



## Frequently Asked Questions at Main Dunstable Elementary School

### **1. Is there a dress code at Main Dunstable Elementary School?**

An official Nashua School District dress policy is in the process of being developed (Fall, 2002). However, students at Main Dunstable Elementary School are expected to wear clean clothes that are appropriate for the weather and for public places. Clothing that advertises inappropriate products (e.g. alcohol) or has inappropriate or offensive writing is forbidden by the discipline code.

### **2. What is the school's homework policy?**

The homework policy at Main Dunstable Elementary School is consistent with the Nashua School District policy, which is outlined on page 15 of the Student Handbook. The Student Handbook can be found at the beginning of the Main Dunstable Elementary Student Planners, which are distributed in September.

### **3. How is technology used at the school?**

Each classroom has a computer with internet access and additionally there is a computer lab for group instruction. Computers are used in a variety of ways including research and document preparation. Our computers are also a major tool of communication through e-mail and our website, as well as several classroom websites that are up and functioning. Please see the "Responsible Use Guidelines" in the Student Handbook.

### **4. What grading system is used at Main Dunstable Elementary School?**

Assessment by individual teachers varies to a certain extent depending on teaching styles and individual student needs. However, in general, grading procedures are commensurate with Nashua School District guidelines, which are outlined in the Student Handbook. The grading system also follows the student

report card format, and aligns with the benchmarks of our reading and mathematics program.

### **5. Where can I get information about academic programs at Main Dunstable Elementary School?**

Nashua School District academic programs are outlined in the Student Handbook. However, delivery of the curriculum varies from teacher to teacher. Your best source of what and how programs are implemented is the classroom teacher.

### **6. Is there a PTO at Main Dunstable Elementary School?**

Yes, our PTO is very active and always welcomes new faces to the Monday evening meetings. Watch our school website for details.

### **7. Where can I get information about State Assessment?**

Each year, a special parent information letter is sent home for parents regarding the State Assessments. The New England Common Assessment Program or NECAP is administered to all students in Grades 3, 4 and 5 in the month of October. Special science components are assessed in May. Watch for information about this event in our monthly newsletter. Additionally, information is available from the New Hampshire State Department of Education in Concord.

### **8. What are the school hours?**

We open at 8:45am each morning, and Dismiss at 3:25pm.

Information about school hours, early release dismissal, delayed opening, and snow days is available in the Student Handbook, or click on the "calendar" button.

### **9. What do I need to do if I want to pick up my child early?**

When a student is to be dismissed early, parents, guardians, or another authorized person must sign them out at the office when they come in to pick them up. A note must be sent to the classroom teacher/office on the morning of the early dismissal.

### **10. Can I come in to observe my child's classroom?**

Classroom visitations are welcome and can be scheduled with your child's teacher. Because of student privacy issues, such visits do have certain restrictions.

### **11. Can I volunteer in my child's classroom?**

Your help for special events such as field trips or projects is greatly appreciated. You can check with the classroom teacher and/or the PTO Volunteer Program. Please visit the PTO Link to find out more about volunteering.

### **12. How is discipline handled in my child's classroom?**

All classrooms follow the guidelines put forth in the Nashua School District Student Behavior Standards and Procedural Responses. You should discuss this with the individual teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

### **13. Where can I get information about the School Lunch Program?**

Please see the Food Services section of the Student Handbook for extensive information.

### **14. Where can I find school breakfast and lunch menus?**

Click on the Nashua School District Web Page, [www.Nashua.edu](http://www.Nashua.edu) . Click "students". The menu can also be accessed through our school website.

### **15. What special programs exist at Main Dunstable Elementary School?**

To get an extensive list of resources available to your child at Main Dunstable Elementary School, please call our main office or visit our main website page.

### **16. What is the size of classes at Main Dunstable Elementary?**

By teacher contract, class sizes are limited to:

Kindergarten: 18 – 25 students per class.

Grades 1-5: 27 students per class.

Actual class sizes vary but an effort is made to balance both the numbers and academic/social makeup of all classes.

**17. Where can I get information about field trips my child will be attending?**

Field trips are organized by individual classroom teachers and all information and paperwork is available through them. Field trips are part of the regular curriculum and all students are expected to participate. If cost is a factor, there are usually means of attaining funding.

**18. If I have any other specific questions, where should I go?**

Please call or email your child's teacher or the school principal.