



**This information is also being provided via email in both English and Spanish.**

### **Important Information for All York Academy Parents**

The first day of school for grades 1-12 is August 14, 2023. Kindergarten students will begin on August 15, 2023.

#### **Attendance**

Classes begin at 8 a.m. It is extremely important for students to attend school on time, every day. Research shows that students who miss more school than their peers consistently score lower on standardized tests, a result that holds true at every age, in every demographic group, and in every state and city tested.

Should your child need to be absent from school due to an illness, please provide appropriate documentation to the receptionist or via our website. Absences not supported by appropriate documentation will be recorded as unexcused/illegal. Please know that students may not be removed from school during the school day except in cases of family emergency or medical/dental appointments. Parents/guardians must also provide appropriate documentation for early dismissal.

Please click on [THIS LINK](#) to access York Academy's Attendance Guide.

#### **Parents as Partners**

Our goal at York Academy is to be a partner school that explicitly and implicitly welcomes all of our families to share in and define the success of their students. As such, we are working to improve our awareness and understanding of the following ideals:

- **Diversity:** We seek to engage parents from all of the cultural, racial, and social identities represented at our school.
- **Inclusiveness:** Inclusive family engagement means all families' perspectives are valued. As an inclusive school, we must have intentional and ongoing engagement with our diverse family communities.
- **Equity:** In our school settings, this means viewing all families as equal partners in the work of educating children and seeing all as having expertise on their children.

One step toward building our partnership is for parents to join the York Academy Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). You can learn more about our PTO [here](#) or by emailing [PTO@yorkarcs.org](mailto:PTO@yorkarcs.org).

#### **Cafeteria**

We are pleased to inform you that York Academy Regional Charter School will be implementing a new provision known as the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) in the 2023-24 school year. This program is available to schools and districts that are participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

All enrolled students of York Academy Lower School and York Academy Upper School are eligible to receive a nutritional breakfast and lunch each school day at no charge to your household.

No further action is required of you. Your child(ren) will be able to participate in these meal programs without paying a fee or submitting an application.

If you have any questions, please contact Regina Arnold, Food Service Manager, at [rarnold@yorkarcs.org](mailto:rarnold@yorkarcs.org) or 717-801-3900 ext. 4313.

**Please note that breakfast will NOT be available on the first day of school.**

### **Student Dress Code**

A standardized dress code fosters a positive attitude toward learning. We strive to create an atmosphere of equality by removing the name brands and status symbols that are subtle, yet often distinguishing, signs of social standing. Required attire varies depending upon grade level and is described in detail in the document that can be accessed by [CLICKING THIS LINK](#). All students must arrive at school in dress code and remain in dress code while on school property.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

It is the expectation of York Academy that all students come to school ready to learn and that they conduct themselves in a manner that supports teaching and learning. A copy of the Student Code of Conduct will be distributed by email at the beginning of the school year and is also available on our website. The Student Code of Conduct provides the expectations that guide student conduct, while also providing a variety of consequences available to help students change their behavior. **As a school focused on academic excellence, it is essential that all students behave in a manner that allows teachers to teach and students to learn.**

As an IB World School, students are expected to demonstrate the attributes of the Learner Profile. To assist Lower School students to fully understand the importance of appropriate student conduct, the entire Lower School will continue to utilize the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Program using the PRO acronym:

- **P**ricipled: We are responsible, tell the truth, and are fair. We share, work, and play well with others.
- **R**espectful: We treat everyone fairly.
- **O**pen-Minded: We listen to other people and respect their ideas.

The Upper School continues to build on student understanding of the Learner Profile by reminding students to **UKnight**:

- **U**nderstanding: I am Open Minded. I listen to other people and respect their ideas and beliefs.
- **K**nowledgeable: I learn about many things and remember what I have learned. I use what I know to solve problems.
- **N**oble: I am principled. I tell the truth and I am fair. I work well with others and I do what is right.
- **I**nquirer: I am curious and enjoy learning. I try to learn and discover new things.
- **G**rowth: I am a risk taker. I have confidence to try new things. I stand up for what I believe in.
- **H**elper: I care about people, plants, animals, and the Earth.
- **T**hinker: I think carefully and I show initiative. I make good decisions and solve problems.

We want to ensure that once our students leave York Academy and head out into the world, that we have set them up to be positive, contributing members of our community. To access the Student Code of Conduct, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Arrival

- **Students MUST be in their seats ready for class by 8:00 a.m. each day.** Students who arrive after 8:00 a.m. must be signed in by an adult at the front desk.
- The buildings open for students at 7:30 a.m. To ensure the safety of all students, parents/guardians are not permitted to walk students to classrooms.
- Please understand that bus schedules do not operate smoothly during the first few weeks of school. We ask for your patience and understanding concerning the transportation schedule.

