



FRANKLIN ACADEMY

# PARENT HANDBOOK

*Pembroke Pines K-8 Campus  
2021 – 2022*

**Parent-Student Handbook | 2021-2022**

*Pembroke Pines K-8 Campus*

## INTRODUCTION

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The inspiration for Franklin Academy is Benjamin Franklin, a founding father who personified the pursuit of excellence, discovery and creativity. Franklin Academy offers an outstanding and unique educational experience.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Building Better People, Every Day*

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Utilizing an intercultural-mindedness model and a standards-based curriculum, the mission of Franklin Academy is to create compassionate, engaged, life-long learners by promoting a culture of collaboration and high expectations that emphasizes character development through active service in the local, national and international community, while adhering to the principle that all children can learn.

## ACCREDITATION

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Franklin Academy has been granted AdvancED School System Accreditation from the AdvancED Accreditation Commission, the national commission that confers the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. This designation demonstrates our commitment to excellence, our openness to external review and feedback, and our desire to be the best we can be on behalf of the students we serve. School System Accreditation provides Franklin Academy a nationally-recognized mark of quality for our system and all the schools within our system. All of our schools are fully accredited providing our students opportunities such as the chance to earn college and technical school scholarships after graduation along with the opportunity to join the list of accredited schools and school systems. To read more about the process or learn about AdvancED, please log on to [www.advanc-ed.org](http://www.advanc-ed.org).

## ADMISSIONS

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Franklin Academy will enroll any eligible student who submits a timely application, as specified in the Charter, unless the number of applicants exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level or building. In such cases, the school will employ a random selection process that gives all applicants an equal chance of being admitted (unless otherwise prohibited by law). Preferences for enrollment are applied in accordance with the published lottery rules and guidelines available on the school website.

In accordance with Florida Statute 1002.33, a lottery will be conducted at each grade level that has more applications than seats available for that grade. All lotteries will be conducted in a manner that ensures each eligible student receives an equal chance of being selected. Applicants will be selected in random order until all applications have been ordered. Following this order (with consideration of any applicable preference), applicants will be admitted until capacity targets have been reached. The remaining students' names will be placed on an ordered waiting list in which

their name was selected. Once all grades are filled, any additional students who apply shall participate in subsequent lotteries and be placed on the waiting list in the appropriate order. Families will be contacted as openings become available.

If an application is submitted more than once for the same child, only the last submission will be included in the lottery pool. All other applications will be disregarded. If more than one application is processed and a single applicant is assigned several outcomes the school will honor the disposition of the last application.

The lottery enrollment window is set for specific time frames. Applications submitted outside of the enrollment window will not be included in the first lottery pool. If an applicant becomes aware of the error they may apply within the correct enrollment window. If an applicant misses the opportunity to participate in the lottery, their application may be transferred to the next open enrollment window and included in the following lottery.

Parents are responsible for information contained in the application. Verification of grade-level and age will impact the applicant's participation in the appropriate lottery. If an application is submitted for the incorrect lottery pool, a new application will need to be submitted and processed in a subsequent lottery. Applicants who apply for a specific grade level and are then retained must apply for the appropriate grade level and participate in the next lottery.

If a student from the lottery results list does not register within the time allowed or chooses not to attend the school, the first person on the ordered waiting list will be given the opportunity to register. This procedure will continue throughout the school year. The waiting list will only be in effect for one school year; students on a waiting list must reapply each year for open spaces in the school.

Admission to the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) will adhere to the principles of the IB World Organization, in which all students in grades 6 through 8 – if offered a seat to attend Franklin Academy in accordance with the admissions policy – will participate in the Middle Years Programme, regardless of academic performance or learning differences.

## **EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY**

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Research has shown that the quality of instruction is the most significant factor in a child's learning. At Franklin Academy, our educational philosophy and mission is reflected in how our teachers deliver instruction. A rigorous, comprehensive, researched-based curriculum aligned to Florida's academic standards will be delivered to students in a variety of engaging ways.

Our highly qualified teachers understand where students are in terms of knowledge and reading levels due to pre-assessment data and work collaboratively as a team to determine the route students will take to gain one year plus worth of content knowledge. It is every teacher's objective to address the individual learning needs of students and meet the content and performance criteria of the Florida Standards, B.E.S.T. Standards, and the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.

Each team of teachers evaluates their curriculum within professional learning communities and determines the best method of instruction according to the rigor of the standard. As a team, they will create an instructional focus that will drive data analysis and provide a framework for developing meaningful assessments and effective action plans to

increase a student's rate of learning. Reflection on student performance is key to making proactive changes to meet students' needs.

Instructional models in the IB MYP are guided by the IB World Organization Standards and Practices. MYP Classrooms are connected to big ideas, related concepts and the real world. Classrooms in the MYP are centered on student questions and ideas and are focused on inquiry and collaboration, thus achieving mastery of both the Florida Standards and the IB Objectives for each subject group.

As professionals, our educators will:

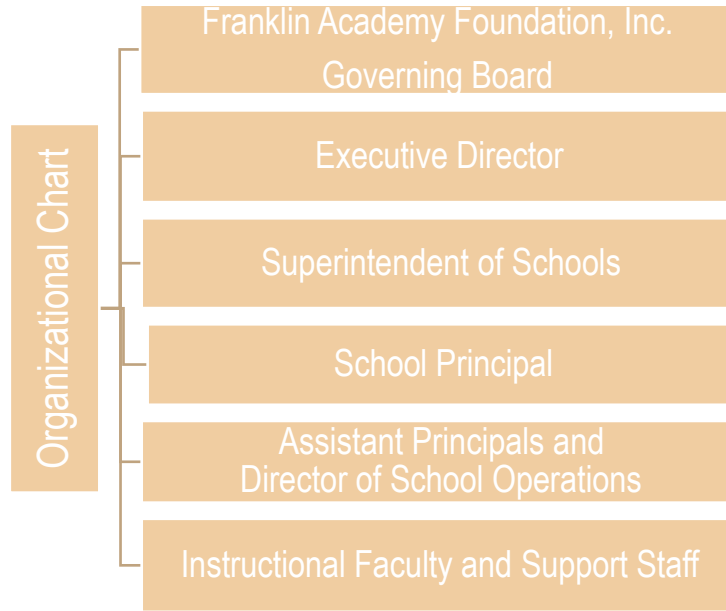
- Develop and utilize standards-based curricula aligned with the benchmarks of the B.E.S.T. Standards for English Language Arts (K–2), Florida Standards for English Language Arts (3–8), Florida Standards for Mathematics (K–8), and Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Science and Social Studies (K–8);
- Adapt content and design their curriculum to meet the interest and needs of the population;
- Select assessment pieces that will authentically reflect learning gains and academic growth;
- Work as professional learning communities within and across disciplines and grade levels to foster horizontal and vertical alignment;
- Focus on and support the development of critical thinking through project-based learning and inquiry; and
- Challenge students to invest in their own education by providing numerous types of assessment, timely feedback, and individual reflection time.

## GOVERNING BOARD

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The Governing Board of Franklin Academy is the ultimate policy-making body that determines the academic direction, curriculum, and operation of the school. The school Principal, hired by the Chairman of the Board, is responsible for all aspects of school operations within the scope of operating policy and budgetary approval by the Governing Board. The school's faculty and staff report directly to the Principal, who reports to the Governing Board.

*The school's administrative team, consisting of the Principal, Assistant Principals, and Director of School Operations, will ensure that the operations of the school are in accordance with the greater organizational mission and vision of Franklin Academy. The administrative team, as instructional leaders, will make all school-based decisions, establishing and implementing procedures for the day-to-day operations of the school. The instructional and support staff are responsible for carrying out these procedures in their daily activities and interactions with students, parents and the community.*



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSE

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It is the intent that all students will engage in a rigorous curriculum promoting project-based learning, inquiry, technology, creativity and teamwork while addressing each individual's learning style. At Franklin Academy, highly qualified staff and administrative professionals work with students, parents and the community to ensure that students set learning goals and empower themselves by mastering all core academic areas and developing a well-rounded education through art, technology, physical education, music and other special disciplines.

To make this mission a reality, the school will:

- Provide students with motivated, highly qualified teachers and administrators;
- Develop and/or utilize standards-based curricula aligning the benchmarks of the Florida Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics and the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Science and Social Studies;
- Empower experienced faculty to collaborate in constructing viable curriculum maps to ensure equity and flexibility in meeting students' educational needs while addressing benchmarks and process skills;
- Regularly monitor student progress by following a Continuous Improvement Model implementing a variety of assessment techniques including formative and authentic skills assessments across all content areas;
- Develop and utilize instructional focus calendars as mandated by each individual class's learning needs based on data, allowing for extended learning opportunities, enhancement and enrichment;
- Implement professional learning communities of school leaders and teachers to evaluate student data, navigate curriculum maps, facilitate best practices, and promote high-yield strategies across the curriculum;

- Provide teachers with meaningful and applicable professional development and various instructional tools as aligned with their specific curriculum goals and objectives;
- Promote the use of educational technology and highly effective research-based instructional methodologies, including project-based and inquiry-based learning;
- Foster communication and involvement with parents and the community.

Our rigorous approach to teaching and learning, individual needs-based instructional delivery system, differentiated instructional model, student empowerment and professional collaboration supplemented by 21<sup>st</sup> century technology, continuous progress monitoring and rigorous assessments will help us deliver our mission. The decentralization of services and shared decision-making by professionals within the school, a high level of parental involvement, and a web-based student information system that allows parents to communicate with the school and track their child's progress will encourage a collaborative framework that will facilitate a path to success.

Instructional models in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) will align with the principles of the IB World Organization. MYP Classrooms will be concept-based, student-centered and focused on inquiry and collaboration in order to achieve mastery of both the Florida Standards and the International Baccalaureate Objectives and Strands.

## GENERAL SCHOOL POLICIES

### ACCELERATED READER (AR)

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Accelerated Reader is a reading program that encourages differentiated reading practice to create strong readers. Based on each student's independent reading level, teachers set personalized goals for each student and guide students to books difficult enough to keep them challenged, but not so difficult as to cause frustration. AR helps teachers monitor students' vocabulary growth, development of literacy skills and provides immediate information, helping teachers monitor the comprehension skills of each student to inform further instruction or intervention.

Students in grades K-5 will receive two (2) grades per quarter in English Language Arts as established by the school's administrative team. All students are required to reach at least 50% of their individualized goal by the middle of each grading quarter. Grades for AR will not be reflected in the PowerSchool Parent Portal until the end of each grading quarter.

Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's progress by visiting Renaissance Home Connect, a digital tool designed to improve the school-to-home connection by allowing parents and students to log in to a website and view the student's reading practice and progress towards goals. Access to online results promotes discussion between parents and students, which motivates students and can make reading practice even more effective. In addition, parents can specify up to six email addresses to receive automatic updates in English or Spanish on their child's reading progress. Contact your child's homeroom teacher for your child's unique AR login credentials.

### ACCELERATED READER BOOKFINDER

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<http://www.arbookfind.com>

Searching for books with a corresponding Renaissance Accelerated Reader quiz is easy with Accelerated Reader Bookfinder. Students, teachers, parents and librarians can search in English or Spanish using criteria such as book level or Lexile measure, interest level, title, author, fiction/nonfiction, subject, award-winners, state lists and more.

### ADULT RESTROOMS

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Adult restrooms are available on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors of the building. At no time is any adult permitted to use or enter student restrooms.



## AFTER SCHOOL CARE

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[www.afterschool-connections.org](http://www.afterschool-connections.org)

The after-school program is operated by **AfterSchool Connections**. They offer care each school day including early release days until 6:00 pm, excluding the last day of the school year. This program provides students with a structured, safe, and positive environment for after school hours. Students are supervised by experienced and certified counselors that provide age-appropriate activities and learning opportunities. The AfterSchool Connections site-based manager serves as the first point-of-contact when addressing any issues or concerns related to after care. Families should contact AfterSchool Connections before 12:00 pm for a change in their child's dismissal; otherwise, the child must be released from the office.

## ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

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Franklin Academy is committed to protecting its students, employees, and applicants for admission from bullying, harassment, or discrimination for any reason and any type. Franklin Academy believes that all students and employees are entitled to a safe, equitable, and harassment-free school experience. Bullying, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action, according to School Board of Broward County Policy 4001.1.

## ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

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Students need to learn the importance of regular school attendance. In addition, it is important that students report to school on time. Supervision of students begins at 7:00 am for students in grades K-5 and 8:00 am for students in grades 6-8. Instruction begins promptly at 7:30 am for students in grades K-5 and 8:30 am for students in grades 6-8. Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria beginning at 7:00 am for students in grades K-5 and 8:00 am for students in grades 6-8. TARDY ARRIVAL: Students in grades K-5 are considered tardy at 7:30 am, and parents are required to park their vehicle and report to the front office to sign in the student. MYP students are considered tardy at 8:30 am, and parents are required to park their vehicle and report to the front office to sign in the student via the contactless QR code. Parents must have access to a mobile device to sign in their children.

