

Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA) Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106

It is the goal of of The Hawbridge School [THS] to offer parents and guardians access to information regarding student achievement via the district's Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Should you wish to obtain paper copies of this document and its contents, you can make a request with school administration.

1a) How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?	The following are the relevant State and local requirements for a child to be promoted to the next grade level. The relevant part of this link is found in Part 1A (pp. 15-28) regarding retention, promotion, alternatives to show reading proficiency, etc. N.C. Grade Level Promotion Guide. For information about THS Promotion and Accountability procedures and Graduation Requirements, please visit Student-Parent Handbook High School Planning Guide The following information covers minimum state graduation requirements from the state to earn a diploma and graduate. It also covers specific cohort information. Local school districts and other public school units may require additional courses and credits to graduate. Information on NC High School Graduation Requirements.
1b) What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review	In North Carolina, all schools use the same Standard Course of Study, determined by the State Board of Education. These standards are the knowledge and skills students should



these materials?

understand by the end of each grade/course.

The following standards can be found on the website below: Arts Education, Career Technical Education, Computer Science, English Language Arts, English Language Development, Student Success Standards, Healthful Living, Information and Technology, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Language.

NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website

Local districts, schools and teachers determine how to teach these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc.

Contact the Lower and/or Uppers School Director to understand the curriculum in THS

HEALTHFUL LIVING: Reproductive Health and Safety

THS is committed to a sound school health program that provides students with accurate information and encourages them to be responsible for their own health and behavior. THS recognizes the primary role of parents/guardians in providing for the health and well-being of their children and seeks to involve parents/guardians in the schools. The school health education program provided by the district will meet all requirements established by state and federal law. The school health education program will meet all objectives in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study adopted by the State Board of Education. Please contact the Lower and/or Upper School director to review curriculum

The school health education program will be taught to students from grades K-9. In grades 4-9 students are taught Reproductive Health and Safety (Family Life Education). Every effort has been made to provide quality Family Life Education instruction for your child.



	Teachers have received special training and will only use approved curriculum materials and supplements when teaching in the classroom.
	Each school will communicate with parents prior to beginning the Reproductive Health and Safety Unit. All parents/guardians have the right to "opt out" of this unit. If you choose to exclude your child, you must do so in writing to the principal and teacher stating you do not want your child to participate. Alternate and comparable assignments will be given.
1c) How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?	THS shares the progress of students through a variety of ways. Progress reports (every 4.5 weeks) and report cards (every 9 weeks) are sent to parents in order to communicate student academic strengths and any areas for improvement. Feedback on conduct is also included.
	Kindergarten students receive report cards aligned to the North Carolina Early Learning Inventory (NC ELI) objectives and dimensions which are aligned to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.
	Students in grades 1-4 receive Standards-Based Report Cards. Standards-Based Report Cards provide feedback on individual student's progression toward proficiency on standards aligned to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Each quarter reports cards are sent home electronically, and parents may request hard copies of these reports from their home school.
	Additionally, parents can expect weekly feedback on their child's work. Students in grades 5-12 receive a Traditional Report Card calculated using a 10-point grading scale. Parents have access to their child's grades 24/7 using PowerSchool's Parent Portal. Parents can



login to Parent Portal https://hawbridge.powerschool.com/public/home.html If you do not yet have a Parent Portal login, contact your school's office manager.

The NC **transcript** contains grades from all high school classes, weighted and unweighted Grade Point Average (GPA), standardized test data and student demographics. Students may ask for an unofficial transcript at any time. We provide each senior with an official transcript at no charge (for college applications, programs, scholarships,etc.). In addition, there is no charge for mid-year senior transcript, final transcript after graduation, and transcript for any award or scholarship requested.

State Assessments:

Individual Student Reports for end-of-grade/course tests and other state assessments (English language proficiency assessment) are accessible in the parent portal of the NC-SIS (PowerSchool) at https://hawbridge.powerschool.com/public/home.html

All NC students take end-of-grade assessments for reading and math in grades 3-8. Students take end-of-grade science assessments in grades 5 and 8. High school students take end-of-course assessments in English II, Biology, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3.