## Dismissal

The school day will end at 3:30 p.m.; however, the school will begin the dismissal process at 3:20 p.m. to assure that students riding buses from school are prepared to board their bus.

***We all want our children to grow up to be rule-following, law-abiding citizens so let's model that behavior by following the parking and driving procedures set in and around the school, even when we are late or in a hurry!***

## [Lower School Information \(Kindergarten - Grade 6\)](#)

Please read **Back to School Information** from Mr. David Goodwin, Head of Lower School, by clicking on [THIS LINK](#).

**Parking and traffic flow around the Lower School will be very different this year, and we will all need to be patient and work together. Please [watch this important video](#) from Dr. Lowe.**

Additional information will be communicated soon.

- **We are no longer able to utilize the gravel parking lot across from the playground. This means that parents/guardians may not park there during morning drop off, dismissal/pickup, or at any time.**
  - Parking is also not permitted in the IRE lot (formerly Warehaus) across from the Lower School entrance or in any other business or private lots.

## Arrival:

- If you are dropping off your child, we encourage you to park at Small's field (or in any paid parking lots), walk your child to the playground entrance, and head back to your car. The gate opens at 7:30 a.m.
- From 7:30 - 8 a.m.(only), you may also use the carpool lane that runs from North Cherry Lane beside the staff parking lot behind the Lower School. Our staff will be there to help your child out of the passenger side of your vehicle.
- *Please know that dropping your child off anywhere other than the carpool lane is dangerous and puts your child's life at risk. Safety above all else!*

**Dismissal: Significant changes in the flow of traffic are coming. Watch for more information.**

- Since parking in the gravel lot is not an option, we encourage you to park at Small's Field (or in any paid lots), walk to the school to meet your child, and walk back to the car together.
- You may also utilize the Cherry Lane carpool lane during dismissal.
- Again, parking is not allowed in the gravel lot, or any area business or private parking lots.

## School Supplies

School supply lists are available on our website. [Click here to view them](#). The lists are the same for each class per grade level, but some of the lists vary between grades, so make sure to click on the grade level(s) your children will be attending.

## Important Notes for Kindergarten Parents:

- We invite you and your child to meet the teacher and visit the classroom on August 14, 2023. In order to ensure that our teachers have the opportunity to speak to students and parents in small groups, kindergarten visits must be scheduled in advance. Please be sure to read Mr. Goodwin's [Back to School flyer](#) which has the links to schedule this appointment for your kindergarten student. Name tags will be provided for kindergarten students. Please be sure your child is wearing a name tag each day during the first week of school.
- Please plan to send a healthy snack with your child each day. Donations of classroom reserves such as animal crackers and pretzels are welcomed. You may discuss snack options with your child's teacher.
- Other requested school materials lists will be sent out directly to families electronically.

## Important Information for Upper School Parents (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades)

Please read [Back to School Information from Mrs. Carol Alvarnaz, Head of Upper School](#), by clicking on [THIS LINK](#).

### Arrival:

- All students enter through Door #12. It opens at 7:30 a.m.
- Parents wishing to park to assist a student into the school, may park at Small's Field. This is the ONLY parking available for parents.
- All students arriving by car are to be dropped off in the drop off area on Hamilton Avenue near the Upper School's front door. Please note that drivers may not leave their vehicle and students may not be dropped off from the bus stop area.

### Dismissal:

- All students departing by car are to be picked up on Hamilton Avenue near the front door. Drivers may not leave their vehicle and students may not be picked up from the bus stop area.

### School Supplies:

You should have already received your schedule for the upcoming school year. As you review your schedule, think about the variety of supplies you may need for your classes. A list of suggested items is listed below:

#### 7-12th Grade

- 3-ring binders
- Cap erasers
- Colored pencils
- Composition notebook
- Expo markers
- Index Cards
- York Academy t-shirt for Phys Ed class (to be purchased through the [online store](#))
- Markers
- Pencils
- Pens (black/blue)
- Pocket folders & dividers
- USB Drive

#### 9 - 12th Grade Only

- Graphing Calculator
  - TI-84 Silver
  - TI-84 Plus
  - TI-83 Plus Silver
  - TI-83 Plus

**Technology:**

All students attending the Upper School will be provided with a Chromebook that will remain in their possession throughout the school year. This Chromebook can be taken home with the student to assist them in completion of classwork. While there may be opportunities to plug in the Chromebook at school, there will be limited opportunities to charge devices. Please make sure your Chromebook is charged daily and ready to be used in the classroom.

The York Academy requires each family to pay a technology usage fee of \$30.00 each school year. This fee can be paid using MySchoolBucks account. More information on the Technology Agreement and fee will be provided in a separate correspondence.