## ASSESSMENTS

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Section 1008.22(3), F.S., states, "Participation in the assessment program is mandatory for all school districts and all students attending public schools..." All students in grades K-8 will participate in benchmark testing on a regular basis to assess progress toward meeting grade level standards. Parents will be notified in advance of the dates and times for test administration. These assessments are achievement tests that identify student strengths, weaknesses, learning gains and/or readiness for promotion. Franklin Academy will provide additional information regarding school-specific tests and statewide standardized assessments.

- a) Each student must participate in statewide, standardized assessments at designated grade levels, as required by F.S. 1008.22.
- b) Students with disabilities who meet state-defined exemption criteria may be administered an alternate assessment (F.S. 1008.22(8)) or be given a combination of the accommodations as authorized by law.
- c) For English Language Learners who are currently receiving services, the assessments may be administered with any one or a combination of the accommodations as authorized by F.A.C. 6A-6.09091, to enable them to fully participate in all assessments. Revised 06/21/16 Policy 6000.1 - Student Progression Plan 8
- d) Ongoing assessment is an integral part of the instructional process, and the school will provide parents with the results of each statewide, standardized assessment (F.S. 1008.25(4)).
- e) Middle Years Programme (MYP) students enrolled in Civics or high school Algebra I or Geometry must take the statewide, standardized End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment for those courses.
- f) Students who take the statewide, standardized EOC assessment for a course shall not take the corresponding subject and grade level statewide, standardized assessment (F.S. 1008.22(8)).
- g) All statewide, standardized EOC assessments and ELA, mathematics, and science assessments shall use scaled scores and achievement levels. Achievement levels shall range from 1 through 5, with level 1 being the lowest achievement level, level 5 being the highest achievement level, and level 3 indicating satisfactory performance on an assessment.
- h) A statewide, standardized EOC assessment must be used as the final cumulative examination for its associated course. No additional final assessment will be administered in a course with a statewide, standardized EOC assessment.

The IB MYP includes the completion of authentic summative assessments that demonstrate mastery of the Florida Standards along with the IB Objectives and Strands for each subject group. These assessments may or may not be a part of the student's traditional grade in PowerSchool, but they will be evaluated on a scale of 0 - 8 using rubrics aligned with the IB Objectives for each unit. These IB Grades will be used to determine each student's progress in terms of the IB Objectives. A mid-year and end-of-year IB Report Card will be distributed to parents to inform them of their child's progress in the MYP. Additional Information regarding the Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines IB Assessment Policy can be found on the Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines K-8 Website on the IB Tab.

## ATHLETIC PROGRAM

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**Athletic Director:** Alexander Lopez | [lopez.alexander@franklin-academy.org](mailto:lopez.alexander@franklin-academy.org)

Franklin Academy embraces national, state, and district standards of excellence in regard to student performance and provides opportunities for Middle Years Programme (MYP) students to participate in a variety of interscholastic teams. Through the establishment of high educational standards, students will successfully compete at the highest levels of their abilities and will be better prepared to make well-reasoned, thoughtful and healthy lifelong decisions. Franklin Academy is committed to the continuous progress of education for its students.

The Student Code of Conduct and guidelines established by the Middle School Athletic Association (MSAA) sets forth the educational requirements to participate in interscholastic athletics. All students must maintain satisfactory conduct in order to participate in interscholastic, athletic and extra-curricular activities. Eligibility to participate in after school activities is a privilege. This privilege can be revoked at the discretion of the administration and/or athletic department.

To participate in interscholastic extracurricular athletics, MYP students must meet the following requirements: (1) Students must maintain a quarterly grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale. (2) Students may receive no more than one (1) administrative discipline referral for misconduct. Failure to meet requirements makes the student/athlete ineligible.

## **ATTENDANCE**

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The parent of a child of compulsory school age is responsible for the child's daily school attendance (F.S. 1003.24). School staff, parents, students, and appropriate state agencies are expected to work together to ensure that laws are obeyed including, but not limited to, referral to the state designated agency for possible court action for extended absence or truancy (F.S. 1003.27). SB Policy 5.5 outlines the rules that apply to attendance and attendance procedures. A student's presence in class is required to maximize the attainment of instructional objectives. For students who demonstrate patterns of non-attendance, interventions will be recommended.

## **ATTENDANCE: ABSENTEE REPORTING**

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[attendance-pp@franklin-academy.org](mailto:attendance-pp@franklin-academy.org)

Your child must be in school every day as mandated by state law. When students are absent from school, parents must email the school at [attendance-pp@franklin-academy.org](mailto:attendance-pp@franklin-academy.org) to report their child's absence. Parents must report the absence the day before, the day of, or within 2 school days following the absence, or the absence will be considered unexcused. Failure to do so will result in the absence being marked unexcused. School staff members have a legal right to request a written medical excuse.

The school counselor and/or other designated school official may contact the parent via telephone, email, teacher/parent conference or letter regarding excessive absences or patterns of non-attendance. Excessive early dismissals may also result in parental contact. If unexcused absences continue, a formal referral for attendance will be made to administration with supporting documentation of parent contact and non-medical absences attached to the referral. A parent meeting will be required.

## **ATTENDANCE: EXCUSED ABSENCES**

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Students must be in school unless the absence has been permitted or excused for one of the reasons listed below (F.S. 1003.24(4), 1003.26). Family vacations and trips are considered unexcused absences.

1. Illness of student.
2. Illness of an immediate family member.
3. Death in the family.
4. Religious holidays of the student's own faith.
5. Required court appearance or subpoena.

6. Special event with appropriate documentation and prior approval. Examples of special events include important public functions, educational enrichment activities, conferences, state/national competitions, college/university campus tour/visit as well as exceptional cases of family need. The school administrator/designee will determine validity and may require documentation in cases of family need.

7. Scheduled medical or dental appointment.

8. Students having, or suspected of having, a communicable disease or infestation which can be transmitted are to be excluded from school and are not allowed to return to school until they no longer present a health hazard (F.S. 1003.22). Examples of communicable diseases and infestations include, but are not limited to, fleas, head lice, ringworm, impetigo and scabies.

Students on field trips and students who attend alternative to suspension programs or in internal in-school suspensions are not considered absent.

## ATTENDANCE: EARLY SIGN-OUT

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When students are signed out early on an ongoing basis, their academic performance may be negatively impacted. Excused early dismissals are given for doctor's appointments and extreme emergencies. If you need to take your child out of school before the end of the school day, come to the front desk, sign him/her out, and a school employee will call for your child, as long as it is before 1:45 pm. Any student leaving school prior to dismissal will have an early dismissal logged to his/her record. Early dismissal from a field trip site is not permitted. **No child will be dismissed from the classroom after 1:45 pm as it disrupts our school-wide dismissal process.** Parents must wait until the dismissal time. Excessive early sign-outs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis to determine if there is a pattern of non-attendance. Non-attendance for instructional activities is established by tardiness, early sign-outs, or absences for any part or all of the day. Unless excused under the provisions of this policy, accumulated early sign-outs will be recorded as unexcused absences. F.S.1003.02 (1) (b)

## ATTENDANCE: TARDINESS

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Tardiness is disruptive to the learning environment and can have a negative impact on student achievement. Tardiness is defined as a student not being in the classroom when the class is scheduled to begin. Habitual tardiness is defined as being tardy 5 times within a marking period. Excessive tardiness will be addressed on a case-by-case basis to determine if there is a pattern of non-attendance. A pattern of non-attendance may be established by an accumulation of tardiness, absences (excused or unexcused), and early sign-outs for all or any part of the day. Unless excused under the provisions of this policy, accumulated tardiness will be recorded as unexcused absences. (F.S. 1003.02 (1) (b))

## AWARD DESIGNATIONS

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In order to encourage academic excellence, an honor roll system has been implemented. There are two honor roll categories for students in grades one through eight:

- **High Flyer Status/Principal's Honor Roll:** A student must maintain an "A" average (90% and above) in **all** subject areas, including special area classes. The distinction of "High Flyer" is a privilege and carries with it the requirement of no more than one (1) disciplinary referral per quarter.
- **A/B Honor Roll:** A student must earn a grade of "A" or "B" (80% and above) in **all** subject areas, including special area classes. The distinction of "Honor Roll" student is a privilege and carries with it the requirement of no more than two (2) disciplinary referrals per quarter.

Students who earn Honor Roll or High Flyer status will be acknowledged in their homeroom classroom on a quarterly basis. Additionally, there are several awards given throughout the year including monthly Character Star awards based on the Six Pillars of Character (K-5) and the IB Learner Profile Attributes (6-8).

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

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Celebrations must be approved, in advance, by the classroom teacher and must not interfere with the instructional schedule. For students in grades K-5, birthday treats (cupcakes, cookies, etc.) are NOT permitted in the cafeteria. All birthday treats must be given out in the classroom or during recess and **all students must be included**. Snacks should be "finger friendly." In ALL cases, birthday treats should be limited to small snacks that are easily and cleanly handled by students. Plates and napkins should be provided. Due to Federal regulations, PARENTS MAY NOT BRING HOMEMADE TREATS OR FOOD to share. Only store-bought foods/snacks that are clearly labeled with the ingredients may be distributed to students. **Candles are not permitted** according to State and County Fire Codes. Please note: siblings in other classes/grade levels MAY NOT attend. Birthday celebrations during "black out" testing days are not permitted. Birthdays for students in grades 6-8 are not celebrated at school.

## BOOKBAGS | BACKPACKS

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Book bags, backpacks, folders, or any other personal items must not display patches, insignias, drawings, obscene words, gang signs, or any other item that would be deemed inappropriate, offensive, or reflect negatively on Franklin Academy. **Rolling bookbags/backpacks are NOT permitted at Franklin Academy for safety and storage reasons.** If your child has a medical condition which precludes them from carrying a backpack, proper documentation from a medical professional / physician must be submitted to the school nurse in order for an elevator pass to be issued. The School Nurse may request additional documentation or may need to verify the information with the authorizing physician prior to issuing the elevator pass. Failure to comply with this policy constitutes a dress code violation and is subject to disciplinary consequences and parental notification.

## BREAKFAST PROGRAM

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Breakfast is served daily from 7:00-7:20 am for students in grades K-5 and 8:00-8:20 am for students in grades 6-8 (MYP). Current pricing and menu options are available on the school website. Students in grades K-5 and students enrolled in Sibling Link may enter the building at 7:00 am. Students in grades K-5 will report directly to the cafeteria for breakfast while Sibling Link students in grades 6-8 will be sent to a designated activity area and will return to the

cafeteria at 8:00 am for breakfast. MYP students in grades 6-8 may enter the building at 8:00 am and report directly to the cafeteria for breakfast, if desired. SLA Management is the food service provider for Franklin Academy.

## CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

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Students are expected to respect the school buildings and property. Containers are provided throughout the buildings and grounds for proper disposal of trash. **Marking or defacing school property is a serious offense leading to suspension and possible expulsion.** Any student who damages/vandalizes school property will be required to make full restitution for damages. **Chewing gum in the school building is strictly forbidden.** All food must be consumed in the cafeteria or area designated by the school administration. Students are not permitted to play in the bathrooms. Any student who disregards this rule will be subject to disciplinary action. As an aspect of Service as Action, a principle of the IB World Organization, Middle Years Programme (MYP) students may be asked to help maintain clean and organized classrooms and common areas as an act of Service to the School Community.

## CELLULAR PHONE POLICY

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According to the Broward County Public School Board's *Code Book for Student Conduct*, "the possession of a cellular telephone which disrupts the educational process; the use of a cellular telephone during school hours... and the possession or use of a cellular telephone on school buses which disrupts or interferes with safety-to-life issues would be a violation of the Code Book for Student Conduct, subjecting violators to progressive discipline."

**If a student possesses a cellular telephone, it should be turned OFF (not on vibrate), stored in the student's backpack and may not emit any ring tone or other noise on school grounds during school hours.** Students may not carry cell phones in their pockets. The "TURN OFF" cell phone policy is from 7:00 am through 4:00 pm. Cell phones may be used when students arrive at their dismissal destination. The exception to the cell phone "turn off" policy would be a directive from the teacher or school staff with their supervision. Consequences for violations of this policy are as follows:

- **First Offense:** A verbal warning will be issued and the cell phone will be returned to the student at the end of the day after signing the cellular telephone policy form.
- **Second Offense:** The cell phone will be returned to the parent/guardian of the student after signing the cellular telephone policy form and the student receives a detention.
- **Third Offense:** Parent must sign paperwork that acknowledges that the cell phone will be returned at the end of the academic year. **Failure to surrender items will result in other disciplinary consequences.**

## CELL PHONE USAGE IN SCHOOL ZONE

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For the safety of our students and staff members, cell phone usage is not permitted in the school zone. For purposes of this policy, the school zone refers to an area on the school grounds that has a likely presence of pedestrians

(morning arrival, afternoon dismissal, etc.). Pembroke Pines Police Officers routinely patrol the school campus and will issue citations at their discretion to enforce all applicable laws and regulations.