Students in Grade 10 take the Pre-ACT. Students in grade 11 take the ACT.

North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) selected mCLASS DIBELS [®] 8th Edition as the state's K-3 Literacy Assessment. mCLASS is an integrated literacy system based on the Science of Reading. mCLASS has been revised and upgraded from the assessment NC districts have used in the past, based on the latest research and the Science of Reading. It is a valid and reliable assessment, supporting universal literacy screening, and progress monitoring.



1d) What are the qualifications of my child's teachers?	Parents may look up your child's teacher licensure status at the <u>NCDPI licensure website</u> .
	The licensure look up webpage does not include current employment information. Parents may need additional information (i.e., middle name or license number) to identify the teacher accurately. Substitute teachers (either short or long term) may not hold a NC teaching license.
	Please contact the Lower and/or Upper School Director to verify an educator's licensure status.
1e) What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or	The following are the North Carolina statutory school entry requirements, this includes required immunizations:
recommended for children?	 Admission requirements: <u>GS_130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov)</u> Immunization records: <u>GS_130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov)</u> Immunization requirements: <u>GS_130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov)</u> <u>NC GS 130 A-152 graphic</u> (*this law was amended but is not reflected on the current GA page; see <u>SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov)</u>, Section 5.8(e) on page 64")
	Visit the "admissions page" on our website to learn about the lottery process. Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). NCDHHS Immunizations Resources
	- Expected Immunization Schedules



	 Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements
2a) How can a parent help their child learn and make progress?	Engaging with your child about school and what they are learning is pivotal to their learning process. Ask questions daily about your child's school day. Inquire about topics and assignments they are learning. Connect with teachers to understand your child's progress. Ask the teachers how you can help your child learn. Attend different events at your child's school to stay connected and learn how to support them. Parent Guides for Academic Standards: The following grade level guides contain information to support parents and caregivers with understanding the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The purpose of these guides is to inform parents about the standards, as well as provide useful strategies to incorporate at home. Parent Guides for ELA Parent Guides for ELA Parent Guides for ELA Parent Guides: K-5, 6-8 Social Studies Parent Guides Science Parent Guides



	Reading and Literacy Support: This following site provides resources for families to practice and reinforce important literacy skills with their children who are being assessed with mCLASS reading assessments: Amplify Parent Resources Home activities, printables, and games to support reading and literacy are also available at North Carolina's Digital Children's Reading Initiative (DCRI). These activities include the
	following topics, Pre-K-Grade 5: (1) Phonemic awareness (2) Phonics (3) Vocabulary (4) Fluency (5) Comprehension (6) Oral language
	Printable activities will be made available for students who do not have digital access at home and may be provided to all students as a supplement to digital resources. For paper copies, please contact Tiana Thornton at tthornton@hawbridgeschool.org. DCRI Printables for Families
2b) How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?	The Hawbridge Schools practices Restorative Practices in partnership with Peaceful Schools of North Carolina. Grounded in building healthy relationships, Restorative Practices provide opportunities for strengthening community. All members are invited to take ownership of their impact. Conflict is feedback that something isn't working and provides an opportunity for problem-solving, maximizing the possibilities for growth and understanding. Parents are encouraged to partner with their student services teams in their work to



