

Frequently Asked Questions About Summer Learning Academy

1. *How do I get in touch with staff?*
 - a. **Merriam:** Casey Dillard, cdillard@newtonnj.org
 - i. **(973) 383-7202 extension 1500**
 - b. **Halsted:** Anthony Nasatka, anasatka@newtonnj.org
 - i. **(973)383-7440 extension 2500**
 - c. **Newton High School:** Lisa Langschultz, llangshultz@newtonnj.org
 - i. **(973) 383-7573 extension 3287**
 - d. **Summer Nursing Office:** Located at Merriam
 - i. **(973) 383-7202 extension 1231**
 - e. **Program Director:** Elysia Ochs, eochs@newtonnj.org,
 - i. **(973) 383-7440 extension 2232**

2. *What school should my child be attending for the Summer?*
 - a. Pre-School ESY students invited by the Child Study Team office will attend at Merriam Avenue School
 - b. Students going into Kindergarten through 4th grade in September will attend Merriam Avenue School
 - c. Students going into 5th through 8th grade in September will attend Halsted Middle School, and 8th-grade students needing remediation courses will also attend Halsted.
 - d. Students going into 9th through 12th grade in September will attend Newton High School.

3. *What time can I drop off my child?*
 - a. **Merriam:** Students can be dropped off at the front doors at 8:00 am when breakfast begins.
 - b. **Halsted:** Students can be dropped off at the front of the school and then walk towards the cafeteria following the signs at 8:00 am.
 - c. **High School:** Students can enter the cafeteria beginning at 8:00 am. The cafeteria entrance is located at the front of the school on Ryerson Avenue.

4. *What time can I pick up my child?*
 - a. **12:45 pm. Please bring your photo id to sign out your child at Merriam and Halsted.**
 - b. High School students can dismiss on their own and do not require a sign-out.
 - c. **The last pick-up is 1:00 pm at all schools.**

5. *Who can I call if I am going to be late for pick up?*
 - a. Please call:
 - i. **(973) 383-7440 extension 2500**
 - ii. **Please tell us your name, your child's name, and your child's grade.**

6. *Can my child walk home?*
 - a. This option only applies to students in 3rd through 12th grade. Older siblings at the middle school or high school may be designated escorts.

7. *How will my child be grouped during the Summer Learning Academy?*
 - a. Merriam and Halsted students will be grouped according to grade level.
 - b. High School students will be in their course groups.

8. *Can my child ride the bus?*
 - a. Only students enrolled in the ESY summer program are eligible for the bus.
 - b. ESY parents with questions about busing should contact Mrs. Jennifer Pasquali at **(973) 383- 5378 extension 4323**

9. *Does my child have to attend every day?*
 - a. ***Students registered for summer remediation courses must attend every day to be considered for credit recovery.***
 - b. Attendance is expected for all other students unless you have otherwise indicated that your child will not attend on certain days. Please reach out to your [child's summer school contact](#) if you need to make changes to your child's registered days. We understand that summer is a time of flexibility and that vacations and other events are bound to happen.
 - c. Please keep your child home if they have a fever or any other symptoms of illness.
 - i. If they are absent please complete this absence form.
 - ii. Please call the Summer's Nurse's office if you have any questions.
 1. **(973) 383-7202 extension 1231**

10. *Are breakfast, snacks, and lunch available?*
 - a. All students are eligible to participate in our breakfast and lunch program.
 - i. Meals are available to all school-age students from Pre-K to 12th grade regardless of your child's enrollment in the Newton Public Schools
 - ii. **Snacks:**
 1. This is only available for students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade and has no cost to families.

11. *What are the Summer Learning Academy Expectations for Behavior?*

NPS Summer Learning Academy Expectations
<p>Be respectful of all staff, peers, and property.</p> <p>We show respect by being polite, kind, honest, following directions, and treating others the way they would like to be treated.</p>
<p>Keep your hands, feet, and object to yourself.</p>

Cellphones must be off and out of sight.
Levels of Response for Violations*
Level 1: Verbal Warning/Seat Change
Level 2: Break from the activity for up to 10 minutes, Parent Phone Call
Level 3: Removal from the activity with the Site Coordinator, Phone Call, Incident Write Up
Level 4: Three Incidents, Parent and Student Meeting with Program Director or Building Administrator

***A student may be removed from the program at any time do the following but not limited to:**

- Fighting
- Theft
- Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
- We have high expectations for everyone's behavior. Inappropriate behavior during any part of the day will not be tolerated. If a student is asked to leave a particular section at any time they will report to the Site Coordinator.