## CHAPERONES

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Chaperones are essential for proper supervision and are intended to address the health, safety and security needs of the students. All individuals serving as a chaperone on any Franklin Academy sponsored field trip must have the appropriate security clearance. Therefore, they are expected to meet the security eligibility requirements in accordance with State Laws, Federal Regulations and District required security clearances. Adults who do not meet security clearance requirements will not be permitted to serve in the capacity of chaperone on any school field trip.

The role of a chaperone is an important one, and while enjoyable, requires accepting certain responsibilities and adhering to expectations. Chaperone guidelines help ensure that school district sponsored field trips result in safe and rewarding experiences for all participants. School district policies apply to district sponsored, off-site activities. Chaperone responsibilities are substantial, and all chaperones will be required to adhere to established guidelines and expectations to ensure safe, enjoyable, educational and memorable events for students.

## CHARACTER EDUCATION

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To support our mission of 'Building Better People, Every Day', Franklin Academy implements **Character Counts** as a framework for character education. When children learn a consistent set of universal values and teachers model those values, behavior improves and educational focus soars. This widely implemented approach to character education is centered on basic values referred to as the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. The Six Pillars of Character are embedded in our existing curriculum and classroom management to make focusing on good character part of everything students do.

The Franklin Academy IB MYP has a set of **Learner Profile** attributes that are emphasized in the character development of MYP students. IB Learners will work to be inquirers, open-minded, knowledgeable, caring, thinkers, risk-takers, communicators, balanced, principled, and reflective.

## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT POLICY

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Schools and school personnel have an ethical obligation to promote the well-being of all students and are obligated to make reasonable efforts to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning and/or to the student's mental and/or physical health and/or safety. All Franklin Academy employees are required by law to report any suspected case of child abuse, abandonment or neglect which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student.



## CLUBS

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Students will have an opportunity to participate in after-school clubs during the course of the school year. At dismissal from after-school clubs, sports, or meetings, students will remain with the teacher/sponsor until picked up or signed in to after care, if enrolled in the program. Students are dismissed from clubs via the east gate (bus side).

- Clubs will not be held on early release days, professional development days, or staff meeting days.
- Late payments for clubs WILL NOT be accepted.
- Parents MUST pay club fees by the established due date or their child will not be eligible to attend the club.
- Students who are picked up late from clubs will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute, per student.
- Students who have outstanding financial obligations or whose family did not complete the required number of parent service hours the previous year are not eligible to participate in after-school clubs.

## COMMUNICATION | CHAIN OF COMMAND

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Communication between school and home is essential to the success of every child and the school. The following hierarchy has been organized to support positive communication between home and school. Specific requests (conferences, etc.) must be in writing, by email, to the specific teacher. **Parents are requested to notify school personnel in the following sequence if there are concerns:**

1. **The Classroom Teacher:** Classroom teachers are the first line of communication. If parents have concerns regarding their child's academic performance, behavior, or social interaction with the teacher or students, they first need to have a conversation with the teacher. Parents may send a written request for a conference via email. Email lists are available on the schools' website or upon request at the front office.
2. **The School Counselor:** Following conversations with the classroom teacher in matters of student behavior and/or academics, parents may contact or request a conference with the school counselor to further discuss a concern.
3. **The Assistant Principal:** Following conversations with the classroom teacher and/or the school counselor in matters of student behavior and academics, parents may contact or request a conference with the Assistant Principal to further discuss a concern. The Assistant Principal will usually meet with the teacher, and any other necessary personnel who may be directly involved with the child's situation prior to making conference arrangements with the parent. With regard to all other school-related issues, parents must first contact the Assistant Principal. It may be that the Assistant Principal will refer the individual to the Principal, teacher, school counselor, or other appropriate contact for additional information.
4. **The Principal:** Following conversations with the classroom teacher and/or school counselor and Assistant Principal in matters of student behavior and academics, parents may contact or request a conference with the Principal to further discuss a concern. The Principal will usually meet with the teacher and any other necessary personnel who may be directly involved with the child's situation prior to making conference arrangements with the parent. With regard to all other school-related issues, parents must first contact the Assistant Principal. It may be that the Assistant Principal will refer the individual to the Principal, teacher, school counselor, or other appropriate contact for additional information.



5. **The Superintendent of Schools:** If you feel further action is necessary, parents may contact the Superintendent of Schools to escalate concerns beyond the school level. Contact information is located on the school website.
6. **The Governing Board:** If an issue persists after adhering to the appropriate protocol for escalating concerns, parents may contact the Board Liaison, whose email address is located on the school website.

**Please adhere to the established chain of command prior to requesting a conference with the Principal, Superintendent of Schools or contacting the Governing Board.**

## COMMUNICATION FOLDER

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The school-issued communication folder is an essential component of home-school communication. Teachers will utilize the folder to send and receive required paperwork, including but not limited to, report cards, progress reports, school flyers, handouts, field trip forms, extra practice assignments and other classroom and school-specific communication pieces. Parents are strongly encouraged to review the communication folder on a daily basis. Students are responsible to replace lost communication folders.

## COUNSELORS

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Franklin Academy employs two full-time school counselors. The School Counselors assist students, parents, and staff members with student guidance and academic advising. The School Counselors are available by appointment to discuss student issues with parents/guardians. School counselors promote and enhance achievement through a comprehensive model that incorporates prevention and intervention with continuous academic, career and personal/development activities that will prepare students for meaningful participation in a diverse, changing world. These activities may include classroom guidance, small groups for skill mastery, individual counseling for students with specific needs and a variety of other proactive and innovative ways to support student performance. School counselors implement a program based on the National Standards for School Counseling programs and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model. They also provide resources to staff, students, families and others to ensure that a family-friendly environment is established and that students have access to a safe school climate necessary for academic and social/emotional growth. All information discussed with the School Counselor is held in strict confidence unless otherwise required by law.

## DISCIPLINE

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**The Code Book for Student Conduct:** <https://www.browardschools.com/codeofconduct>

It is important for students to know their rights and responsibilities, which include obeying teachers and all other school employees, obeying each individual rule as defined by the school, and obeying bus drivers. Students are expected to honor their responsibilities and behave in ways that respect the rights of all. Franklin Academy adheres to the Broward County Public Schools Code Book for Student

Conduct and consequences for unacceptable behaviors are found in the Discipline Matrix. These guiding documents are available on the school website. The Code of Student Conduct will be distributed electronically. Students and

parents are required to sign the Acknowledgment form indicating they are aware of the explanation of rules. Consequences may include loss of privileges, including but not limited to, field trips, dances, special events, athletic events, ceremonies, etc. **NOTE:** Details and information regarding school incidents and/or disciplinary action can only be discussed with the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of the student involved. Details and information related to other students will not be shared.

Each teacher will establish appropriate procedures for discipline in his/her classroom based on these guidelines. The following list is not all-inclusive:

1. Students are expected to respect the authority of teachers and adults. All teachers and staff have authority over all students.
2. Malicious destruction of school property results in the replacement, repair, or payment for damages by either the student or his/her parents. The placement of stickers on school property or use of markers/pens/pencils on walls/fixtures is forbidden.
3. Students shall help keep the school clean at all times. Gum chewing is not permitted in any of the school buildings or on the school grounds.
4. Items such as water pistols, matches, lighters, or weapons of any sort, etc. are not permitted and will be confiscated. Appropriate consequences will be issued per the Administrative Discipline Matrix.
5. Notebooks, albums, magazines, lunchboxes, etc. that display pictures or slogans referring to drugs, alcohol, gangs, or violence are not permitted.
6. No profane, abusive, or slang language is to be used.
7. Zero-tolerance for bullying or aggression-either verbal or physical.
8. Teachers will encourage a sense of community and inclusiveness that is apparent through the involvement of all children in all class activities.

#### ➤ **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS: BUS**

Riding the school bus is a privilege. Misconduct by any student while riding a school bus represents a serious threat to the safety of all occupants of the bus as well as other motorists, pedestrians and members of the community. All rules that apply on school grounds and during school activities also apply while riding the school bus. Parents are responsible for their child's behavior on the way to and from school and at the bus stop. While Franklin Academy does not assume any liability for incidents that occur at a bus stop or while traveling to and from school, a student, parent, or witness may file a complaint following the same procedures for bullying against a student and the school will investigate and/or provide assistance and intervention as the principal/designee deems appropriate, which may include the use of the Pembroke Pines Police Detail Officer. Students who cannot refrain from disruptive behavior or those who disturb other students will lose transportation privileges in conjunction with consequences from the Broward County Administrative Discipline Matrix. Parents may not board a school bus at any time as this presents a safety hazard. Violation of this rule may result in transportation services being suspended.

#### ➤ **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS: CAFETERIA**

Each student is required to demonstrate good manners, courtesy and consideration of other students and adults in the cafeteria. Students are to enter and exit the cafeteria in an orderly fashion. Students are to stand in a single file line while waiting for food, keep communication noise levels low (no shouting), and remain seated. Containers are provided for the disposal of trash and each student is required to dispose of any trash on his/her table and the surrounding area before the lunch period is over (or immediately upon the request of the monitors). No student is

allowed to leave the cafeteria during the lunch period without authorization from school staff. A student is not permitted to leave the school grounds for lunch during their assigned lunch period. No food or beverage is to be taken out of the cafeteria at any time. Cafeteria rules are posted and all students are expected to adhere to the established rules at all times. Food or objects are not to be thrown at any time while in the cafeteria as this poses a safety concern; such acts may result in suspension from school or possible recommendation for expulsion in the event that a major disruption on campus (i.e. food fight) occurs. This policy is consistent with the Broward County Public Schools Administrative Discipline Matrix.

#### ➤ **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS: HALLWAY**

Students should travel through the hallways quietly to avoid interrupting ongoing classes and will follow staff directions for proper procedures. At no time will students be allowed to run or yell in the hallway. Students in grades K-5 are required to line-up single file, refrain from touching the walls, and use the staircase handrails. Students should walk on the right side of stairs and hallways and follow the one-way hallway rule in designated areas.

#### ➤ **DETENTION**

Students may be issued lunch detention or after-school detention for failure to comply with classroom/school rules. After-school detentions will be held on Mondays. Parents will receive an email notification by Friday of the week prior to the student's assigned detention with a confirmation form that must be completed. Students must report on time to the detention. Students arriving late will be rescheduled to serve the next detention. During the detention, students will complete a reflection form and create a plan that will help them make better choices in the future. Detentions will NOT be rescheduled due to athletic games/practices, social events, special events, etc. Students must be picked up promptly at the designated pick-up time. Failure to do so will result in parents being charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute. Failure to attend assigned detention will result in progressive disciplinary action, up to and including a one-day outdoor suspension, in accordance with the Broward County Public Schools Administrative Discipline Matrix.

#### ➤ **DISCIPLINE MATRIX**

The Administrative Discipline Matrix is a tool used by administrators when students have committed serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct. This tool is designed to offer consistency at all levels so that students are disciplined fairly when their behavior requires a consequence beyond the classroom. There are different versions of the Matrix which assign interventions and consequences based on specific grade level groupings. A copy of the matrix is available online. If you have questions about the Discipline Matrix, please contact your school administrator.

#### ➤ **DISCIPLINARY PROBATION**

The Principal or designee may place a student on disciplinary probation for nine weeks when it is felt that such an action will benefit the student. In addition to the restrictions cited for Academic Probation, the student must meet with the Principal or designee once each week during the probationary period.

#### ➤ **EXPULSION/PERMANENT DISMISSAL**

A student may be expelled/permanently dismissed for any of the following:

- Possession, use of, or transmission of a weapon including a gun, knife, razor, explosive, ice pick or club;
- Possession, use of, or transmission of a substance capable of modifying mood or behavior;
- Using any article as a weapon or in a manner calculated to threaten any person;
- Committing a serious breach of conduct including, but not limited to, an assault on school personnel or on another pupil, lewd or lascivious act, arson, vandalism, or any other such act, which disrupts or tends to disrupt the orderly conduct of the school activity;

- Engaging in less serious but continuing misconduct including, but not limited to, the use of profane, obscene or abusive language, or other acts that are detrimental to the educational function of the school;
- Excessive absences/tardiness/early dismissals.