	support academic achievement, develop interpersonal skills, strengthen mental wellness, and explore career activities after graduation. School counseling, psychological services, and social work staff encourage students to learn skills in emotional regulation to support healthy decision-making skills and emotional development.
2c) How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?	The Hawbridge School partners with Peaceful Schools NC "which provides training and strategies for building and sustaining positive relationships within school communities so that all members can thrive." Parents may attend school-sponsored Peaceful School trainings for parents, or attend trainings directly with Peaceful Schools NC.
2d) How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?	Communication with parents and families is very important to us. You may find contact information for teachers, administration and staff on our website's personnel page. Additionally, we use the contact information from PowerSchool to email a weekly newsletter. Please contact your school if you are not receiving this communication. Tips for Parents: Stay informed of school activities by reviewing newsletters and notes. Check PowerSchool weekly (grades 5-12) for missing assignments and current grades. (Link guides for how to gain parent access to LMS and/or SIS) Review progress reports and report cards with your child. Set goals with your child. Communicate with your child's teacher about his/her progress and upcoming events. Monitor homework by ensuring your child completes his/her homework and it is turned in on time. Talk to your child about his/her school experience. Indicate to your child that you expect school to be a positive experience. Encourage daily reading by providing opportunities for your child to read both fiction



	 and non-fiction books and articles. Utilize digital resources to support your child's individual learning. Check school and teacher websites for more details. You can also access the curriculum through the Curriculum and Instruction Parent Canvas Course.
	The following are NCDPI developed parent guides that provide suggestions for building strong relationships with your child's teacher and supporting communication between home and school.
	Building Strong Relationships with Your Child's Teacher (NC Rethink Education Program) How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child's Learning (NC Rethink Education Program)
	Additional general parent guides and parent resource webinar recordings can be found at the <u>following website</u> .
3) What services are available for parents and their children?	The Hawbridge School can connect families with peer tutors for their students. The Hawbuddies program also provides mentorship opportunities between Upper and Lower School students.
	CFNC & NCSEAA: What You Need to Know About the Better FAFSA
	NC Promise Program
	Elon Academy
	College Night: The Upper School Counselor hosts college night annually, providing families



	a chance to hear more about the college application process. Speakers may include local college admissions representatives, financial aid experts, and community college advisors. Career Day: Each spring, the school counselors host Career Day for all students K-12. Community members are invited to share about their college and career trajectories.
4) What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?	<u>Volunteer with THS</u> <u>Code of Conduct Policy for Families and Visitors</u> (pg. 15)
5. What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?	The Hawbridge School provides a range of options for students to explore and develop their interests and skills at their academic level. At The Hawbridge School, students are often provided the following services: Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups; Accelerated opportunities (subject acceleration, credit by demonstrated mastery (CDM), AP courses, dual enrollment courses) Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and may be within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and Other opportunities for extension of content standard. Honors Level Courses: Students at The Hawbridge School have access to a variety of honors level courses in high school. These courses are available in the High School Planning Guide.



Honors level courses typically have a faster pace than standard level courses. They offer additional rigor, complexity and creativity than standard level courses.

Career and College Promise (CCP): The Hawbridge School partners with Alamance Community College to offer dual enrollment opportunities through the CCP program. If your high school student qualifies, students may earn high school and college credit.

CCP courses may be taken in the College Transfer or Career and Technical Education pathway. These courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families.

To learn more about this program, contact your child's high school counselor.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program, through College Board, offers students the opportunity to engage in rigorous college-level course work in a high school setting. AP courses are designed for highly motivated and prepared students who seek academic rigor and college credit based on the yearly Advanced Placement Exams. The Hawbridge School believes that all students deserve access to the rigor of advanced coursework and can be successful with the appropriate support. Tests are administered by the high school on behalf of the College Board. AP courses support students in cultivating important skills and habits that are essential for college and career readiness. Additionally, students may receive higher consideration for admission to colleges and universities, as well as possible college or university course credit and/or placement. All AP classes follow the recommended syllabi from the College Board. Students are expected to complete extra



reading, writing, and project assignments outside of the classroom. CCS offers numerous AP courses throughout the district in the areas of World Languages, English Language Arts, Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, and others.

Students should consider this when thinking about taking advanced courses:

- **Ability** How do you work independently?
- Study Habits How diligently are you willing to work to be successful?
- Work Ethic How will you manage the increased homework (1-2 hours per night per AP Course)?
- Interest— How interested are you in the curriculum? Check it out on www.collegeboard.org if needed.
- Extra-Curricular Commitments How busy are you outside of school?
- Post-Secondary Goals How do you plan on meeting your after high school goals?
 If a four-year university is a consideration, you may be more qualified if you take AP courses.

