

Foundation Standards

The Foundation Standards are the compliance-oriented guidelines that indicate essential, transactional relationships, structures, policies, and systems without which a safe, effective, and sustainable learning community cannot exist. All NEASC schools must evidence strong foundations at the start of their accreditation journey and provide Annual Updates. A thorough review, supported by documentation and a Visit, is conducted every four to five years.

▶ Learning Structure

The school has in place clear statements that express a shared understanding of learning and objectives that shape and drive its programs and practices. A curriculum articulating learning outcomes, expected teaching practices, and principles of assessment exist.

▶ Organizational Structure

The school has in place a clear governance and leadership structure with defined roles and responsibilities, and a faculty and staff qualified for the roles to which they are assigned. Expectations defined in policy are carried out and observed in practice. Mechanisms for assessing the effectiveness and functionality of the school's organizational structures have been developed.

▶ Health, Safety, and Security

The learning environment is healthy, safe, and secure for all members of the school community. Effective and well-established policies and procedures exist and are acted upon to protect children, adults, and visitors alike.

▶ Finance, Facilities, and Resources

The school has in place policies, practices, and procedures that ensure financial health and economic sustainability. The principles governing financial management are designed to provide the resources (in personnel, equipment, and facilities) required to support the school's learning program and objectives. The school facilities are fit for purpose.

▶ Ethical Practice

The school has well-established, transparent policies and practices in place to ensure that employees, learners, and parents are treated fairly, equitably, and ethically.

▶ Boarding/Residential

The boarding/residential program, if offered, effectively supports the wellbeing, and enhances the learning experiences of all boarding students and staff.