#### ➤ **SUSPENSION**

Suspension is a disciplinary sanction that temporarily removes a student from a class, or all classes for a prescribed period of time. The Principal or the Principal's designee shall make every effort to employ parental assistance with alternative consequences for misconduct prior to issuing an outdoor suspension except in emergencies, disruptive conditions, or incidents involving serious misconduct. Suspensions will result in the loss of privileges, including but not limited to, field trips, dances, special events, athletic events, ceremonies, etc. Therefore, if a student is suspended, he/she will lose a privilege within the semester of the suspension. **Students serving a suspension are NOT permitted on campus during the term of the suspension and may NOT participate in any school activities, on or off campus, during the suspension period.**

Offenses that constitute outdoor suspension include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Fighting or other dangerous and/or disruptive behavior;
- Smoking on school grounds;
- Being under the influence or having alcoholic beverages and/or drugs on school grounds;
- Possession and/or use of a weapon or any object that can be used as a weapon, including but not limited to: knives, brass knuckles, Chinese stars, chains, mace, etc.;
- Defacing or vandalism of school property;
- Igniting any flammable substance;
- Any threat, explicit or implied, that causes a major disruption on campus.

## **DISMISSAL: DASHPASS**

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Families will be required to download and install the DashPass app on their mobile device. The registering parent can share a student specific "QR" code to authorized pickup person/persons. Any authorized pickup person/persons, other than the registering parent, must download and install the DashPass app on his/her mobile device. **Without the DashPass app, a person trying to pick up a student must bring a photo ID for verification and may be asked to park and visit the office before the student can be released.**

## **DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

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Dismissal begins at 2:15 pm for students in grades K-5. Parents are not permitted to "stack" until 2:00 pm. Parents of students in grades K-5 not picked up by 2:45 pm will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute, per student. Students in grades 6-8 are dismissed at 3:15 pm. Parents are not permitted to "stack" until 3:00 pm. Parents of students in grades 6-8 not picked up by 3:45 pm will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute, per student.

All parents must remain inside their vehicles at dismissal time. Students will be called out of the school building as you pull into the dismissal lane. Vehicles are required to follow the traffic pattern prescribed by the school and display the school-issued name placard in the window to help expedite the dismissal process. The safety of every student, not speed, is the goal of dismissal. **In accordance with Governing Board rule, students will not be permitted early dismissal after 1:45 pm.**

Parents will be issued a color-coded placard with their child's name and grade level, in large print, which must be displayed on the passenger side of the vehicle dashboard. **Students will not be released to individuals who have not downloaded/installed the DashPass app and a school-issued placard displayed on the vehicle dashboard.** Other adults (friends, family members, etc.) will be denied access to a student in the absence of verified parental consent.

Families will be required to download and install the DashPass app on their mobile device. A system generated email will be sent to the registering parent with instructions. DashPass must be opened when vehicle arrives on campus. A signal will be sent to your child's classroom where his/her name will be displayed. At this point, teachers will "release" the student via the pickup queue and instruct them to report directly to the car line.

Proceed to your assigned stacking lane and your child will exit the building for dismissal, curbside at the west gate. **Without DashPass, a person trying to pick up a student must present a valid photo ID for verification and may be asked to park and visit the office before the student can be released.**

**The safety of our students is our first priority.** Please do not play loud music or talk on your cell phone while in the car line as it endangers the safety of both students and staff. **Please follow drop-off and pick-up procedures very carefully to keep all of our students and staff members safe.** Infractions will be issued for parents violating the school's arrival and dismissal procedures.

Students who walk or ride a bicycle home are required to sign out in the front lobby and leave campus within five minutes of the dismissal bell. All students walking or riding bikes must have an authorization form signed by a parent/guardian on file in the school office. Parents who complete this form acknowledge the risk associated with allowing a child to arrive/leave campus unaccompanied by an adult. Dismissal forms must be updated annually, or as needed, and may be found on the school's website. Changes in dismissal method must be provided to the classroom teacher and the front office, **IN WRITING**, by 12:00 pm the day the dismissal change is to take place.

Club dismissal is separate from school dismissal. Students not enrolled in a club may not wait for their sibling who is enrolled in a club to be dismissed and must be picked up at their regular dismissal time. Parents of students not picked up by the designated time will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute, per student.

## DOMESTIC DISPUTES

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The school will **not** become involved in personal family conflicts or domestic disputes. Where a legal dispute is concerned, parents or guardians must submit to school authorities an official copy of any legal documents indicating who has legal access to the child and his/her records during school hours.

## DRESS CODE

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**Franklin Academy is a mandatory uniform school.** Appropriate dress and grooming can help to create a positive learning environment. Other attire may be allowed for special school activities with approval of the school administration. A higher standard of dress encourages greater respect for individuals, students, and others, resulting

in a higher standard of behavior. Dress code guidelines indicate appropriate school dress during normal school days for every student. Franklin Academy reserves the right to interpret these guidelines and/or make changes during the school year. Students are expected to follow these guidelines. If a student comes to school without the proper uniform, they will be kept/sent to the front office and will remain there until a parent/guardian brings the proper uniform for the student. A student who wears an improperly fitted uniform will be considered in violation of the dress code policy and may not be allowed to attend class until appropriate clothing can be acquired.

Students are not permitted to wear anything offensive, immodest, or deemed inappropriate by the faculty. Torn or tattered clothing is prohibited. All clothing should be labeled with the student's name. Parents of students in Kindergarten or First Grade are encouraged to leave an extra set of clothes in a labeled Ziploc bag with the classroom teacher in case of an emergency. **All uniforms must be purchased from the school approved vendor, [iuniforms.com](http://iuniforms.com).**

<b>SHIRTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All students must wear a uniform shirt with the official school logo.</li><li>• Shirts must be neatly tucked-in. Shirts must stay tucked-in when arms are raised, midribs are never to show.</li></ul>
<b>BOTTOMS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only properly fitted uniform bottoms with the official school logo may be worn</li><li>• Shorts and skorts must be of appropriate length (fingertip length)</li><li>• Only slacks, shorts, skorts and jumpers with the official school logo may be worn</li><li>• Girls are not permitted to wear shorts (skorts or pants only)</li><li>• Sweatpants with the Franklin Academy logo are permitted ONLY for PE classes</li></ul>
<b>OUTERWEAR</b> (JACKETS, SWEATERS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only outerwear (jackets, sweaters) with the official school logo may be worn</li><li>• School uniform shirts must be worn under any outerwear</li></ul>
<b>BELTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students in grades 2 - 8 must wear a belt with a buckle</li><li>• Solid/plain black, brown, gray, or navy dress-style belt (no holes or studs)</li><li>• Belts must be worn correctly through the belt loops</li></ul>
<b>SOCKS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Solid white, black, gray or navy</li><li>• Solid white, black, gray or navy tights may be worn with skorts in cooler months</li></ul>
<b>SHOES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Athletic style (sneaker) shoes</li><li>• Dress style shoes (loafer or tie) or Mary Jane style</li></ul>
<b>HATS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hats may NOT be worn in the school building</li><li>• Hats without logos or hats with the school logo may be worn during PE and/or recess</li></ul>
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PE shorts and shirts (with the school logo) must be worn, along with socks, and sneakers for PE class</li><li>• PE sweatpants (with the school logo) may be worn in cooler months for PE only</li></ul>



OTHER

- Jewelry must not pose a threat to safety, and must not be distracting. For safety reasons, only stud-style earrings may be worn. Hoop earrings are not permitted.
- Necklaces should be tucked under the shirt
- No unnatural hair color/highlights are permitted
- Hair styles must not be distracting and are subject to administration approval (Mohawk, spikes, designs, sculpted styles, etc.)
- Hair should be neat and not fall into the face
- No body piercings visible other than one earring per ear
- Torn or tattered clothing is prohibited
- Sunglasses may not be worn indoors without a physician's note
- ID badges must be worn around neck with an appropriate lanyard (MYP students only)  
Students are charged \$5 for replacement IDs.

## DRESS-DOWN DAYS FOR STUDENTS

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Dress-down days for students are scheduled throughout the school year. There are two different dress-down days implemented during the course of the year. A typical dress-down day may have a theme or be a "Spirit" dress-down day where students have the option to wear Franklin Academy uniform bottoms (PE shorts or formal uniform bottom) with a Franklin Field Day or School Spirit shirt. Dress-down days are optional and only eligible students may participate. If the dress-down day is a fundraiser for a particular charity or school organization, the cost for participation will be published. Students who choose not to participate **MUST** wear their official school uniform that day – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

## DRESS-DOWN GUIDELINES

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Appropriate dress guidelines will apply. Dress-down day attire should be neat and modest. T-Shirts with offensive slogans or wording are not permitted. Shirts must have sleeves. Midriff and spaghetti strap tops are not permitted. Low riding jeans are not permitted. No flip flops or sandals are allowed. Skirt and short lengths follow the original uniform code. **Inappropriate dress will restrict the student from dressing down on the next designated day and parents may be called to bring appropriate attire.**

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

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**The use of electronic devices by a student when school is in session is not permitted.** Smart watches, handheld games, headphones, and the like should not be brought to school. Students who bring handheld games and headphones to school will have them confiscated, unless authorized by Administration. The use of Kindles, Nooks and tablets is permitted for reading purposes only. If any of these items are brought to school, and then lost or stolen, the school is **NOT** responsible for the loss.

## ELEVATOR USE

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Use of the elevator is for teachers, maintenance personnel, visitors, and parents. Students may only use the elevator with an elevator pass authorized by Administration. **Elevator passes are only issued with a doctor's note.** Students with elevator passes must be accompanied by an elevator buddy chosen by the homeroom teacher. Any unauthorized use of the elevator by students will result in disciplinary action.

## ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

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**ESOL Program Coordinator:** Yvette Fadruga | [fadruga.yvette@franklin-academy.org](mailto:fadruga.yvette@franklin-academy.org)

The goal of the ESOL program is to ensure all students, entering Franklin Academy with varying levels of limited English proficiency, receive comparable and comprehensible instruction. This instruction helps these students to develop communicative and academic skills necessary for meeting national, state, and district educational standards.

At Franklin Academy, students classified as English Language Learners (ELLs) are provided with appropriate ESOL program accommodations and supports to meet the specific students' needs in language learning, academic achievement, and in cultural integration.

Students in the ESOL program are required to meet the same curriculum standards as any other student in English Language Arts and content area instruction. ESOL strategies, supplementary materials, and native language assistance are used to ensure comprehensible instruction is being provided to every ELL student.

## EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION (ESE)

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**ESE Program Coordinator:** Sonia Aleman | [aleman.sonia@franklin-academy.org](mailto:aleman.sonia@franklin-academy.org)

Franklin Academy provides a variety of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) services at the school site. Eligibility for ESE services is based on district, state and federal requirements. A Special Programs Coordinator is available onsite to facilitate implementation of the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), Education Plan (EP), or Section 504 Plan.

## EXTRA CREDIT

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No extra credit will be permitted unless it is made available to all students. Extra credit assignments must be course-related, aligned to the standards and approved by administration. Parents may not request extra credit.



## FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

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The revised Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) became a Federal law in November 1974. The intent of this law is to protect the accuracy and privacy of student educational records. Without your prior consent, only you and authorized individuals having legitimate educational interests will have access to your child's educational records. In special instances, you may waive this right of access in writing to allow other agencies working with your child to have access to those records.

## FAMILY PASSWORD

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Only individuals listed as an EMERGENCY CONTACT will be permitted to pick up students from school. Valid photo identification will be required of all individuals picking up students. If someone arrives at the school to seek the release of a student and the person's name is not listed as an emergency contact, the student will not be released unless the parent has provided written authorization and the person attempting to pick up the student can verify the FAMILY PASSWORD as indicated in the student information system (PowerSchool). Family passwords are updated yearly during the annual registration period.

## FIELD TRIPS

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Field trips are arranged periodically as an enhancement to the learning process. All parents/guardians must submit a completed school-issued permission slip so their student may attend any field trip. **Student participation in field trips is a privilege.** Students serve as representatives of the school; therefore, they may be excluded from participation in any trip for reasons related to misbehavior or misconduct. Students must follow all instructions given by staff or any other adult in charge while on the trip, including while on the bus and while at the field trip site. A student who fails to follow instructions will be issued an appropriate consequence upon return to school. Students may be excluded from participating in any field trips, dances, or special events. Students are to wear their uniform on field trips for security reasons (unless authorized otherwise by school administration).

- Early dismissal from a field trip site is not permitted.
- Students who are absent from school on a scheduled field trip date may not attend the field trip.
- Students with any outstanding financial obligations or restrictions due to non-completion of required parent service hours will not be permitted to attend field trips.
- Refunds will NOT be issued due to discipline, illness, absence or outstanding financial obligations.
- Students may not be transported in personal vehicles.

Parents may be asked to assist the teacher as chaperones. Parents serving in this capacity may not have other children (siblings) accompany them. Parents who are officially selected to serve as a chaperone may count time devoted to this function as parent service hours. Parents are NOT permitted on overnight field trips. For security

reasons, parents may not join a field trip group if they are not designated as an official chaperone. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in the parent losing the opportunity to be selected as a chaperone for future field trips. The Guidelines for Chaperones form must be signed prior to any parent serving as a chaperone on a field trip. Parent chaperones are required to adhere to these guidelines.