Several AP courses satisfy graduation requirements for NC students as outlined in <u>State</u> <u>Board policy</u>.

AP exams are free for NC public high school students **enrolled** in these courses. If a student registers for an exam late, there will be a fee.

Colleges and universities may likely offer college credit for these courses if your child scores a 3 or above on the exam. All of the colleges in the UNC System award college credit.



More information is available on the **CollegeBoard** website.

NCVPS North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) is NC's state supplemental program and leader in online education, providing inclusive learning opportunities for students across the state. Founded in 2007, with a strong commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, regardless of location, NCVPS has over 16 years of experience serving diverse learners.

Students may enroll in NCVPS courses for a variety of reasons. Work with your school counselor if you are interested in taking NCVPS courses.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery is the process by which a student may earn credit for a high school course by demonstrating a deep understanding of the content without course enrollment or seat time.

Students will demonstrate mastery through a multiphase process, consisting of:

Phase 1: A standard examination (EOC where applicable) or a final exam developed locally; Score of 90% or higher on exam in order to proceed to Phase 2;

AND

Phase 2: A portfolio which requires the student to apply knowledge and skills relevant to the content standards.

Governor's School: Each summer, NC Governor's School offers a unique opportunity for high-achieving rising juniors and seniors to learn with their peers from across the state in an 4-week residential program at two college campus sites.



	For more information on eligibility and the application process, contact your student's counselor or visit the Governor's School website, www.ncgovschool.org .
6) What school choices are available for my child?	The Hawbridge School is a public, charter school located in Saxapahaw, NC
_	Charter Schools
	Charter schools are public schools of choice that are authorized by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. State and local tax dollars are the primary funding sources for charter schools, which have open enrollment and cannot discriminate in admissions, associate with any religion or religious group, or charge-tuition. Charter schools operate with freedom from many of the regulations that govern district schools, but charter schools are held accountable through the State assessment and accountability system.
	If you are interested in NC charter schools, visit <u>NC charter school</u> for information, resources, and contacts.
	There are additional options for families to choose for their child's education.
	Conventional School Option Students have the opportunity to take part of their conventional school options in their prospective districts. These options are where students are assigned to schools based on their residence. The Hawbridge School has students from several of the surrounding counties. Information on their individual options can be found by visiting: Alamance-Burlington, Chatham, Chapel-Hill Carrboro, Durham, Guilford, Orange, and Randolph



Nonpublic education is overseen by the NC Department of Administration.

For a list of private schools, visit this NC Private Schools.

For information on how to start a homeschool visit:

Homeschool Information

Scholarship grant programs/voucher information is available via the <u>NC State Education</u> <u>Assistance Authority</u>

7) What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?

For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding the procedural safeguards available to ensure a free, appropriate, public education.

<u>Parents Rights and Responsibilities in Special Education: Notice of Procedural Safeguards</u> <u>Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish)</u>

The Exceptional Children Division of North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is looking for all children and youth ages birth through 21 with special needs who may not be receiving the help needed. These include children and youth with physical disabilities, emotional disabilities and/or intellectual disabilities, and children and youth with suspected disabilities who are highly mobile, migrant and/or homeless. If your child has a disability, or you suspect that he/she may have a disability please contact your child's school or the Exceptional Children Director at 4401 Old Airport Road, Concord, NC 28025 or call 704-260-5770. Project Child Find



8) What is the contact information for the schools and district office?	Parents and guardians may contact The Hawbridge School at Lower School 336-376-1122 Upper School 336-376-3277 The Hawbridge School website
9) What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?	Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Immunizations Health Assessment Annual Health Assessment and Immunization Compliance Reporting - Expected Immunization Schedules - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements