

Morehead Elementary Arts Academy Handbook



2026-2027

Arts Academy Handbook

August 2026



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Morehead's Arts Academy is preparing for the 2026-2027 school year. Please use the attached handbook to register your child for the Arts Academy program.

There are two options for completing Arts Academy registration:

- Online: scan the QR code on this page or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/MoreheadAAReg>
- Paper: complete the registration form at the end of this handbook and return it to your child's teacher.
- Registration will close at 2:30pm on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**



****Please understand your child might not receive all classes that are requested. In addition, not all classes are offered to each grade level. Some students may be placed on a waiting list.**

- **NO BUS TRANSPORTATION.** Parents must provide transportation or sign up for ACES.
- All Arts Academy classes meet from 2:35-3:35. Dismissal is at 3:35pm. Any student picked up after 3:35pm will receive a warning note. Multiple infractions will result in dismissal from the class. Please see the attendance requirements for details.

There is another after-school program at Morehead, a paid day care program called ACES. You will receive information about ACES from your child's classroom teacher. ACES is not an Arts program. Students (3-5) in the ACES program can take Arts Academy classes.

Important Registration Dates:

- Acceptance letters/emails will go home **Monday, September 14, 2026.**
- Mandatory Parent Orientation:
Tuesday, September 22, 2026 OR Wednesday, September 23, 2026
Parent(s) **MUST** attend ONE orientation (dates listed on registration form). At the orientation, parents will receive their child's schedule, sign the behavior contract, and receive important information. Please bring a device if possible to fill out necessary paperwork. All orientations will be held in the arts building, and will last approximately 20 minutes.
- Arts Academy starts the week of **Monday, September 28, 2026.**

****Please be on time to the orientation. No orientations will be scheduled after these dates.**

This handbook outlines the Arts Academy participant requirements and includes a behavior contract. **Please note that regular attendance and good behavior will be expected of all students.** We are very excited about the Arts Academy program, and we are looking forward to working with your child(ren). Thank you for supporting the Arts at Morehead!

Sincerely,

Principal Lindsay Traumuller and the Arts Academy Teachers

Arts Academy Behavior Contract & Requirements

Eligibility:

Students in **grades 3-5** are eligible to participate in Arts Academy classes. Parents must provide transportation or enroll students in ACES. No bus transportation is provided.

Behavior Requirements:

Any behavior that violates the GCS Student Code of Conduct or Morehead's Star Expectations could result in permanent removal from Arts Academy at the discretion of the Arts Academy staff and the school principal.

Attendance Requirements:

- When a student is absent from Arts Academy, a reason must be provided so that the absence can be recorded correctly. GCS excused absences are: illness/injury, medical/dental appointment, death in family, educational opportunity, religious observances, court proceedings, quarantine, suspension, expulsion.
- If a student does not attend the school day, they can NOT attend Arts Academy, or participate in performances that day.
- If a student attends the school day, but does not attend Arts Academy, they will be marked unexcused, unless a note is provided. Please see excused absence reasons above. Please send a note or email for ANY absence within one week. Failure to provide notice will result in an unexcused absence.
- Students with three unexcused absences from any one arts academy class will be removed from that class.
- Students who leave early and miss the majority of the class will be counted absent.
- Students must maintain good attendance at school in order to participate in Arts Academy.
- At the discretion of the staff and school principal, excessive excused absences can result in removal.
- If a student chooses to drop out of one or more classes, then they may be removed from ALL classes at the discretion of the Arts Academy staff and the school principal.
- Performances and events are mandatory for students in participating classes. Students who are picked up late from, or who are absent from performances and events may be dismissed from the Arts Academy class. Students who arrive late to performances run the risk of not performing.

Student Pick-Up Requirements:

- For the safety of all, parents must park in a marked parking space. The car rider line and grass/track area are not available or acceptable for parking.
- Students must be signed out by an approved adult by 3:35pm. Please know the pick-up location and communicate the pick-up location to anyone picking up your child.
- Students with three tardy pick-ups (after 3:35pm) from any one arts academy class will be removed from that class.
- Students may walk or bike home with written permission. Students are **not allowed to walk to cars in the parking lot** or other locations on school grounds, including the playground, to wait for a parent.
- *Adults who are picking up students must be present at the classroom door in order for the student to be released.*
- Parents who misuse the parking policies will be given one verbal warning and one written warning. The second offense may result in removal from all Arts Academy classes.

Liability: Each parent is expected to have sufficient insurance to cover any accident or injury to their child. Please refer to the GCS handbook for insurance information.

Class Cancellation & Important Dates:

- There will be **NO** Arts Academy classes on the following days: teacher workdays, Stars on the Run (Friday, November 6, 2026), or Arts Extravaganza (Thursday, March 18, 2027). The last day of Arts Academy is **Wednesday, May 12, 2027.**
- Please make transportation arrangements in the case of a last-minute class cancellation.