## FIELD TRIP/FIELD DAY SPIRIT SHIRTS

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On any school sponsored field trip, students will be required to wear a spirit shirt or school shirt ordered for the trip, unless otherwise noted by the teacher. This is for safety purposes as these distinctive shirts help to quickly identify any and all Franklin Academy students.

## FLORIDA'S ACADEMIC STANDARDS

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Florida's academic standards (MAFS, LAFS, NGSSS, B.E.S.T.) reflect the Florida Department of Education's foundational expectations of what ALL students should know and be able to do in each grade from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Teachers have participated in professional development to inform ongoing planning to implement the standards. Franklin Academy is committed to engaging parents and families to prepare students for success. All of us play important roles preparing students to achieve their potential. We will continue to assess our academic program and work together to ensure they are preparing all students to succeed in college, career and life.

The IB MYP includes instruction aligned with MYP Unit Plans that provide a conceptual framework for and connections to real world applications of the content and skills outlined by the Florida Standards. Additionally, IB has its own set of four objectives broken down into strands for each subject group. Each objective and strand is taught and assessed a minimum of two (2) times per year in each course in the MYP.

## FOOD ALLERGIES

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If your child has a peanut or other serious food allergy, please contact the school nurse via email at [clinic\\_ppk8@franklin-academy.org](mailto:clinic_ppk8@franklin-academy.org) and be sure to notify the classroom teacher as well. Please notify the school IN WRITING of any known allergies that your child has so that we may be proactive in reducing possible exposure to allergens and prepared in the event of a medical emergency. Any child at risk for anaphylaxis should have an individual written plan on file in the school clinic as well as a Medication Authorization Form and accompanying medication prescribed by a physician. A peanut allergy is considered an airborne allergy and may cause a life-threatening allergic reaction if that person is in close proximity to peanuts. We ask parents to be mindful of this potentially deadly condition when packing student lunches or snacks. **Please check with your child's teacher to see if a student in your child's class has a specific food allergy (i.e. peanuts, peanut products, tree nuts, etc.).** We ask that parents are sensitive to this important issue.

## FOOD POLICY

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Recent changes in society and our environment necessitate that we use caution in allowing students to bring food items to share in the classroom. Increases in food-borne pathogens that can lead to severe illness and an increase in the number of students with potentially lethal food allergies dictate that the any food served or shared in school **must be from an inspected commercial facility/store-bought** and must be clearly labeled with its contents. Students may not share food with peers.

Students may not bring carbonated beverages or drinks to school. Beverages in glass containers are prohibited. There are no refrigerators or microwaves available for student use. A doctor's note will need to be on file in the office for all allergies. **Parents are not permitted to bring fast food lunches to school for their children. Parents may not drop off lunch or food items as it disrupts the school day.**

## FOOD SERVICE PROVIDER

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Franklin Academy participates in the National School Lunch Program and **free or reduced pricing** will be available for those that meet the guidelines. SLA Management is a Florida based food service company dedicated to providing high quality and nutritious meal programs. All school lunches mirror the National School Lunch daily requirements for protein, vegetable, fruit, dairy and grain. For MYP students, there is an extensive a-la-carte program of healthy and affordable snacks in addition to the lunch menu items.

## FORGOTTEN LUNCH AND ITEMS

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School staff will not accept or deliver forgotten school supplies, PE uniforms, materials, assignments, etc. after the start of the school day. We do not want any child to go without lunch; therefore, lunches and snacks that are delivered after the start of the school day will be delivered from the office to the cafeteria in time for lunch. They will not be delivered to the classroom nor will the student be called out of the classroom to pick up a delivery. We encourage parents to pack healthy lunches to encourage healthy eating habits.

**No student is permitted to leave campus during lunch, order food during or after school hours, and there will be no food deliveries accepted (i.e. Uber Eats, Chik-Fil-A, etc.).**

## FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

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To apply for free or reduced-price meals, visit the school website and follow the appropriate link to complete the online application. Parents must apply for this benefit annually (application is separate from the school district). The application process takes 10 school days. Notification pertaining to qualification for free/reduced lunch will be sent directly to the home by Franklin Academy. Students who had free/reduced lunch during the previous school year will receive their benefits for the first 30 days of school. Students new to Broward County Public Schools will have to pay full price until their application is processed. Please note that students who qualify for free/reduced lunch are entitled

to one breakfast and one lunch daily. **Those who choose to take a second breakfast and/or lunch will be charged for the second meal.**

## FUNDRAISERS

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At no time may a student conduct personal sales on school grounds or use the school's name to raise funds without the written approval of school administration. All sales are conducted by official school organizations for the benefit of the school. Consequences for such actions will range from confiscation of items and money involved in the sales as well as further consequences based on the Administrative Discipline Matrix.

## GIFTED EDUCATION REFERRAL PROCESS

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**Special Programs Coordinator:** Sonia Aleman | [aleman.sonia@franklin-academy.org](mailto:aleman.sonia@franklin-academy.org)

The State of Florida defines a gifted student as "one who has superior intellectual development and is capable of high performance." These students often have learning needs that go beyond what is traditionally offered in the regular classroom. Parent/Guardians or faculty members may refer a student to be screened for gifted program services by sending a written request via email to the school's Special Programs Coordinator. All referrals will be reviewed by the Eligibility Team to consider if existing data sources and information warrants eligibility for a gifted screening.

## GOOGLE CLASSROOM

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Google Classroom is an educational technology tool used by teachers in grades 4–8 as a primary vehicle for communication and collaboration. The Google Classroom network enables teachers to share content, distribute assignments and manage communication with students. Students should obtain class codes from each teacher and access the site daily for assignments and due dates, study guides, classroom announcements, events, reminders and more.

## GRADE WEIGHTS AND CATEGORIES

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GRADE LEVELS	SUBJECT AREA(S)	CATEGORY	WEIGHT
1 – 8	All Subject Areas	Classwork	40%
		Quiz	25%
		Test	35%

## GRADING SCALE

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Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points	Progress Level
A	90 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding
B	80 – 89%	3.0	Above Average
C	70 – 79%	2.0	Average / Satisfactory
D	60 – 69%	1.0	Unsatisfactory
F	59 or Below	0.0	Failing
I	Incomplete	0.0	Incomplete

## GRADING AND STUDENT PROGRESSION

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Franklin Academy follows the District's Student Progression Plan (Policy 6000.1), as applicable. The purpose of the Student Progression Plan is to establish the standards for quality instruction, delineate the criteria for promotion, and provide equal educational opportunities to all students. Our curriculum is aligned to the Florida's academic standards (LAFS, MAFS, NGSSS, and B.E.S.T.), as required by Florida law.

## GUM CHEWING/EATING

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Gum chewing on school grounds is **strictly prohibited**. In addition, eating during class or in the hallways is not permitted unless it is during the approved snack time.

## HEAD LICE

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A student will be sent home if authorized school personnel detect lice and/or nits (lice eggs) in his/her hair. The entire class may be checked for head lice/nits if it is detected on a student in the class. Siblings may also be screened for head lice. Upon return, the student and parent must report to the office and the student will be checked by the school nurse to determine if any nits are still present before being re-admitted. Under no circumstances are parents permitted to check another student for lice and/or nits.

Students are allowed a maximum of five (5) excused absences for each infestation of head lice. If a parent returns a child to school following 5 days of excused absences for an infestation of head lice, and the school finds that the infestation is not over, subsequent absences shall be unexcused.

## HEALTH CONCERNS

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- Please inform the school: If your child is out sick with a diagnosed communicable illness, such as meningitis, measles, salmonella, etc.
- Please keep your child home: If your child has flu-like symptoms, such as fever greater than 100, sore throat, cough, chills, body aches, etc. Also keep your child home for rashes, yellow eye drainage, or greenish-yellow phlegm from a cough or cold, diarrhea, etc.
- If your child has any health conditions, such as Allergic Reactions (food, insect bites, etc.), Asthma, Diabetes, Cystic Fibrosis, Seizures, Sickle Cell Anemia, or any other health condition, the following information is needed to care for your student safely at school: updates and changes in health condition as they occur; medications and treatments needed – must be documented on an Authorization for Medication/Treatment form; emergency contacts (names and phone numbers).

## HEALTH EMERGENCIES

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Franklin Academy has a registered nurse on duty in the school clinic from 7:30 am – 3:30 pm each day. The nurse is available to assist in administering medications, treating minor cuts and abrasions, and contacting parents if necessary. In most cases, parents will be contacted to determine a course of action in the event of child illness or non-emergency injuries. Emergency services will be contacted in more serious cases. **Please keep your child's emergency contact information updated in PowerSchool.** If any changes (phone number, email, address, etc.) occur during the school year, it is vital that the emergency contact information is updated. Emergency contact information must be provided annually.

## HEALTH IMMUNIZATIONS

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Safety is essential at Franklin Academy and keeping students safe from infectious diseases is one important aspect of safety. Make sure your child's required immunizations are up-to-date. If you are not sure, you can check with your healthcare provider or the Florida Department of Health-Broward at (954) 467-4700. Florida statute requires that all students have the proper immunizations before enrolling in Franklin Academy or any Broward County public school. Information is available on Broward County Public Schools website at [browardhealthservices.com/resources/](http://browardhealthservices.com/resources/).

## HEALTH SCREENINGS

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According to the guidelines established by the Florida Legislature, at the beginning of each year, parents shall be notified of the screening activities available through the School Health Services Program. Florida Statute 381.0056(7) (d) mandates health screening to public school students in Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd and 6th grades and for students new to the county. It should be understood that such screenings do not substitute for a thorough examination by a health care provider. The screenings include vision, hearing, height and weight, Body Mass Index (BMI) and Scoliosis.

They are conducted in an effort to decrease health barriers to learning and may be performed individually or in groups. Parents or guardians have the right to opt their child out of the screenings. Parents are encouraged to follow up with a health care provider if a letter is received indicating their child did not pass a health screening. Note: If you DO NOT want your child to receive one or more of the mandated screenings, please submit the required "Health Screening Opt-Out Form" to the school WITHIN 10 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL or from the date of enrollment, if a student enrolls after the start of each school year. Opt-out forms are available on the school website.

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

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Franklin Academy recognizes the important role that homework plays in the enhancement of a child's overall education. However, Franklin Academy also recognizes that these benefits must be weighed against legitimate family concerns and desires to have their children participate in after-school activities, religious and family events, as well as much needed leisure and downtime. Studies have shown that any activity, no matter how rewarding, can only be rewarding for a limited time. Therefore, the Franklin Academy homework policy strives to create a balance between the need to give homework and the needs of the family. For these reasons, homework is individualized to meet the specific needs of each student. There are times when, in order to tailor a curriculum that meets each child's specific needs, teachers may assign individualized reinforcement or extra practice based on the student's specific needs.

## **ILLNESS OR INJURY AT SCHOOL**

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The importance of regular attendance cannot be over-emphasized, but students should not be sent to school when they are ill. Children should be free of fever, vomiting, and diarrhea for at least 24 hours before returning to school after an illness. If a student becomes ill during the school day and it appears that they would be best cared for at home, the parent or guardian will be contacted and asked to pick up the student within one (1) hour. There are very limited facilities in the school, making it impossible to keep sick students for long periods of time. Students will be sent home if they have a temperature of 100°F or higher. School personnel must be notified of any student's chronic illness (i.e. asthma, diabetes, heart conditions, or seizures).

## **ILLNESS OR INJURY: MAJOR**

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The procedures for dealing with anyone who has an injury are as follows:

- In most cases the nurse will determine if emergency services are necessary. Teacher(s) in charge of the student at the time of the accident have the discretion to request immediate emergency services;
- Possible 911 contact for Emergency Services;
- Immediate parent contact attempted;
- Arrangements will be made to have the student transported to the emergency room of the nearest hospital;
- Teachers will be made available to speak with emergency personnel if necessary;
- The nurse or another member of the school staff will accompany the student to the hospital and remain with the student until parents arrive; and

- A written report will be filled out by the supervising teacher by the end of the school day. The school nurse will provide the teachers any necessary information related to the injury or illness.

