KEARNS ACADEMY

COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES

Student Handbook 2026-2027

1710 McGuinn Drive
High Point, North Carolina 27265
Telephone Number (336) 885-7905
Fax Number (336) 885-7927

"A Rigorous Computer Science School Where Critical, Creative, and Innovative Thinking and Ideas Are Nurtured."

THE ACADEMY PROMISE

At The Kearns Academy, our staff promises to:

Deliver quality, rigorous instruction.
Offer opportunities to explore varied academic, career and athletic interests.
Communicate frequently with students and their family.
Provide a diverse and safe learning environment.
Be available before or after school for tutoring and extra help.
Be flexible, respectful, and supportive.

At The Kearns Academy our students promise to:

Complete all academic assignments to the best of their ability.
Ask for help from adults when needed.
Attend all classes every school day.
Be available before or after school for tutoring and extra help.
Be flexible, respectful, and supportive.

At The Kearns Academy our parents promise to:

Send students to school every day ready to learn.
Communicate frequently with staff members and teachers.
Fully participate in the school community.
Attend meetings or other events important to their students' education.
Be flexible, respectful, and supportive.

Contacts

Principal	Mrs. Karen Williams-Dick
Curriculum Facilitator	Ms. Margaret Wilmoth
Counselor	Ms. Kendra Graham
Social Worker	Ms. Karen Harris
Office Support/Treasurer	Ms. Benita Pierce

General Procedures and Information

Arrival and Dismissal of Students

Our school day is from 9:15 a.m. until 4:15 p.m. Classes will start promptly at 9:15 a.m. Students should not arrive to campus prior to 9:00am when our doors open each day and they are expected to come straight upstairs. Late arrivals must check-in with the main office. Academy students are **NOT** to be downstairs on the campus of Welborn Middle School at any time.

Attendance, Absences, and Tardiness

The Kearns Academy school day is from 9:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Attendance is recorded for each period.

Consistent school attendance is necessary for a student to achieve success. Therefore, students are expected to be in school except in cases of emergency or for a reason as listed below:

- Personal illness – A doctor's note should be provided for any illness of three or more days, and a doctor's note may be required at any time if it is the judgment of school officials.
- Death of a relative – limited to five days unless reasonable cause may be shown for a longer period of time.
- Observance of a religious holiday.
- Non-Emergency family trip – prior approval from the principal and notification of teachers required. Request must be made at least one week in advance. Teachers may require work to be done completed prior to the trip.
- Any other reason must be excused by school officials prior to the absence.

Absences

- Have your parent or guardian write a note that includes your name, date, reason for absence, and parent signature.
- Bring your note to the secretary in the main office where you'll be assigned a code.
- A student has three days to bring a note from home requesting to be excused.
- All absences are unexcused until a note is brought from home.
- For absences, make-up work should be completed within three days of absence.
- Students will be required to make up time after three absences in any one quarter.

Early Dismissals

An early dismissal will be granted for the same reasons as an excused absence. Parents must come to school to pick up the student. Students who leave school without arranging an early dismissal may be considered skipping and could face disciplinary action. All students must sign out in the main office.

Tardiness

Promptness to class is very important. Tardiness not only involves the student who is late but also disrupts the entire class. In order to avoid disciplinary action, the student should be in class and ready to work when class begins.

1. Teachers will handle tardiness on an individual basis.
2. Chronic Tardiness will be referred to the administration (GCS Code of Conduct I-2)
3. Tardiness to college courses will be dealt with by the professor.

Counseling

The school counselor is committed to supporting every student's academic, social-emotional, and postsecondary success. Our school counselor is available to assist students with a wide range of needs, including academic concerns, personal challenges, course registration, career exploration, college and career planning, financial aid and scholarships, summer opportunities, and internships.

In addition to providing guidance and resources, the school counselor offers a safe, supportive environment where students can discuss concerns, set goals, and develop strategies for success. Students are encouraged to schedule an appointment or visit the counseling office whenever they need assistance. Students who visit the counseling office during the school day should obtain a pass or note from their teacher.

The school counseling office maintains the confidentiality of student information and complies with all applicable regulations under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974

Discipline

At the Kearns Academy, we believe that each student has the right to have a safe and positive teaching and learning environment, to have nurturing interaction with our faculty, staff, and administration and the right to be free from distractions caused by the inappropriate behavior of others. Each student will have access to the "Guilford County Schools Student Discipline Policy" which defines the system's expectations for proper behavior as well as consequences for failing to meet those expectations. That handbook may be found at https://gcsnc.com/families/student-family-handbook. Students and their families are expected to familiarize themselves with the policy.

