

Back-to-School FAQs: Important Things to Know Before You Start School

1. Students are required to be in school uniform beginning the first day of school. Uniforms may be purchased at A-1 Uniform Shop and all uniform items must adhere to the uniform code (attached). Students will be required to wear Chapel Dress Uniform for chapel services beginning the second week of school (August 27). All students are required to be clean shaven.

2. The use of cell phones and other unauthorized electronic devices is not permitted during the school day or Afterschool Program. Students who must bring a cell phone or any valuable to school are required to check it in with the front office prior to the beginning of school for safekeeping and may check it out at the end of the school day. Use of unauthorized electronic devices or inappropriate use of authorized devices will result in disciplinary consequences, surrendering the device for an extended period of time, and possible dismissal from the program. Parents who have questions about allowed devices are encouraged to contact the school office at 351.2055.

3. School begins at 8:00 a.m. and students may enter the school building at 7:45 a.m. Students who arrive on campus prior to 7:40 must be dropped off at the Dining Hall, where they are welcome to eat breakfast with the boarding students (no fee). Students <u>may not be dropped</u> off at the school building prior to 7:40 a.m., as adult supervision is only provided in the Dining Hall prior to 7:40 a.m.

4. All middle school students and high school students enrolled in Physical Education or athletics must purchase and use the Bethesda P.E. Uniform at Larry's Sporting Goods. This is the only acceptable sports attire (and can also be worn for the Afterschool Program).

5. High school students will be issued a combination lock on the first day of school for use with their locker. The front office maintains a key for the locker in the event the student loses (or forgets!) their combination.

6. Students are not permitted to bring lunch from home. Both boarding and day students eat lunch in our Dining Hall at no additional fee to families. Students with dietary restrictions may made alternate arrangements upon the recommendation of a physician.

7. Bethesda Academy's accreditation and license requires that all appropriate medical, physical, medication, medical tests, permission forms and emergency information forms be up to date and on file prior to the student being allowed to attend school. If you are missing any information or have questions about the completeness of your child's files, please contact the school office well before the first day of school to complete this process.



8. Middle school students may be picked up in front of the school at the end of the day at 2:15 p.m. High school students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m. Parents may wait in their cars and students will be escorted to the front of the building. Students who are not picked up within 15 minutes following dismissal from school or any athletic/extracurricular activity will be signed into the Afterschool Program.

9. Parents will be issued a password that gives them access to their son's grades and announcements on the school's Renweb website. Teachers will routinely update class and homework assignments on the Renweb system; however, this is provided as a courtesy to parents. Students are required to write down their homework assignments and be responsible for their completion, regardless of the availability of Renweb.

10. Juniors and seniors are required to bring a laptop computer to school every day, beginning with the first day of school.

11. Teachers will issue their classroom policies the first two days of schools. Parents will be provided with a copy of these policies that they can keep and one that they are asked to sign and return to school. The Bethesda Student/Parent Handbook will be mailed home prior to the first day of school.

And last, but not least, we have a new face in the front office. Mr. Keith Kilgore will be serving as Bethesda's Dean of Students while Mr. Collins is away for Air Guard training until after Christmas. We welcome Mr. Kilgore back to the campus and look forward to his work with our students!