## **ILLNESS OR INJURY: MINOR**

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Minor accidents are reported to the office immediately and a note may be given to the child to bring home at the end of the school day. In some cases, the parent may be contacted by telephone.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL BOOKS, EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, AND SUPPLIES**

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All textbooks and library books needed by students for school are furnished by the school. The school also provides teachers with materials and equipment for classroom instruction. Students must recognize that books and materials are costly and must be cared for properly. A fee will be assessed for lost or damaged books and/or materials. Students must learn to be responsible for the care of personal supplies and school materials. Supply lists will be provided for all students. These lists are grade-specific and course-specific and are available on the school website. Students are expected to provide all of the basic supplies. Please help your child come prepared for school by ensuring that supplies are properly packed at night to avoid the last-minute morning rush. Ultimately, it is the student's responsibility to check and be sure that everything needed for the next day has been packed.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME**

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**IB Programme Coordinator:** Kathy Ross | [ross.kathy@franklin-academy.org](mailto:ross.kathy@franklin-academy.org)

The MYP is a challenging programme of study that encourages students to make practical connections between their studies and the real world, preparing them to become lifelong learners. The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) aims to develop active, internationally-minded young people who can empathize with others and pursue lives of purpose and contribution. The MYP empowers students to delve into a wide range of issues and ideas of significance locally, nationally and globally. The intended result of the MYP is young people who care and are creative, critical and reflective thinkers. This is accomplished through IB MYP Units of Study that are created and revised by our teachers, which provide a conceptual and contextual framework for their lessons. Students are expected to ask and answer questions, complete summative assessments and complete Service as Action as only part of the MYP.

Visit the IB Tab on the Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines K-8 website for all IB MYP policies and expectations.

## **I-READY DIAGNOSTIC AND INSTRUCTION**

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i-Ready Parent Guide: <https://content.i-ready.com/ParentGuide.pdf>



i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction is an online, interactive learning environment designed to assess students and then provides individualized instruction based on each student's unique needs. The exciting format and engaging content draws in students right away. The i-Ready experience builds students' investment in their learning by giving them real-time feedback on their progress in each skill. As students complete each assignment successfully, they earn credits that they can use to play games. i-Ready also provides opportunities to learn both at school and at home.

i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction is designed to complement what is being taught in the classroom. The lessons are assigned based on how your child performed in the Diagnostic test, which he/she must complete before starting work on the lessons. The lessons are presented in three parts: tutorial, guided practice, and graded activity. Your child will get relevant instruction with supportive feedback as he/she progresses through the lessons.

## **LABELS**

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Please have your child's name on all personal property such as: lunch boxes, school jackets, binders, etc.

## **LATE FEES**

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Parents of students in grades K-5 not picked up by 2:45 pm will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute, per student. Parents of students in grades 6-8 not picked up by 3:45 pm will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute, per student. The late fee policy applies to all before-school/after-school/after-hours events and activities including, but not limited to, late pick up from after-school clubs, special events, school-sponsored off-site events, etc. Students with outstanding financial obligations are not eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities including, but not limited to, field trips, dances, athletic events, ceremonies, afterschool clubs, etc.

## **LIBRARY BOOKS**

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When a student checks out a book from the library, he/she is responsible for that book until it is properly returned. Library books must be returned within two weeks from the date of check out. If a student needs a book for an additional week, he/she may ask the Media Specialist to renew it. Renewals will be granted at the Media Specialist's discretion. Students may check out up to two (2) books at a time. Students with overdue books may not check out additional books until all overdue books are returned and all fees have been paid. Any student who loses a book or returns a book that is damaged beyond repair is responsible to pay a replacement fee as determined by the Media Specialist. Damage beyond repair includes, but is not limited to, removal of barcode, laminate covering, or labels; water or food damage; writing on or marking up of books. Please DO NOT attempt to repair books at home. The Media Center is equipped with special materials for book repair. Normal wear and tear are expected and a student will not be charged for minimal damage that can be repaired by the school. "At home" repairs may result in a ruined book and the student will be charged a replacement fee or the parent may purchase the same title and send it to school in its place.

## LOST AND FOUND

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Throughout the school year, items that have been lost are turned into the school office. Many of these issues would be solved if clothing and personal belongings were labeled with the student's name. Any time a student loses an item, he/she may go to the designated lost and found area to claim it. Items not claimed are donated to various charitable institutions. Therefore, please label your child's personal belongings, making them easier to return to the student. Twice per quarter, all lost and found items that have not been claimed will be donated or discarded.

## LUNCH MENUS

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Monthly breakfast and lunch menus are posted online as well as in the school cafeteria.

## LUNCH PAYMENTS

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All parents are encouraged to pre-pay for lunches on a weekly or monthly basis so that funds are readily available for student purchases. **Franklin Academy is a NO CASH school.** Instead, lunch payments are debited from the student's account. If paying by check, please make it payable to **Franklin Academy** and include the **student's name, homeroom teacher's name**, and that you are making a **lunch payment**. **Lunch payments cannot be processed in the payment section of our website; however, payment for meals can be made via the PowerSchool Parent Portal or at [www.slalunch.com](http://www.slalunch.com).** Once you are logged into the PowerSchool Parent Portal, you will find an "arrow" icon in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. Once you've clicked the icon, a new menu will appear. Using this menu, select the "School Payment Portal" link. The School Payment Portal link will take you to the payment processing page. If you have not created an account and linked it to your PS Parent Portal account, you will need to do so. Once you link your two accounts, clicking this link will automatically transfer your credentials and take you directly into the payment portal without requiring you to login again.

Any student whose lunch balance drops below the current cost of a hot meal will not be eligible for a hot meal. In such cases, students will be provided an alternate meal and drink. This substitute meal will continue to debit the student's account balance, at a reduced rate. The student will continue to receive the substitute meal each day that they attempt to purchase lunch while their balance is insufficient. Once a payment has been fully processed and the student's balance exceeds the cost of a hot meal, they will again be eligible to purchase a regular meal. Please check your child's lunch balance on PowerSchool regularly to ensure sufficient funds.

## LUNCH PROGRAM

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Participation in the school lunch program is not a requirement. Students may bring their lunch to school each day if they wish. Please read all options for meal program participation. Free or reduced-price lunch is available for those

who qualify. Refer to the school website for current pricing and menu options. Pursuant to the Federal Lunch Program guidelines, a doctor's note will be required if a student cannot drink milk and needs an alternate beverage at lunch.

## **MEDIA CENTER SCHEDULE AND POLICY**

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The Elementary Media Center will be open from 7:00 am until 2:45 pm daily. The Media Center may be utilized for research purposes and book circulation.

The Middle Years Programme (MYP) Media Center will be open between 7:45 am and 8:25 am for daily use by MYP students to conduct research, practice skills and content from their classes or check out books.

## **MEDIA RELEASE FORMS**

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Franklin Academy or any school-approved agent may take photographs/video of students for the purpose of promoting the school or demonstrating the school's accomplishments and activities. Photos may be published on brochures, school website, flyers, advertisements, etc. Media Release forms are signed by parents as part of the registration process. Failure to provide a signed Media Release form may prevent the student's photograph from appearing in the yearbook, class photos, event photos and school performances.

## **MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES**

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Every attempt must be made by the student's parent and healthcare provider to have medications administered at home during non-school hours. When this is not possible, a completed Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form must be provided for all medications to be administered during school hours.

**School personnel may not administer medication unless the parent presents the school with a completed Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form signed by the parent and the healthcare provider – NO EXCEPTIONS will be made.**

- Authorization for Medication/Treatment Forms are only valid for one year from the date the form was completed by the physician and must be kept current.
- Any changes in the type, dosage, frequency of medication will require a new Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form to be completed by the physician and signed by the parent. An original form must be obtained.
- In an emergency situation an Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form can be faxed to the healthcare provider and returned by fax to the school. An original must be obtained from the healthcare provider and include parent signature within one week of obtaining the order.
- Medications are to be brought to the school by the student's parent.

- Non-prescription (over-the-counter) medications must be received in the original container and labeled with the student's name. A completed Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form must accompany each over-the-counter medication.
- Prescription medication must be received in a pharmacy labeled container with the student's name, healthcare provider's name, pharmacy's name and phone number, name of medication, directions concerning dosage and date of prescription.
- Over-the-counter medication(s) such as acetaminophen, ibuprofen, cough medicines, may NOT be brought to school without a completed and signed Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form.
- All medication must be removed from the clinic by the end of the school year.
- All medication not picked up by the parent will be discarded.

Teachers and students may not hold or dispense any medication for student use unless there are special circumstances of a field trip and proper guidelines have been followed. All medications must be handled through the school clinic. Students are not permitted to keep any medication, prescription or over-the-counter, with them. If a child with severe asthma needs an inhaler with him/her at all times, this can be arranged with the school nurse with proper documentation from a physician.

## MEDICATION: SELECT OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) TOPICAL PRODUCTS

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Students in all grade levels are permitted to self-carry and self-administer bug, insect, mosquito repellent (wipes or lotions only) and sunscreen (no aerosol products permitted). An Authorization for Over-the-Counter (OTC) Topical Products with Parental Approval Only form must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian. Note: Plan ahead for field trips if your child needs medication for an overnight trip that he/she may not normally take at school. Update changes to your child's health condition as they occur. All over-the-counter (OTC) topical products must be kept in the student's backpack.

## MEDICAL AND DENTAL APPOINTMENTS

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Parents must come to the office to sign out the student. The office must be notified in writing when anyone other than a parent/guardian is sent to pick up a child. The person is expected to show proper identification. Upon return from the appointment, a parent must escort the student to the front office to sign in and obtain an admission slip to class. Students may not return to campus after 1:45 pm as the campus will be locked down for dismissal purposes.

## MISSING ASSIGNMENTS

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**DUE TO EXCUSED ABSENCES:** All students are expected to make up work missed during an absence. For absences due to (a) illness of student, (b) illness of an immediate family member, or (c) death in the family, the absence is excused, hence full credit will be awarded as long as the student makes up the work during the appropriate

time frame. A student has TWO days to make up the work for each day the student is absent, not including the day of return. However, previously assigned work is due the day of return. Students who have an unexcused absence will follow the policy for Missing Assignments & Tests due to late work.

**DUE TO LATE WORK OR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** All students are expected to make up work missed for any reason. **Late work will be graded and ten (10) points will be deducted from the grade earned for each day it is late, up to five (5) days.** Late work submitted after this time frame will receive half-credit of the grade earned. Late work will not be accepted if the grading quarter in which it was assigned has ended.

**IB ASSESSMENTS:** All MYP students are expected to make up all IB assessments, regardless of the reason missed. Late IB Assessments cannot be accepted after the end of the semester.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

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In accordance with HB 529, a moment of silence will be observed in all first-period classrooms. Students may not interfere with another students' participation. A teacher may not make suggestions as to the nature of any reflection that a student may engage in during the moment of silence. Parents or guardians are encouraged to discuss the moment of silence with their children and to make suggestions as to the best use of this time.

## NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY (NJHS)

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**Chapter Adviser:** Kathy Ross | [Ross.Kathy@franklin-academy.org](mailto:Ross.Kathy@franklin-academy.org)

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding middle school students. NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Citizenship, and Character.

**NHJS SELECTION CRITERIA:** In order to be considered a candidate for induction to the Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, a student must meet the following minimum prerequisites: 1. Student must be enrolled at Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines Middle School for at least one full semester. 2. Student must be in the second semester of 6th grade, 7th grade or 8th grade. 3. Student must have a cumulative grade point average of all classes taken at Franklin Academy from enrollment to the present time of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

Students having been identified as meeting the above prerequisites will receive a link to the Candidate Form. The Candidate Form should be completed and submitted no later than the published deadline. Late submissions will NOT be considered. Additional details and information regarding qualifications for membership are available on the school website. Note that continued membership in the NJHS is dependent upon payment of yearly dues, completion of required service hours, and maintenance of the chapter's academic and behavioral standards.

## OFFICE

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All visitors are required to enter the building through the main office, provide a valid state-issued identification card and obtain a visitor's badge. For safety reasons, in-person assistance in the school office/main lobby area is limited to the hours of 8:45 am–1:45 pm unless you have a scheduled appointment or need to sign in for a scheduled volunteer opportunity. Telephone assistance is available from 7:00 am – 4:00 pm. All exterior access doors/gates will be locked once students have arrived, with the exception of the front office doors. Entry is not permitted via the east/west access gates. Staff members will monitor doors at all times. Students are not to open outside doors under any circumstances.

## OUTERWEAR

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Outerwear, sweatshirts, hoodies, sweaters or jackets worn on school grounds must have the Franklin Academy logo. A student wearing a uniform shirt with an embroidered logo but with a non-logo hoodie over it will not be in compliance with the dress code and will be required to remove the unauthorized outerwear. Unauthorized outerwear may be confiscated until the end of the day.

## PARENT SERVICE HOURS

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Parent involvement plays a vital role in the students' academic success. Parent involvement fosters an atmosphere of safety and security and is proven to enhance learning gains in students. **Franklin families are required to perform a MINIMUM of eight (8) Parent Service Hours each academic year regardless of the number of students enrolled at the school.** The school provides numerous opportunities for parents to participate in activities and services.

All service hours must be earned between July 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> of each school year. **Service hours may not be satisfied with financial contributions of any kind.** Families may earn hours both at school and at home. Families that fail to satisfy this annual requirement will be notified and are subject to the following:

- The family may be asked not to return the following year.
- Students will be restricted from extra-curricular activities (field trips, after-school clubs, dances, etc.).
- Service hours may be performed by parents, legal guardians, and immediate family members who have submitted an official volunteer application. Exceptions to this limitation will be allowed only with prior approval and at the discretion and review of school officials.
- Siblings performing service hours on behalf of the family must be 18 years or older and not currently attending a public school.

