



Frequently Asked Questions 2021-2022

Q. What are the school hours?

A. Heron Heights begins instruction at 8:00am and ends at 2:00pm. Students can begin coming into the building at 7:30 am for breakfast or reading next to their classroom in the hallways.

Q. How do I drop my child off at school?

A. Parents can walk their child to class on the 1st day of school. Independence Day for students is the 2nd day of school. Students will walk “independently” to class on Independence Day. Parents in the car line should pull all the way forward and have their child exit on the passenger side. Please stay in your car when dropping off your child. Staff and parent volunteers will direct students from the car line. Students who arrive by bus, will enter through the bus hallway and walk to class. Staff and volunteers will be available to assist students walking to class.

Q. Does the school have a website?

A. Yes, browardschools.com/heronheights. This site is updated frequently with school information. Visit the site weekly for updates.

Q. How can I communicate with my child’s teacher?

A. The most effective way is by email or by calling the main office to leave a message. Many teachers have class websites and update information frequently. Progress Reports are sent home every nine weeks. Each teacher will schedule two parent conferences during the school year.

Q. How do lunch accounts work?

A. All students are given an account and account number. Parents can put money on a student’s account so they can buy lunch and ala carte items.

Q. What are the cafeteria procedures?

A. Students have 30 minutes for lunch in the cafeteria. They are supervised during lunch by cafeteria monitors, not classroom teachers. Students should become as independent as possible with opening up their lunch items and cleaning up after themselves.

Q. How are students dismissed from school?

A. All students’ backpacks are tagged with a color designating their dismissal route. We use an electronic carline system called Curb Smart. Every parent will receive a carline tag with a number associated with your child/children. Once you enter the school parking lot, the number will be entered into a database and your child will come outside. All **carline students** will wait in a designated room. Please pick up your child promptly at 2:00pm. The new system allows the carline to move quickly. **Bus students** are dismissed by their bus color. Attendance is also taken daily at the entrance to each bus. **HHE Aftercare** students are dismissed to their aftercare area. Kindergarten students are picked up by the Aftercare Counselors at 1:55pm and taken to the

cafeteria to start the program. **Private Aftercare** students will wait in a designated area until they are picked up.

Q. How do I change dismissal procedures?

A. Please submit a Change of Dismissal form to the office if you need to change your child's dismissal. All changes to dismissal plans need to happen prior to 1:30pm. In an emergency, parents/guardians may change dismissal plans by fax. The fax needs to include the change in dismissal plan, a copy of picture ID and a phone number to verify the information. We DO NOT accept changes of dismissal by email. The form is located on the HHE website.

Q. Is there a school bus for my neighborhood?

A. Heron Heights does not determine bus transportation, it is determined by the Transportation Department. State policy mandates that you live more than 2 miles from the school to be provided bus transportation. Bus passes will be sent to your home prior to the beginning of school if you are eligible. Your child will receive a color band that correlates with their bus color if they are eligible for a bus.

Q. What special classes will be available to my students?

A. Music, Art, Media, Physical Education and STEM

Q. How do I volunteer in my child's classroom?

A. Teachers determine the number of volunteers they need in their classrooms. All volunteers must complete an online registration form every year and be cleared to volunteer as required by the Jessica Lunsford Act. To become a volunteer, apply online through **browardschools.com/volunteer** in August for the upcoming school year. You must be a cleared volunteer to assist in the school.

Q. What curriculum is used?

A. All Broward schools are required to follow the BEST and Florida State Standards.

Q. How are students placed in each kindergarten class?

A. We use a variety of criteria to place students in classes. Staff reviews the student birth month, exceptionalities, second languages, gender and kindergarten information sheet when creating balanced classes. The kindergarten student information sheet is available for every parent to complete. Please be as specific as possible about your child's ability, interests and personality. We DO NOT take teacher requests. We will offer a kindergarten academic screening in August. Date is TBD.

Q. How does the school place multiples (Twins/Triplets/etc.) in classes?

A. State policy provides parents the opportunity to have siblings placed together or in separate classes. Please provide your desire about your multiples placement by filling out a **Multiples Placement Form**. You can pick up the form in the front office.

Q. What can I do to prepare my child for Kindergarten?

A. Please work with your child to independently exit the car from the passenger side. It would be helpful if they can learn how to zip and unzip their backpacks as well as tie their shoes. They should also practice opening lunch items, water bottles, buckling and zipping their pants.