

Barnard School

South Hampton School District
School Administration Unit No. 21
219 Main Avenue, South Hampton, NH 03827-3513
Telephone (603) 394-7744



Michelle Witt, M.Ed, C.A.G.S.
Principal

Aline Donabedian, M.Ed
Director of Special Services

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Dear Barnard School Families,

We are excited to start the 2020-2021 school year in-person! Although this year brings many challenges, we are confident that we can make it a successful one. I am thankful for all of the work that the Barnard School staff has put into opening safely. They have gone above and beyond to ensure that your children are safe, supported, happy, and challenged as they start the school year in this new learning environment. Their commitment and dedication to Barnard students and families is astounding.

In order to provide students with a safe transition to this new school environment, we will begin the year with small group orientations. We feel it is important for students to meet their teacher in small groups to form personal connections and to reconnect with teachers. Additionally, this time allows teachers to address safety expectations and protocols with students, and provides time for students to prepare for the changes in the classroom and the school due to Covid-19. Thank you for your patience and understanding through this difficult process. The orientation schedule is as follows:

Barnard School Orientation

Thursday, September 3	Remote Learning Students Pick-Up Devices	9:00-10:00
Tuesday, September 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Kindergarten● Grade 2● Grade 5	In person orientation 9:00-12:00
Wednesday, September 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Grade 1● Grade 3● Grade 4	In person orientation 9:00-12:00
Thursday, September 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Grades 6-8	In person orientation 9:00-12:00
Monday, September 14	New Schedule Begins	All Students Begin Regular Schedule

As you are aware, we have adopted many changes in school protocols and procedures to prevent the spread of Covid-19. **It is imperative that everyone follow the guidelines in place to keep all students and staff healthy and safe.** No part of our back to school plan will work if we don't abide by these safety procedures. We are all in this together!

Safety Protocols

- All staff and students must complete a Covid-19 screening prior to coming to school each day. This screener is located in our Pick-Up Patrol application. Once complete, the app will tell you whether your child should come to school or not that day. Please note, if your child is not feeling well on any given day, do not send him/her to school. This is critical to keeping our families safe. If a child arrives at school without completing the screening, we will notify the parents to either complete the screening or pick up their child from school immediately.

An email with directions to create a Pick-Up Patrol account will be sent to you tomorrow. Please set up your account immediately as the link is only good for two days. If you need help setting up your Pick-Up Patrol account, please notify Michelle Trincerì 394-7744.

- All students are **required** to wear a mask every day. Please provide an extra mask in your child's backpack. Students will not be allowed to use gaitors or masks with valves. Masks should have at least two layers of fabric and must cover the child's nose and mouth. We will have extra masks on hand if needed. Students may only take off their masks when the teacher indicates that it is safe to do so (outside and more than 6 ft distanced). Please talk to your child about the importance of this rule.
- Everyone is expected to follow the 6 feet social distancing rule at all times. Students are expected to remain in their classroom "space" while in the building to allow for safe distancing. Please talk with your child about this expectation. On occasion, a teacher may work with your child at a minimum of 3 feet for small group or one-on-one instruction. This will be done while using a plexiglass divider to provide extra protection.
- We will be utilizing our outdoor space as much as possible. Please be sure to apply sunscreen and bug spray to your child each morning. Please complete the permission form if you would like your child to apply additional sunscreen and/or bug spray throughout the day. Teachers are not allowed to apply these products to your child during the day
- Due to the enrollment size of the grade 2/3 class, we will move this class to the gym to meet room occupancy requirements. All grade 2/3 students will remain in the gym for their classroom instruction.

Heat Days

We are aware that it may be difficult for students to wear masks on extremely hot days. For this reason we have instituted “Heat Days”. If the heat index is in the *Caution Zone* according to the National Weather Service, educators will be encouraged to teach in our outdoor shaded learning areas.

If the heat index is expected to be in the *Extreme Caution Zone* or higher, the Superintendent will call a “Heat Day” and notify the school community that teaching and learning will happen virtually on that day.

Technology

As you are aware, Barnard School purchased Chromebooks this summer to allow for all students to have equal access to technology in a manner that is affordable, safe and manageable for the district. Due to the heavy demand for computer devices nation-wide, our early August delivery date has been pushed to the end of September. Once the Chromebooks arrive, we will provide each student with a device to use throughout the year. Every student will be bringing their Chromebook to and from school each day. **Please be sure to charge your child’s Chromebook each night** so that s/he has a fully charged computer for use each day.