Required Dress for Classes and Performances:

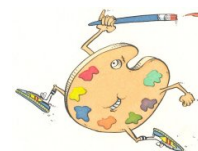
- **Dance Classes:** pants/leggings, clothing made for exercise/movement *NO jeans*
- **All PE classes:** running shoes and loose shorts/pants *NO jeans*
- **Handbells:** white button-down collared blouse/shirt, black pants/skirts (for performances)
- **Strings:** any combination of black and white outfit
- **All other classes:** performance attire will be announced prior to the performance

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OFFERINGS

ART:

Art (3rd grade Monday or Wednesday, 4th/5th grades Thursday or Friday): Miss Cox

Art classes will include special projects designed to stimulate students' imagination, spark creativity, and further students' art skills. Students' artwork will be displayed throughout the school, in the community, and at the annual Arts Extravaganza Art Show.



DANCE:

Dance for the Camera (Friday): Mrs. Braswell, Grades 4-5

3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students interested in signing up for this class will work with UNCG to create an original dance film. Students will learn how to use camera equipment and act as directors, camera operators, and dancers.

Morehead Dance Company* (Wednesday): Mrs. Braswell, Grades 3-5 (*requires audition)

There is a new spin on this class! We will be working with UNCG Filmmakers to create an original dance film. (There are limited spaces available for student filmmakers). Students interested in being a member of the Morehead Dance Company are required to audition. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students in this program will focus on advanced modern/contemporary dance technique. Students will be challenged physically and mentally as they work to improve their technical dance skills and participate in multiple performance opportunities. All students are expected to participate in performances; missed rehearsals and performances may result in removal from the class or future performances. *Dress code: students must dress out for this class. Students who do not dress out may be asked to observe. Students are encouraged to leave a change of clothes in the dance room. Students will dance barefoot during class.*



Tap Ensemble (Thursday): Mrs. Braswell, Grades 3-5

Tap dancing is a fun style of dancing that many students enjoy. Learning about tap dancing requires the ability to follow steady beat and perform basic rhythms and intricate foot movements. This class is for third, fourth, and fifth grade students interested in the concepts of tap dancing. Students will be expected to work hard and show determination in challenging situations. Students are welcome to bring their own tap shoes, but tap shoes are provided for students who need them. Students will participate in a performance during the school day. *Dress code: students must dress out for this class. Students who do not dress out may be asked to observe. Students are encouraged to leave a change of clothes in the dance room. Students will wear school-issued shoes for this class.*

Dance Sampler (Monday): Mrs. Braswell, Grades 3-5

Students in this class will explore various genres of dance in short weekly units. We will spend time learning various dance styles including modern, ballet, tap, jazz, West African, and exploring work in classes in composition, choreography, dance for the camera.

THEATRE:

Theatre Sampler (Monday): Mrs. Haulenbeek, Grades 3-4

Students in this class will explore various areas of theatre in short units. We will spend time learning about and practicing skills such as playwriting, improvisation, puppetry, and technical theatre. This class will not have any performance requirements.



Theatre Troupe (Wednesday or Friday): Mrs. Haulenbeek, Grades 3—4-5

This class is designed for students who want to expand their dramatic skills. Students will work as an ensemble to prepare for performances both within the school and in the community, as well as collaborate with other performance groups. There will be performance opportunities in which all students are expected to participate; missed performances may result in removal from the class.

Theatre Production (Thursday): Mrs. Haulenbeek, Grades 4-5

This class is designed for mature, dedicated students who have demonstrated a high level of performance skills in previous drama classes. Students will rehearse for and perform in a large production of the *The Rainbow Fish*, adapted from the popular children's book. This class will require additional rehearsals on scheduled Tuesdays until 4:30pm. Students and parents will sign a contract stating their commitment to the production and all rehearsals. Students are expected to participate in all performances and extra rehearsals; missed rehearsal time and/or missed performances may result in removal from the class and/or the final productions. Based on roles, students may be required to wear specific clothing for rehearsals.

Arts Academy Handbook

August 2026



MUSIC:

Strings (Mixed grades Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday):

Miss Snyder, Grades 3-5

Students in Arts Academy strings will continue to develop both proper technique and musicality. Students will learn about and have opportunities to play the violin, viola, or cello. Instruments are provided for student use. There will be performance opportunities in which all students are expected to participate.



Percussion Ensemble (Monday): Mrs. Furness, Grades 3- 5



Drums and more!! This class is open to third, fourth and fifth grade students interested in learning about various percussion instruments and techniques. Percussion instruments are instruments that can be played by tapping, shaking or scraping. Students will have hands on experiences with various drums and mallet instruments such as xylophone, metallophones and glockenspiels. There will be performance opportunities throughout the year. Students are required to participate in all performance opportunities; missed performances may result in removal from the class.

Handbells (Wednesday): Mrs. Furness, Grades 4-5

This class is open to fourth and fifth grade students interested in learning to play the handbells. Students will have several opportunities for performances throughout the school year. There will be performance opportunities in which all students are expected to participate; missed performances may result in removal from the class.



Chorus (Thursday): Mrs. Furness, Grades 3- 5

This class is open for students interested in learning more about choral singing! There will be performances throughout the year, including some possible performances out in the community. Students are expected to participate in all performances. A missed performance may result in removal from the class.

