parents/guardians and Treatment Team.
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TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND AGREEMENT

In order to help students stay on task and maximize their educational time while at New Hope Carolinas, and to ensure student and staff safety, we are implementing the following procedures for student laptop use:

All students must meet the following daily criteria:

- a. Spend at least three hours of class time logged in and working.
- b. Complete at least one lesson per subject per day.
- c. Remain only on teacher approved websites.

All students are prohibited from the following:

- a. Using a laptop or threatening to use a laptop as a weapon.
- b. Intentionally damaging a laptop.
- c. Removing a laptop from the classroom or designated education area.
- d. Accessing email, social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or any other website not pre-approved by the teacher.
- e. Listening to music or watching movies unless pre-approved by the teacher.
- f. Plugging in any device such as a MP3 player or flash drive to a laptop.
- g. Using the camera feature on the laptop.
- h. Obscuring the view of laptop screens from any adult by turning, covering, or dimming the screen.
- i. Changing passwords, disabling accounts, or attempting to clear browsing history as a means to keep adults from accessing account information and/or history.

Students who do not meet the above requirements will be subject to action as follows:

- a. Any student that uses (or threatens to use) a laptop as a weapon will be placed on Aggression Protocol and have their computer removed for that day.
- b. Any student that intentionally damages a laptop will temporarily lose their laptop privilege and work to earn it back by following the restorative plan outlined below:
 - 5 day computer suspension. Must complete paperwork assignments during this time.
 - Protocol - Student will be placed on Aggression.
 - Process event with therapist.
 - Call Parent/LG and let them know about the event.
 - A letter to the Treatment Team addressing the following:
 - What happened?
 - What were you thinking at the time?
 - What have you thought about since/what have you learned?
 - Who has been affected by what you have done?
 - In what way have they been affected?
 - What do you think you need to do or can do to make things right?
 - Take restorative action such as an apology or helping the teacher or helping IT, encouraging a peer in crisis, etc.

- c. Any student that removes a laptop from a classroom or designated space will be placed on High Observation and have their computer removed for that day.
- d. Any student accessing unapproved websites will be placed on Peer Restriction and have their computer removed for that day.
- e. Any student using a laptop to make AWOL plans will be placed on AWOL protocol and have their computer removed for that day.
- f. Any student plugging in a device to a laptop will have their device(s) confiscated. Device(s) will be given to the student's therapist to be sent home.
- g. Any student using the camera feature on the laptop will be placed on Peer and have their computer removed for that day.
- h. Any student obscuring the view of laptop screens from any adult by turning, covering, or dimming the screen will be placed on High Observation and have their computer removed for the day.
- i. Any student changing passwords, disabling accounts, or attempting to clear browsing history as a means to keep adults from accessing account information and/or history will be placed on High Observation and have their computer removed for that day.
- j. Any student that does not meet the daily work requirements for two consecutive days will be placed on High Observation.

We are committed to providing a quality educational experience for all of our students. Thank you for allowing us to care for your educational needs. Please reach out with any questions, concerns or comments.



CONTACT US

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