Arrival and Dismissal

Barnard School has adopted a new school start and dismissal time to allow for a safe transition in and out of the building, and to accommodate for bus sanitization between bus runs. **It is important that all families adhere to their scheduled pick-up and drop-off times to ensure the safety of all students.**

Student Arrival	Time
Students on Bus A & Students being dropped of who live on the Bus A Route	8:00am
Students on Bus B & Students being dropped of who live on the Bus B Route	8:50am

Student Dismissal	
ALL Kindergarten Students	12:00pm
Students on Bus A & Students being picked up who live on the Bus A Route	1:45pm
Students on Bus B & Students being picked up who live on the Bus B Route	2:35pm

*****We will notify you about your arrival/dismissal times in the next few days*****

Drop-Off Procedure

The bus will enter the parking lot and take a left to stop at the main entrance. Students in grades K/1, and grades 4-8 will go directly to their classrooms upon arrival (students in grades 2/3 will remain on the bus). Students in grades K/1 will use the Vanbokellen wing door (door to the right of the main door) to enter the building. Students in grades 4-8 will use the main front door to enter the building. Staff will be on hand to direct students and to help keep students properly socially distanced. After those students exit the bus, the bus will proceed to the top of the gym driveway to drop off grade 2/3 students. A staff member will be at the top of the driveway to welcome students and to bring them to the gym.

Parents dropping off their child will enter the parking lot and take a sharp right turn to enter the loop. They should wait in the car line to drop off their child. When they reach the Vanbokellen wing door, the student may exit the car and enter the correct door to the building. Students will go directly to their classrooms upon arrival. Students in K/1 will use the Vanbokellen wing door (door to the right of the main door) to enter the building. Students in grades 4-8 will use the main front door to enter the building. Students in grades 2/3 will wait with a staff member to safely bring them to the gym. Staff will be outside directing students, but please remind your child which door s/he should be using.

Pick-Up Procedure

The bus will be picking up students at their designated times (Bus A dismissal at 1:45/Bus B dismissal at 2:35). The bus will enter the parking lot and take a left to stop at the main entrance. Students in grades 1 will exit the building using the Vanbokellen wing door and go directly to the bus. Students in grade 4-8 will exit the main door of the building and go directly to the bus. Staff members will be monitoring the bus dismissal. After those students board the bus, the bus will drive to the top of the gym driveway to pick up grade 2/3 students.

We are asking parents to utilize the Pick-Up Patrol app for dismissal. Once parents have registered their child in the app, they should download the *Last Name Car Tag*. We ask that parents print this tag and place it in their car window. Upon entering the school parking lot, drivers should take a sharp right turn to enter the loop. They will wait in line to pick up their child. The staff members on duty will see the *Pick-Up Patrol Last Name Car Tag* in the car window which will allow them to digitally alert the classroom teacher to send the child directly to their dismissal door. When the parent reaches the main front door, the student may enter the car.

Health Office Procedures

Any student who presents with any symptom of Covid-19 must be treated as a possible case of Covid-19. If a student has any of these symptoms, s/he will be taken to the *Isolation Room* by the school nurse and the nurse will contact a parent to pick-up the child immediately. The nurse will give the parent further instructions at that time. If your child has a chronic illness that presents with similar Covid-19 symptoms, please be sure to have your child's physician provide the nurse with documentation of this illness and its common symptoms.

Symptoms of Covid-19

Fever and Chills	Sore throat
Cough	Congestion or runny nose
Fatigue	Nausea or vomiting
Muscle or body aches	Diarrhea
Headache	Shortness of breath or difficulty
New loss of taste or smell	

Sports and Field Trips

Due to the pandemic, we will not be taking field trips this year. Teachers are encouraged to utilize virtual field trip options in the classroom whenever possible.

Fall sports are canceled for this year. We will evaluate the possibility of winter sports in the fall and make a decision based on current data surrounding the coronavirus.

Lunch

All students will be eating lunch in their classrooms or outside in their cohorts. Students will not be allowed to use the microwave or refrigerator. Due to circumstances around Covid-19, the PTA will not be offering lunch options this year.

Parent Meetings

IEP meetings will be held virtually whenever possible. Face-to-face meeting accommodations will be made on a limited basis.

All parent-teacher conferences will be held virtually. Check your Family Handbook for conference dates.

Birthday Celebrations

Safety precautions surrounding Covid-19 do not allow for the sharing of food or other items. Therefore we cannot celebrate birthdays with cake or prizes. We will celebrate in non-contact ways. Please do not send in food or other items to celebrate your child's birthday.

Health and Safety Protocols

Please refer to the links below regarding Covid-19 protocols for students:

Return to school scenarios for students/parents

- [School Attendance Decision Chart](#)
- [Return to School Protocols](#)

Forms

- [Dismissal/Absence Instructions](#)
- [SAU21 Health Offices: COVID-19 Symptom Flowchart](#)

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and grace as we navigate this difficult situation. We look forward to seeing our students and working in partnership with all of our Barnard School families. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or me.

Sincerely,

Michelle Witt, Principal
Barnard School