Recorder Ensemble (Friday): Mrs. Furness, Grade 5

This class is open to fifth grade students only. The recorder is a wind instrument that can be used to improve all aspects of musicality and is an excellent pre-band instrument. Students will have the opportunity to work on basic recorder playing skills, as well as learn skills that are taught beyond the regular music class. We will learn to play various styles of music such as popular songs, movie themes, Disney songs and much more! There will be performance opportunities in which all students are expected to participate; missed performances may result in removal from the class.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

*Appropriate dress: athletic shorts/pants, tennis shoes ***No jeans*** Students who fail to adhere to the dress code will receive warnings and may be dismissed from the class.*

Fitness Fun (Monday): Mr. Kight, Grades 3-5

Students will learn about lifetime fitness and sport skills such as tennis, walking, yoga, fitness apps, and more!

5K (Wednesday): Mr. Kight, Grades 3-5

GO FAR promotes fitness through running, healthy eating, and character education. Students should have the desire to run for 3.1 miles as they will train for November and tentative May 5K races. The registration fee is \$25.00 per 5K race. Payment can be made online at www.gofarclub.org or via check to GO FAR. Scholarships are available.



Leaders In Training (L.I.T) (Thursday): Mr. Kight 3-5

In this class, students will gain the skills needed to become effective leaders and valuable team members. Students in The Leaders in Training class will have the opportunity to work together through a series of planned team building activities that are fun and motivational. Students will build skills like communication, planning, problem-solving, cooperation and conflict resolutions.

Sport Stack (Friday): Mr. Kight, Grades 3-5



Sport Stacking involves using cups as an individual, with a partner, and on a team of four. Stackers will learn five stacking events. There will be an option to purchase sport stacking cups.

Arts Academy Handbook

August 2026



MOREHEAD ARTS ACADEMY REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION FORM DUE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026. NO EXCEPTIONS!!

Please understand your child might not receive all classes that are requested. Due to space availability and scheduling, they may be placed on a waiting list.

Student's Name _____ Teacher _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Phone(s) _____

Parent Email: _____ Dismissal: ___ Walk/Bike ___ Pick Up ___ ACES

Please select **one** parent orientation that you will attend: (Please bring a device to the meeting for completing registration.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Tuesday, September 22, 5:00 pm-5:30 pm | ☐ Wednesday, September 23, 3:00 pm-3:30 pm |
| ☐ Tuesday, September 22, 5:30 pm-6:00 pm | ☐ Wednesday, September 23, 3:30 pm-4:00 pm |
| ☐ Tuesday, September 22, 6:00 pm-6:30 pm | ☐ Wednesday, September 23, 4:00 pm-4:30 pm |

Arts Academy classes (grade level listed in parentheses) occur on the following days:

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Art (3)	Art (3)	Art (4-5)	Art (4-5)
Fitness Fun (3-4-5)	5K (3-4-5)	L.I.T. (3-4-5)	Sport Stack (3-4-5)
Strings	Dance Company* (3-4-5)	Strings	Recorder Ensemble (5)
Dance Sampler (3-4-5)	Strings	Tap Ensemble (3-4-5)	Strings
Percussion (3-4-5)	Handbells (4-5)	Chorus (3-4-5)	Dance for Camera (3-4-5)
Theatre Sampler (3-4)	Theatre Troupe (3-4-5)	Theatre Production (4-5)	Theatre Troupe (3-4-5)

**Dance Company requires audition.*

Directions:

- Each student may choose as many classes as you like. Participation in all your choices is NOT guaranteed.
- Consideration for placement will be given in order of your preferences with 1 being child's first choice.

Please use the list below to rank the classes in number order by preference

For example, if you love dance the most and recorder less, put dance as choice 1 and recorder as choice 2.

3 rd Grade	4 th Grade	5 th Grade
___ Art (M/W)	___ Art (Th/F)	___ Art (Th/F)
___ Sport Stack (F)	___ Sport Stack (F)	___ Sport Stack (F)
___ 5K (W)	___ 5K (W)	___ 5K (W)
___ L.I.T. (Th)	___ L.I.T. (Th)	___ L.I.T. (Th)
___ Fitness Fun (M)	___ Fitness Fun (M)	___ Fitness Fun (M)
___ Strings	___ Strings	___ Strings
___ Tap Ensemble (Th)	___ Percussion (M)	___ Percussion (M)
___ Dance Company (W)	___ Handbell Ensemble (W)	___ Handbell Ensemble (W)
___ Dance Sampler (M)	___ Chorus (Th)	___ Chorus (Th)
___ Dance for Camera (F)	___ Dance Company (W)	___ Recorder Ensemble (F)
___ Percussion (M)	___ Tap Ensemble (Th)	___ Dance Company (W)
___ Chorus (Th)	___ Dance for Camera (F)	___ Tap Ensemble (Th)
___ Theatre Troupe (W/F)	___ Dance Sampler (M)	___ Dance for Camera (F)
___ Theatre Sampler (M)	___ Theatre Troupe (W/F)	___ Dance Sampler (M)
	___ Theatre Sampler (M)	___ Theatre Production (Th)
	___ Theatre Production (Th)	___ Theatre Troupe (W/F)