

A photograph of three young students in a classroom. They are wearing white lab coats over blue shirts and dark ties. The student on the left is a young boy looking down. The student in the middle is a girl with glasses and braided hair, also looking down. The student on the right is a girl with a braid, looking towards the other two. In the background, there are educational posters on the wall, including one that says "Always listen to directions" and another with a drawing of an eraser and the text "Color or".

# Family Fall 2020 Overview

# Family Webinar Schedule

## Middle School (Harlem)

- English: 5 pm on August 5
- Spanish: 6 pm on August 5

## Elementary School (Bronx and Harlem)

- English: 5 pm on August 6
- Spanish: 5 pm on August 6

**If you miss a session, they will all be posted on our website's new Family Portal!**

# Before we start

This session is being recorded for those who can't attend

Write in questions using the chat function - we will respond on the call at the end or a follow-up

Thank you for joining today!

**NCS is going to begin the  
20-21 school year with  
remote instruction  
through Winter Break  
(end of 2020)**

# Why did we come to this decision?

We know that this is difficult and not a decision that we made lightly

## Key Rationale

1. We care most about keeping our community safe
2. Running a hybrid model risks safety and reduces program consistency
3. NCS has a strong remote instruction program

**NCS remains committed  
to academic excellence  
for all students**

# Fall 2020 Program Highlights

We are building off the success of our remote program in the Spring. Major upgrades include:

- **A more structured schedule** for teachers and students;
- **Increasing live teaching** sessions;
- **Stronger family support, including a dedicated Family Portal;** and
- **Even more time in our schedules for small groups and 1:1 support.**

We believe that, **with partnership and commitment between families and staff**, students can be successful and accelerate their learning.

# Fall 2020 Elementary School Program

For Elementary School, we will continue to provide excellent instruction remotely and center small group learning for younger scholars to provide strong support.

## Key program components:

- The day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends no later than 4:00 p.m.
- All English Language Arts, Math, Science, and History classes are all “live taught” meaning that a teacher will be real-time teaching over Zoom to students
- After core classes, students will either have small group time, have independent time to complete assignments, or have time to pursue outside of school activities

# Fall 2020 Elementary School Program: Monday to Thursday

## Overview of Live Teaching

Students will follow a set schedule every day that includes:

- An opening community circle,
- Small group Guided Reading,
- Small group Phonics,
- Small group Math,
- Science, and
- An additional English Language Arts block

Plus at least one special per week

# Fall 2020 Elementary School Program: Monday to Thursday

## **Sample Schedule**

8:00-8:30 Community Circle and Number Stories

8:30-9:30 Small Group Guided Reading and Phonics

9:30-10:30 English Language Arts

10:30-11:30 Small Group Math Workshop

11:30-12:30 Lunch

12:30-1:30 Science

1:30-2:30 Break, Small Group Support, or Math

2:30-3:30 Small Group Support

# Fall 2020 Elementary School Program: Friday

## Overview

Students will follow a set schedule on Fridays that includes:

- An opening community circle,
- Small group Guided Reading,
- Small group Phonics,
- History/Science, and
- Additional time for small group instruction based on student needs

# Fall 2020 Elementary School Program: Friday

## Sample Schedule

8:00–8:30 Community Circle and Number Stories

8:30–9:30 Small Group Reading and Phonics

9:30–10:30 History

10:30–11:30 Small Group Support

11:30–12:30 Lunch

12:30–1:30 Science

1:30–2:30 Break or Small Group Support

2:30–3:30 Break or Small Group Support

# Fall 2020 Middle School Program

For Middle School, we will continue to provide excellent instruction remotely and give students lots of opportunities to interact with their teachers and classmates.

## Key program components:

- Instructional day runs from 8 am to 4 pm
- Mornings: Core, live taught instruction
- Afternoons:
  - Office hours with their teachers for extra support
  - Small group instruction
  - Built in time to complete independent work

# Fall 2020 Middle School Program: Monday to Thursday Live Teaching

- English Language Arts and Math every day
- History and Science on alternating days
- Light Squad (a social-emotional support group) three days per week
- Technology class one day per week
- Specials three days per week

# Fall 2020 Middle School Program: Monday to Thursday Sample Schedule

8:00–8:50 English Language Arts	12:30–1:00 Lunch
8:50–9:00 Break	1:00–1:50 Study Break
9:00–9:50 Math	1:50–2:00 Break
9:50–10:00 Break	2:00–2:50 History Office Hours
10:00–10:50 History	2:50–3:00 Break
10:50–11:00 Break	3:00–3:50 Math Office Hours
11:00–11:50 Dance	
11:50–12:30 Light Squad	

# Fall 2020 Middle School Program: Friday Overview

**Assessments:** Students will be assessed in their content area so that teachers are able to group and provide extra support to students as needed

**Independent Work Time:** Teacher-led content ends earlier on Fridays to allow students independent work time, time to pursue outside of school activities, and time for families and teachers to connect with one another.

