



Norwell Middle School

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Hello Current Grade 6 and 7 Students and Parents / Guardians,

Course placements for English and Math (7th grade), English, Math, Science, and World Language (8th grade) have been entered into Aspen.

Please know that the course placements were based on the following criteria:

1. Grades

2. Student Assessment Data

- MCAS performance history
- Fastbridge performance history
- Common Assessments

3. Observations of the student's learning characteristics:

- demonstrated ability in the subject area
- the ability to think beyond a given assignment or concept
- competency to complete assigned work independently
- production of quality work
- completion of classroom assignments in a timely manner
- completion of all homework assignments
- task commitment
- self-motivation
- self-assessment and seeking of help without prompting
- contributions to a positive classroom environment by consistently demonstrating excellent conduct and effort

The objective is to place students where they will have the opportunity to learn at a pace and in an environment best suited to them as an individual. Properly placed, a student will thrive and grow, and placements are reviewed throughout the school year to ensure that students are studying where they find both an appropriate challenge and academic success.

To learn more about the courses, you can also look in the [2026-2027 NMS Program of Studies](#).

Please review the attached document for more information about course placements, exploratory courses, electives, world language, the waiver process, and support classes.

We will make final class pace changes at the end of Term IV. Please emphasize to your child to continue their effort throughout Term IV, as student placements are reviewed at the middle and end of Term IV.

- [Course and Placement Information \(incoming 7th & 8th grade\)](#)

The waiver process includes a meeting with the principal and a written request. Please make sure to review the waiver process carefully (click on the link above). Waiver requests are due on Wednesday, April 29, 2026.

You can also access this and more information on the NMS website.

Thank you,

James Dupille