For safety reasons, parents completing their service hours on campus MAY NOT be accompanied by their minor children. Please refer to the Service Hour Brochure available on the school website for all policies and requirements of the Service Hour Program.

Volunteers are required to sign in at the front desk and receive a VOLUNTEER BADGE, which must be worn at all times while on campus. If a parent fails to sign out after volunteering, the hours will not count toward the service hour requirement. Parents are asked to dress appropriately and avoid using cell phones while on campus.

## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

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Parent and teacher communication is an important part of the school year. Teachers frequently communicate information to parents concerning school assignments, upcoming activities, and student progress. Parents should discuss the importance of teacher communication with their children and develop a system to ensure that all notes, memos, etc. reach home and school in a timely manner.

Conferences can be set up at the request of the school or the request of the parent. A conference with a teacher should be set up through the student's homeroom teacher. School personnel will get in touch with the parent and arrange a mutually agreed upon time for the conference. Conferences with multiple middle school teachers are scheduled through the school counselor.

Conferences requested by the school will indicate a specific time and date for the meeting. All parents and visitors must sign-in at the front office upon entering the building for a visitor's pass before going to any classroom. Please be aware that teachers are not available for unscheduled conferences.

K-5 teachers are encouraged to have a minimum of two (2) conferences with all parents during the school year. Middle school teachers are encouraged to have a minimum of one (1) parent conference per student, per year. Conferences can be face-to-face or by telephone. All conferences must be scheduled through the teacher of concern via email. For grades 6-8, the school counselor can assist in scheduling group conferences as needed. If you need to cancel a scheduled appointment, please contact the teacher involved via email.

Please feel free to consult with the office regarding any problems or questions that concern your child. It is the desire of the administrative team and the faculty to be of service to both parents and students, and every teacher welcomes a conference with any parent. We do urge, however, that such visits be made **by making an appointment with the teacher at a mutually convenient time before or after school hours. Parents may not meet with a teacher during school hours unless a conference has been officially scheduled in advance.**

## PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

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Contact PTO: [pto-pp@franklin-academy.org](mailto:pto-pp@franklin-academy.org)

A great portion of each child's day is spent at school; therefore, his/her growth and development become a joint responsibility between the home and school. All families are encouraged to become active in helping further the goals and growth of the school by joining the Parent Teacher Organization. Officers will be elected according to the Parent-Teacher Organization bylaws. PTO Officers are expected to work for the good of the school and students, in accordance with their role descriptions.



The PTO will sponsor fundraisers throughout the school year. Monies generated by fundraising events will be used to enhance the overall student and staff experience, purchase materials and equipment for the students, and support school programs and initiatives as recommended by the Principal in furtherance of the school mission. All active members are eligible to vote on issues brought before them for consideration during the general PTO meetings. Parents may receive one (1) service hour for attending general PTO meetings at the discretion of school administration. Please remember that PTO meetings are not the forum to voice complaints about staff or school issues. The PTO board cannot address these questions or comments. If you have a concern, please follow the procedures for communication.

## PAYMENT POLICY

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**Franklin Academy is a NO CASH school.** All payments must be made by check, money order or online with a major credit card. **Franklin Academy will stop accepting personal checks on May 1st of each school year.** After May 1st, all payments must be made by money order or credit card until the next school year.

Parents that submit checks returned due to insufficient funds, stop payment, or other issue will be charged a \$25.00 returned check fee per check, in addition to the amount of the check. After two returned checks, the school will no longer accept personal checks from the individual. Payments may only be made by money order or major credit card. **Any student with a negative lunch balance, returned check, late fees, or overdue book(s), will not be permitted to participate in field trips or special activities until all outstanding balances are paid in full.**

## PETS

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Parents are asked to cooperate with the school regarding the bringing of pets or other live animals to school for any purpose. Teachers will send written notices home if and when animals are permitted in the classroom. Pets must be kept inside vehicles while on school grounds. Only properly marked service animals are permitted on campus.

## PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

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Plagiarism, or the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own without proper acknowledgment, is NOT permitted. Plagiarism/academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, fabricating information or making up sources, and improper collaboration. All acts of academic dishonesty violate the very spirit of our school, undermine the student's learning, violate the trust between teacher and student, and diminish the value of the learning process for all students.

For these reasons, academic dishonesty is taken very seriously at Franklin Academy, with consequences ranging from failing the assignment or the course to being suspended by school administration. Assignments found to be plagiarized to any degree will earn a grade of zero and the parent/guardian will be notified. A student who allows another to copy his/her work will receive the same penalty.



The Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines IB MYP has developed an Academic Honesty Policy that is aligned with the principles of the IB World Organization and will be enforced with all MYP students. The policy is published on the Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines Website on the International Baccalaureate Tab.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag shall be recited at the beginning of the day in each public elementary, middle and high school in the state. Each student has the right not to participate in reciting the pledge. Upon written request by his or her parent, the student will be excused from reciting the pledge, including standing and placing the right hand over his or her heart. When the pledge is given, unexcused students must show full respect of the flag by standing at attention and men removing the headdress, except when such headdress is worn for religious purposes (F.S 1003.44).

## POWERSCHOOL (STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM)

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**Parent Portal:** <https://ps.franklin-academy.org/public/>

Franklin Academy uses PowerSchool as our Student Information System (SIS), and it allows us to track enrollment, grades, assignments and many other critical aspects. Part of the tool is the PowerSchool Parent Portal, which provides families 24-7 access to their student(s) information. The PowerSchool Parent Portal will give parents and guardians access to their child's grades, attendance, lunch and fee balances, service hour totals and much more. Parents may set up and manage automated requests and alerts. It is very important that you keep phone numbers, addresses, and contact information updated in PowerSchool. The Parent Portal can be accessed via a web browser or with the free PowerSchool for Parents App. When you first enroll your child(ren) in Franklin Academy, you will receive a letter with your Access ID and Access Password. These two items allow you to create your Parent Portal login. If you do not have your access information, please contact the school. Visit the school website for details and information, including troubleshooting tips and Frequently Asked Questions.

## PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION

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Private transportation companies are permitted as a transportation option for families, so long as the private transportation company adheres to Franklin Academy's pick-up and drop-off procedures. Information regarding private transportation must be sent to the Director of School Operations, in writing.

## PROGRESS MONITORING

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A Progress Monitoring Plan (PMP) will be developed for any student in grades K-8 who is not meeting State and District Levels of Proficiency. The PMP will focus learning resources on a student's targeted learning deficiencies. Parents are a vital aspect in the development and implementation of the PMP and will be invited to a conference to discuss the plan and provide input. Intensive remediation in the areas of concern will begin immediately. Students receiving services through the Exceptional Student Education program may not have a separate PMP developed.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

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Progress reports are issued midway through each nine-week grading period as indicated on the school calendar. This report informs parents/guardians of their child's academic progress before final grades for the quarter are issued. We encourage you to discuss any concerns indicated on the progress report with your child and his/her teacher(s).

## PROMOTION CRITERIA

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**Grades K-5:** Specific promotion criteria is outlined in the Broward County Public Schools Student Progression Plan. The evaluation of each student's progress is based on multiple measures including, but not limited to, classwork, observations, tests, district and state assessments, and other data including final grades on report cards.

**MYP Years 1-3 (Grades 6-8):** To be promoted, students in grades 6-8 must pass a minimum of four (4) subjects, two of which must be in English, mathematics, science, or social studies. Students who fail any of the four (4) core classes may be given the opportunity to meet the requirements of the course(s) in place of an elective(s) the following year.

Promotion to 9th grade will require passing:

- Three (3) middle school or higher, year-long courses in English;
- Three (3) middle school or higher, year-long courses in mathematics;
- Three (3) middle school or higher, year-long courses in science;
- Three (3) middle school or higher, year-long courses in social studies; and
- Other promotion requirements may apply in accordance with District and State guidelines

## RAINY DAY DISMISSAL

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Procedures: Rainy Day dismissal will be announced ten (10) minutes prior to the end of the school day. In the event of a thunderstorm or lightning storm during dismissal, students will be held in their classrooms and dismissal will be conducted in an orderly process to ensure the safety of students and staff. School officials may wait until lightning is a safe distance away from the area before students are released. This includes students who walk or bike home from

school. Please be patient with the process as rainy day dismissal procedures will cause a delay in the dismissal process. A text message via SwiftReach K12 will be sent informing parents of a delayed dismissal.

## **REPORT CARDS**

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Report cards are issued electronically on a quarterly basis as indicated on the school calendar. Students attending Franklin Academy must be in attendance at least 10 days before a grade can be issued by the teacher in any given quarter. Final grades for students entering the school late in the year are based on an average of the prior school's grades and current Franklin Academy grades.

## **RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI)**

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**Rtl Coordinator:** Diana Acevedo | [acevedo.diana@franklin-academy.org](mailto:acevedo.diana@franklin-academy.org)

Response to Intervention is a multi-tiered approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and behavior needs. The RtI process begins with high-quality instruction and universal screening of all children in the general education classroom. Struggling learners are provided with interventions at increasing levels of intensity to accelerate their rate of learning. These intervention strategies may be provided by a variety of personnel, including general education teachers, special educators, and specialists. Progress is closely monitored to assess both the learning rate and level of performance of individual students. Educational decisions about the intensity and duration of interventions are based on individual student response to instruction.

## **ROOM PARENT GUIDELINES**

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Room Parents are the liaison between the teacher and parent volunteers and generally support the activities of the classroom. A room parent may communicate approved information from the teacher/school about classroom events, activities or celebrations with the parents of students. Below are some examples of Room Parent responsibilities:

- Create and maintain a current class email distribution list using the "bcc" function
- Coordinate classroom volunteers as requested by the teacher
- Organize approved class celebrations (i.e. winter, end-of-year)
- Collect and coordinate teacher gifts (holidays, end-of-year, birthday)
- Recruit class volunteers for school-wide events
- Include all parents who wish to be involved in classroom events

Room parents are NOT authorized or permitted to communicate information related to the academic program, curriculum requirements, assessments or other topics related to the educational program. Room parents who violate these parameters may be removed from the role by the classroom teacher or school administration.

## SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

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Successful, safe and effective schools are also those with high levels of parent and caregiver involvement. You are vital to your child's well-being and safety. Help us keep our school safe by staying informed and talking with your child about school safety and emergency response.

Franklin Academy has a comprehensive School Safety Plan that outlines emergency response procedures for evacuation, school closure, shelter-in-place and school lockdowns. Emergency communication plans include parent notifications and alerts, School Incident Command Teams, partnerships with local emergency responders and collaboration for training and planning proposes, visitor sign-in procedures, regularly held emergency response drills with all students and staff, and ongoing training for emergency response teams and safety assessments of school facilities in partnership with local emergency response agencies.

**What can parents do to help ensure the safety of students during emergencies?** If an incident occurs, it is only natural for parents and caregivers to want to rush to the school. However, doing this will often complicate a school-based incident and may interfere with the work of school personnel and emergency responders. You can help manage a crisis situation by following these steps:

- **Remain Calm** - Do your best to cooperate with school and public safety officials. Follow any instructions you may receive regarding your child.
- **Keep Roads Clear** - Do not come to the school as that may interfere with the response efforts. Traffic or parking congestion could block access to the school for critical resources like police, fire or emergency medical responders.
- **Keep Phone Lines Open** - Do not call the school office. Excessive phone calls could jam the phone system and hamper emergency communications. Do not call your child if he or she has a cell phone as this may compromise safety.
- **Monitor Communications and Be Patient**

## SCHOOL CLOSINGS

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In the event of a campus emergency, weather emergency, or other unusual event that would necessitate the closing of school, the process and updates will be made available on the Franklin Academy website and by SwiftReachK12 parent message as long as electrical power is available. In order for the email system to be effective, it requires that we have an accurate database with current parent contact information. Please maintain emergency contact information current in PowerSchool.

## SEARCHES OF STUDENTS

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In order to fulfill its primary educational function, schools must maintain discipline and order and provide students with physical safety and security. To provide an orderly and safe learning environment, the school must control the

behavior of students and prevent the introduction by students of harmful, damaging and/or unlawful items onto the school premises. School officials and teachers act in loco parentis to students during the time students are under their supervision. The law, therefore, permits school authorities to search students, their personal possessions, and their desks and lockers under appropriate circumstances. A decision to search a student, his/her possessions, or any school property, or area assigned to him/her for his/her individual use, shall be made in accordance with the law.

## SEVERE WEATHER INFORMATION

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Franklin Academy will follow the same instructions as Broward County Public Schools in case of severe weather emergencies. Parents should watch the local news for information regarding school closings. The campus is equipped with early warning devices. In the case of extreme weather conditions, students will not be allowed into open-air hallways in the back section of the school and will be held in the classrooms.