# Fall 2020 Middle School Program: Friday Sample Schedule

8:00–9:00 ELA Assessment  
9:00–9:10 Break  
9:10–10:10 Math Assessment  
10:10–10:20 Break  
10:20–11:20 Science Assessment  
11:20–11:30 Break  
11:30–12:00 History Assessment  
12:00–1:00 Lunch  
1:00–4:00 Independent Work Time

# Special Education: ASD Program

**We are committed to providing the best possible support to our ASD scholars and families throughout remote learning.**

The special education team plans to partner with teachers to support each family and scholar to ensure that scholar social and academic needs are being met throughout virtual learning.

# Special Education: ASD Program

## ASD supports for virtual learning:

- Visual Schedules
- Organization tools such as checklists, planners, and schedules
- Built-in sensory supports
- Social Stories to support scholar anxiety around at-home learning and the virus, hidden rules of zoom, and other needs.
- Learning supports to assist with task initiation, information recall, task completion, and other academic needs.
- Use of social thinking concepts within lesson structure (i.e. presenting scholars with the group plan at the beginning of each lesson)
- Built-in socialization time
- Virtual case conference weekly with teachers
- Parent webinars around supporting ASD scholars throughout virtual learning.

# Special Education: Related Services

Related Services will be provided via teletherapy

We are committed to meeting the mandates on scholar IEPs and provide scholars with the services that meet their needs

Social Club will still be run by our in-house SLP team and structure will be adjusted as needed within virtual sessions

# Interventions

**Major Fall Upgrade:** Increased time for small group and individual interventions

The RTI team will be with teachers once a month to set scholars' goals that address scholar needs and create a plan for tracking scholar progress toward that goal.

# Social-Emotional Support

One of the hallmarks of Neighborhood Charter Schools is the support we provide to students socially and emotionally

We are thinking of this in three main paths:

1. Start of School Relationship Building
2. Integration of social-emotional learning throughout the day
3. Set aside time to focus on social-emotional learning growth

**85% of families were satisfied with our spring remote social-emotional learning!**

# Technology

**All students will receive NCS-issued technology for SY20-21**

- K-2: iPads
- 3-8: Chromebooks

Look for more information from your school teams on parent and student trainings, as well as the plans for distribution.

As a reminder, please use the [familytechhelp@ncschools.org](mailto:familytechhelp@ncschools.org) for all your troubleshooting needs- we're hiring a new team member to help make sure everyone is up and running!

**NCS remains committed  
to supporting families**

# Issues/Concerns and NCS's Proposed Support

Issue	NCS Support Plan
Will students need uniforms for remote learning?	NCS will not require uniforms for remote learning- there is no need to purchase them. We will share guidance on 12/1 on the plan for our Jan 2021 program and uniform policy
What supports will be provided for working families?	We are exploring multiple solutions, including family message boards and listservs and support groups, so that families can coordinate amongst themselves
What technology support will be provided?	Every scholar will be given an NCS device (iPad or chromebook) We are hiring a tech associate to support with family issues We will be offering trainings for families and scholars on technology use and issues

# Issues/Concerns and NCS's Proposed Support

Issue	NCS Support Plan
What support will there be for social emotional learning? Building community?	Family events and trainings will be held via webinar We've strengthened our social emotional remote program (both frequency and 1:1 support)- in particular, we're thinking about how to build this for our ES students We're planning to use our intervention time for social-emotional learning as well as academic interventions
Will my scholar have Specials?	Specials are embedded consistently in our remote program
What about mental health resources for families?	We are excited to bring the community together more regularly through family webinars We will continue to connect families to resources in the community that can provide more robust counselling support As needed, we'll also problem solve with families 1:1 for particular challenges

# Family Connection and Resources

- Webinars for parent training
  - Platform - how to use zoom, tech training
  - Math
  - Reading
- Community events- zumba, movies, dance parties
- Resources for materials, tech at home
- Electronic/online beginning of year paperwork collection

# Resources for Families- New Family Portal

## For Parents



Remote Instruction and  
Technology



SpEd Information



Parent Association and  
Training



News and Updates



Calendar, Contacts,  
Handbook



Student Health,  
Transportation and After  
School Sports



DEI Action Plan



Send us Feedback, Ask  
Questions

English

# Focus on Families: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan
- On Family Portal
- More info to come - we will include a family representative

# Guidance for the Fall: Uniforms

- Uniforms- not needed for remote learning
- We will give guidance by 12/1 on our program (remote or in-person) for January 2021 which will include uniform guidance

# Reminders of Fall Calendar

We are not planning to change our calendar for the year – if it says it’s a half day or vacation day, it is!

## First Day of School

- Kindergarten starts 8/28 at 8 am, with half days to 9/4
- Grades 1–8 start 8/31 at 8 am

**Look for more information from your campus about logistics for the fall!**

# Questions and Answers

- 1) Chat your questions
- 2) We will answer live or follow-up via email

We will need to end at 5:55 for our Spanish presentation