

FAQ for NCHS Students

Welcome to New Canaan High School! Here are some common questions and answers about our school.

When do I come for Freshmen Orientation?

Freshmen orientation will be at the start of the school day on **August 26, 2025 at 8am**. When you arrive at school, head to the auditorium.

What activities are there to help students transition to NCHS?

Beginning at **11:00 am on Wednesday, August 20, 2025**, students will assemble at the main entrance in small groups with our student RAMbassadors and have the opportunity to walk through the high school, review important beginning-of-the-year information, and get questions answered.

If you are a new student at NCHS coming from another district, **New to New Canaan Parent Orientation will be on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Students can meet the RAMbassadors in the front lobby of the high school that morning to join a building tour.

NCHS is a big school; how do I find my way around?

Click [here](#) for a map to help familiarize yourself with the building. There are a ton of people around to help you navigate the school. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

How do I sign on to the PowerSchool portal?

Look for an NCHS email with instructions on signing in to the PowerSchool portal. This will be the source for your schedule, grades, and teacher notes. To change your password, make sure your cell number is entered into your PowerSchool account, go to the NCHS website, click "Password Manager," and follow the directions.

The **Tech Helpline** is 203-594-4618 for solutions to Google, Schoology, and other tech issues.

How do I find out where my bus stop is?

Go to the NCPS website, click District Information - Transportation Services, and complete the bus service request form. Then check your email for your bus route.

What is my locker number?

Your locker number and combination will be on your schedule. We encourage you to actually use your locker.

What school supplies should I bring on the first day of school?

A spiral notebook, pen and pencil, and laptop are all you will need on the first day. Some teachers will have a list of recommended supplies for their classes that they will give you on the first day. For more information on our BYOD policy, click [here](#).

How do I get my student ID and picture?

Yearbook photos will be taken in early September by Legacy Studio Photographers. Student IDs will be available in the main office sometime in October. Listen to morning announcements for updated information! You will receive an email with instructions on when and where to take your photo. Call the attendance office at 203-594-4672 or email nchsattendance@ncps-k12.org if you have questions.

Why does the schedule look different on Wednesdays?

Wednesdays have a 35-minute Building Block, which will be used for Academic Time (getting extra help from teachers), Community and/or School Counselor), and NCTV Broadcast. This schedule will rotate throughout the year, and you'll hear more about this during class meetings in the first week of school.

How do I get involved in extracurricular activities?

Last year's clubs and organizations are listed on the NCHS website - [Co-Curricular Activities](#). Some clubs have included a short video. The Club and Activity Fair will be held in late September/early October. Listen to announcements for updates. For athletic inquiries, visit the athletics website ncrams.com.

How do I pay for my lunch?

Your parent should go to [LINQ Connect](#) and make an account with your username and password. Parents may add money to the student's lunch account with a debit or credit card. For payment questions, call the Food Service Office at 203-594-4668 or visit their website by clicking [here](#).

How do I see my counselor?

See or email Mrs. Maria Poccia at maria.poccia@ncps-k12.org, Counseling Office Administrative Assistant, to make an appointment with your counselor. OR, stop in during your free period or before/after school and check in with Mrs. Poccia or Mrs. Roberts. Periodically, your counselor will send you a message to come in to meet. Remember to check your school email daily to get notifications from your teachers, counselor, and Principal William Egan.

What if I'm not feeling well?

See one of the nurses. The nurses' office is located on the right in the hallway leading to the gym. **If you are ill and need to go home, you MUST see the nurse first to be excused.** For other health inquiries, contact the nurses' office at ext. 4643.

What should I do if I'm late for school?

If you have a note from your parent to excuse your tardy, please stop in the attendance office before class. If you don't have a note, go to class, and your parent should call or email attendance at nchsattendance@ncps-k12.org.

How often should I check my school email?

Check your school email every day. This is the primary way to send and receive messages from your teachers, counselors, and administrators, as well as important notifications from the high school.

Do students have free periods?

Many students have unassigned blocks in their schedules. Freshmen, however, are assigned to a study hall. All other students are granted off-campus privileges as outlined in our [Off-Campus Policy](#) during these blocks.

Freshmen Study Halls?

You will be assigned to a study hall during full blocks when you do not have a class scheduled. With parental permission, freshmen students may be excused from their Block 1 or Block 4 study hall. Parents should call the attendance office at **203-594-4672** or email at nchsattendance@ncps-k12.org to report these absences. Freshmen are NOT permitted to leave during Block 2 or Block 3; they **must report to their designated study halls**.

Can I drive and park on campus?

Click [here](#) to review our parking policy.

Where do I go if I feel upset or uncomfortable?

NCHS is a kind and compassionate place. You can always visit the main office to see any of the administrators, stop by the counseling office, or visit any of your teachers. Click [here](#) for our student resource page.

How do I get other information about the high school?

Visit the [New Canaan High School website](#) for important information. Here you will find the Program of Studies, the NCHS Handbook, information on academic departments, athletics, co-curricular organizations, and the school calendar. Be sure to visit the [School Counseling website](#) and read important information for Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors. Check out Principal Egan's [Weekly Update](#), emailed every Friday, for all the latest news!

Be sure to check your email daily for updates and important information!