## SIBLING LINK

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Students enrolled in grades K-5 who have a sibling enrolled in grades 6-8 will be permitted to remain on campus in a supervised environment until their sibling is dismissed at 3:15 pm. Additionally, MYP students in grades 6-8 who have a verified sibling in grades K-5 may arrive on campus beginning at 7:00 am with their K-5 sibling. This is a no-cost service to our families. Only eligible students may enroll in Sibling Link and eligibility will be verified. Unauthorized students who are dropped off prior to the official start time or not picked up at the designated dismissal time will be charged a fee of \$1.00 per minute, per student.

## SMOKING REGULATIONS

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Florida Law states that there will be NO SMOKING on campus at any time, including in cars in the parking lot or anywhere on school property. This policy applies to all smoking devices including vape pens.

## SNACK POLICY

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Franklin Academy requires that all food served or consumed on campus must be with the intent of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. Therefore, the following healthy snack guidelines have been established for students in grades K-8: fresh or dried fruit, banana or apple chips, raisins, carrot or celery sticks, baked tortilla chips, cheese crackers, pretzels, granola bars, rice cakes, animal crackers, graham crackers, and string cheese. This list was created under the simple guidelines of decreasing (not eliminating) calories from sugar and fat, while increasing students' consumption of whole, nutritious foods. **Students in grades 6-8 are permitted to have a healthy, nutritious snack during second period only.** Students may NOT consume carbonated or caffeinated beverages while on campus.

## SOCIAL MEDIA – STAY CONNECTED

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You can stay connected with events happening across the different Franklin Academy campuses by connecting with our three different social media platforms.



Facebook – @FranklinAcademyCharter



Twitter – @FranklinCharter



Instagram – @FranklinCharter

## SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

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- Parents should expect communication from teachers regarding their child's involvement in any project using online social media applications, i.e., blogs, wikis, podcast, etc.
- Parents will not attempt to destroy or harm any information online. Instead they will report objectionable material to a school administrator and/or school counselor.
- Parents will not use classroom social media sites for illegal activity, including violation of data privacy laws.
- Parents are highly encouraged to be aware of their child's electronic communications and participation in social media projects.
- Parent participation is encouraged to help ensure that student involvement in social media networking is appropriate and that the privacy concerns are protected.

## SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

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- Be aware of what you post online. Social media venues, including wikis, blogs, photo and video sharing sites, are very public. What you contribute leaves a digital footprint for all to see. Do not post anything you wouldn't want friends, enemies, parents, teachers, or a future employer to see.
- Follow the school's code of conduct when writing online. It is acceptable to disagree with someone else's opinions, however, do it in a respectful way. Make sure that criticism is constructive and not hurtful. What is inappropriate in the classroom will be inappropriate online.
- Be safe online. Never give out personal information, including, but not limited to, last names, phone numbers, addresses, exact birthdates, and pictures. Do not share your password with anyone besides your teachers and parents.
- Linking to other websites to support your thoughts and ideas is recommended when appropriate. However, be sure to read the entire article prior to linking to ensure that all information is appropriate for school.

- Do your own work! Do not use other people's intellectual property without their permission. It is a violation of copyright law to copy and paste other's thoughts, images, designs, etc. When paraphrasing another's idea(s) be sure to cite your source with the URL. It is a good practice to hyperlink your sources.
- Be aware that pictures may also be protected under copyright laws. Verify that you have permission to use the image or that it is under Creative Commons' attribution.
- How you represent yourself online is an extension of yourself. Do not misrepresent yourself by using someone else's identity. Blog and wiki posts should be well written. Follow writing conventions including proper grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. If you edit someone else's work, be sure it is in the spirit of improving the writing.
- If you run across inappropriate material that makes you feel uncomfortable, or is not respectful, tell your teacher right away.
- Students who do not abide by these guidelines may lose their opportunity to take part in the project and/or access to future use of Franklin Academy online tools. In addition, disciplinary or legal action may apply.

## SPECIAL EVENTS OR PROGRAMS

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From time to time during the school year, special events are planned that require extra effort from all teachers. These events are in the best interest of students and are considered part of their total educational experience. Students must be in attendance for at least one-half of the school day in order to participate in special events, athletic events, and/or special programs. Students with outstanding financial obligations or those with restrictions due to parent service hours are not eligible to participate in special events or programs.

## STUDENT RECORDS

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Student records and grades may not be released until property and textbooks have been returned and/or applicable fees paid. All accounts from the Media Center, cafeteria, textbooks, fundraisers, etc. must be brought up-to-date prior to any records being released. The final report card will be held until all account balances are cleared.

## STUDENT RIGHTS

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Students have the right to feel safe from threats and bodily harm. Disruptive behaviors are never acceptable, and when they occur, they will result in appropriate consequences in accordance with the *Broward County Administrative Discipline Matrix* and may include time-out, exclusion from participation in class activities, detentions, suspension, or expulsion. **Parents who have a conflict with a student other than their own child are requested to speak to the school counselor or school administration. At NO TIME may parents approach the student or other parents directly.** All students and employees will be treated with respect. Slurs, innuendoes, hostile treatment, violence, or other verbal or physical conduct against a student, parent, or employee will NOT be tolerated.



## STUDENT SERVICE AS ACTION – IB MYP

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IB Programme Coordinator: Kathy Ross | ross.kathy@franklin-academy.org

The IB MYP requires the completion of a minimum number of service experiences that are reported to and verified by the school. The minimum number is one (1) per quarter. Students and families may wish to select activities that include the whole family as a way of enhancing a family sense of service to our local, state, national or international community. Service as action include four basic options: 1. direct service, where students go directly into the community to impact an organization or issue, 2. indirect service, where students gather donations to impact an organization or issue, 3. advocacy, where students use various outlets to advocate for change impacting an organization or issue, or 4. research, where students write a paper or essay outlining the importance of the organization or issue. Service opportunities will be published on a regular basis so that students have many options for activities that will satisfy their Service as Action Requirement. **Student service hours DO NOT count toward the yearly Parent Service Hour requirement.**

## SWIFTREACHK12 – PARENT MESSAGING

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Franklin Academy utilizes SwiftReachK12 as a primary tool to promote home-school communication. This technology gives our school the ability to deliver phone, email and text messages about school functions and other non-emergency alerts as well as other messages concerning school or district emergency situations. Please be sure to keep your telephone and email contact information current in PowerSchool to ensure delivery of all SwiftReachK12 messages.

## TECHNOLOGY USAGE POLICY

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Computers, networks, digital curriculum and resources, and online information systems such as the Internet and email are becoming more commonplace in our classrooms and media centers every year. While these systems deliver a huge number of resources to our classrooms, their ability to serve students and teachers depends on the responsible and ethical use of every device and system. Franklin Academy is responsible for securing its network and computing systems in a reasonable and economically feasible fashion against unauthorized access and/or abuse, while making them accessible for authorized and legitimate users. As part of this network system, users are responsible for respecting and adhering to school, local, state, federal, and international laws. Any attempt to break those laws through the use of the network may result in litigation against the offender by the proper authorities. Students accessing the network and computer systems are solely responsible for all actions taken while online and will adhere to the Internet Policy and Guidelines and submit a signed Technology Usage Agreement acknowledgement form before they are allowed to access the Internet. Use of the school's technology and/or software for any unauthorized purpose is prohibited. This includes the unauthorized use of a computer/technology, including, but not limited to, accessing or breaking into restricted accounts or networks, creating, modifying or destroying files/records without permission, copying software, entering, distributing or printing unauthorized files/records, uploading to the Internet

and/ or sharing or distributing, offensive or inappropriate material, including video, and any other misuse or violation of the School Board of Broward County Technology-Acceptable Use Policy 5306, Section 6.

## TELEPHONES

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The school has a business telephone to help facilitate the business of the school and the lines must be kept open. Students may not use the telephone without permission and use is reserved for emergencies only. It is difficult to deliver a personal message to an individual student without interrupting the instructional program. Only emergency messages will be delivered to the student in the classroom. General use of the office telephones by students is discouraged. No phone calls will be allowed for missing assignments, musical instruments, lunches, or after school plans, etc. A teacher may send a student to the office with a note authorizing use of a phone when necessary. Students may not use phones in the classroom, bathrooms, hallways, or any other areas during the school day. Teachers will encourage students to come to school prepared and to make social and transportation plans ahead of time. Please refer to the section in this document regarding usage of cellular phones.

## TRANSFER STUDENTS

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Transfer students are students who enter the school after the start of the school year. As available, students' previous school records will be used to determine grade level proficiency and placement in accordance with the Broward County Public Schools Student Progression Plan. Appropriate placement of transfer students shall be based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Previous placement at a school accredited by a state or regional accrediting agency
- Validating examinations
- Scholarship performance during trial placement

Diagnostic assessments to determine grade-level placement may be administered to any child new to our district, especially when records are not available, as in the example of students coming from a home-school environment.

## TRANSPORTATION

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Franklin Academy will provide limited bus transportation services for students who meet eligibility criteria. If you live within two miles of the campus, you must provide transportation for your child(ren). The bus transportation provided is designed in accordance with county transportation guidelines. All public schools have limited transportation boundaries set according to these guidelines. Routes, pick-up/drop-off times and locations will be developed prior to the start of the school year. Please contact **Always on the Go** directly for details and information regarding bus transportation services. Students must exhibit appropriate bus behavior. Bus referrals will be sent to school administration. Students exhibiting inappropriate behavior may lose their privileges to ride the school bus.

## VISITORS / VOLUNTEERS

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**All visitors to the school MUST sign in at the school front office.** Per the *Jessica Lunsford Act*, all visitors must have photo identification and will be scanned using the Raptor Visitor Management Software linked to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) database. Visitors, including parents, are NOT permitted to go to their child's classroom unannounced before, during or after school hours. **Under no circumstances should parents enter the school and go directly to a classroom without authorization.**

Arrangements to visit and/or assist in the classroom must be made in advance (at least 24 hours) and at a time agreed upon with the classroom teacher. Teachers are required to notify the front office when expecting visitors in order to grant access to the classroom. For the safety and protection of all students, visitors (including parents) must sign in and out at the front desk, state who they are visiting, the purpose of the visit, and obtain a VISITOR'S PASS to be permitted access to the school campus. Please adhere to the established volunteer guidelines below:

- Volunteers must wear the school-issued "VOLUNTEER" badge at all times while on campus.
- Volunteers and visitors should report only to the room to which they are assigned and should not wander the campus or deviate from the assigned volunteer role.
- Siblings/children who are NOT enrolled at Franklin Academy are not permitted on campus. Volunteers are expected to dress modestly and appropriately while on the school campus.
- Cell phones should be switched off or placed on vibrate while on campus. Volunteers are asked NOT to speak on cell phones while volunteering on campus.
- Volunteers should not bring personal food or beverages into the classroom.
- Comparing and criticizing teachers and students is unacceptable volunteer behavior.
- Please remember to keep what happens in the classroom confidential. Do not discuss the lives or learning needs of students with other students or adults.
- Punctuality and reliability are expected since classroom teachers plan for volunteer assistance. If you are unable to come at your scheduled time, please email your child's teacher and/or remove yourself from the volunteer opportunity for which you signed up.
- Volunteers are not allowed to administer any kind of medication to students.

**Visitors/volunteers who do not adhere to these expectations or cause a disruption on campus may be asked to leave the school campus by school administration and/or the police officer on duty.** Your cooperation will enable the school to provide a safe and orderly learning environment for all students.

## WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

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Parents/Guardians must complete a withdrawal form with the Registrar when a student leaves the school prior to records being released. In accordance with state and District policy, only the registering parent may withdraw the student. Be sure to return all school property (library books, textbooks, etc.) and that all obligations/debts have been paid. An exit interview with a member of the Administrative Team may be required before finalizing the withdrawal process.



## **2021-2022 PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK**

### **PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

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The Franklin Academy Pembroke Pines Parent-Student Handbook describes important information about Franklin Academy, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read, understand, and abide by the rules and expectations contained therein. These rules apply to all activities occurring on school grounds, on other sites being used for school activities, and on any vehicles authorized to transport students. I should consult with a school representative regarding any questions not answered in the Franklin Academy Parent-Student Handbook. Since the information and policies described are necessarily subject to change, I acknowledge that revisions to the Parent-Student Handbook may occur. All such changes will be communicated through official notices, and I understand that revised information may supersede, modify, or eliminate existing policies.

The electronic copy of these rules is available at <http://ppk8.franklin-academy.org>. Your signature below indicates that you have received access to the Franklin Academy Parent-Student Handbook and understand it is your responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained in the publication and any revisions that may follow.

All parents are required to sign and return this form to school within three (3) days from the first day of school or from the date of enrollment.

Student's Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_