Attending a magnet school is a privilege that requires a high level of self-discipline and maturity. Students are selected to attend the Kearns Academy because we believe that they possess those qualities. Guilford County Schools Student Discipline policy emphasizes the importance of self-discipline in students learning and is designed to create a safe, orderly, and positive learning environment for everyone.

Dress Code

DRESS CODE (GCS Code of Conduct: I-5)
• A student will maintain personal attire and grooming standards that promote safety, health and acceptable standards of social conduct and are not disruptive to the educational environment.
• Headgear such as but not limited to hoodies, bandanas may **not** be worn in the building at any time including before school. Any form of a hood must always remain off the student's head in the building.
• Offensive logos or symbols that contain profanity, references to drugs, tobacco, alcohol, weapons, or gang paraphernalia will not be permitted.
• Students' undergarments must be covered.
• Student clothing is not to expose inappropriate areas of the body.
    - o No see-through clothing will be allowed.
    - o Shorts and skirts should be of an appropriate length.
    - o Tops are not to expose midriffs or cleavage.
    - o Strapless, halter, spaghetti straps, or tube tops are not allowed.
    - o Shirts should have sleeves.
• Students who wear inappropriate clothing will be allowed to change or correct the attire that is in violation of the rule.

Emergency Parent Contact/Accidents at School

If a student is injured at school, they should report to the school office if possible so that we may provide care and help contact the family.

School Breakfast

Breakfast is available daily to Kearns Academy students on the second floor. Students are expected to come straight upstairs once they arrive on campus each morning. Students should NOT be outside the building or downstairs on the campus of Welborn Middle School.

School Lunch

Lunch is available to all Kearns Academy students. We eat our lunch in the Welborn cafeteria. The Kearns Academy maintains a "closed campus" setting for 9th and 10th grade students, meaning that they must remain on campus for lunch. 11th and 12th graders with a signed parental permission form and transportation are permitted to go off campus for lunch. 11th and 12 graders should not bring lunch back to campus. Students are not permitted to order and have food delivered to school.

Cell Phones

Cell phones should not interrupt the educational environment and should not be seen or heard in classrooms. Staff reserves the right to collect student cell phones. Students may not be allowed to leave class because they have been called on their cell phone. Parents and guardians may leave messages in the main office to be relayed to students at the end of the day or when appropriate.

Medication/Medical Attention

A parent must complete a Parent Authorization Form before medicine can be administered at school. Once this form is on file in the front office, the front office personnel will administer medication to a student. Students are encouraged to immediately report every accident or injury to his/her teacher or the front office so that an Accident Report may be prepared and for proper medical care.

Academic Information

Interims/Report Cards

Interim reports are sent home each 3 weeks and Report Cards are issued to students at the end of each quarter. Parents should contact the school if either of these important documents is not received. College grades will not be listed on the mid-term report, they are reported at the end of the semester.

Grading

The student's grade is a means of reporting to the students and his/her parents the progress made in each course every nine weeks. The letter grade indicates the teacher's evaluation of the student's work as reported each grade period. Credit is cumulative on a semester basis and the grade issued at the end of each semester will indicate the quality of work done during that total period of time.

Grading Scale:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
50-59	F

2026-2027 Kearns Academy
Open Lunch Form

Each year, Kearns Academy allows Juniors and Seniors to leave campus for lunch. This is a privilege that is dependent upon compliance with the following rules:

1. Only Juniors and Seniors who have a signed permission slip from their parent or guardian on file may leave campus for lunch.
2. Students agree to not transport Freshmen or Sophomores off campus for lunch.
3. Students agree to not bring back food from off campus.
4. Students agree to be back from lunch and in their 3rd Block class no later than 1:10pm each day.
5. Families understand that the school assumes no liability for any accident, injury or incident that occurs while a student is off-campus for open lunch.
6. Students agree to act in a safe manner and to represent Kearns Academy well when they are off campus during the school day.

The principal reserves the right to revoke open lunch privileges at any time.

Please complete the following and return to the main office to give your student permission to leave campus for lunch.

I give my child permission to leave campus for lunch during the 2026-2027 school year:

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Phone: _____

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____