![CMS Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools logo]

Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA)
Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106

The objective of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System is to offer parents and guardians access to information regarding student achievement via the district's Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Should you wish to obtain paper copies of this document and its contents, you can make a request through your child's respective school.

How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?	The following are the relevant State and local requirements for a child to be promoted to the next grade level. Relevant part of this link is found in Part 1A (pp. 15-28) regarding retention, promotion, alternatives to show reading proficiency, etc.: Grade Level Promotion Information about the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board of Education's promotion and retention procedures is available here. Information about the Board's graduation requirements is available here. Additional relevant information for middle and high school students may be obtained from the Middle School information website and the High School information website where promotion standards are outlined.
What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?	In North Carolina, every school follows a uniform Standard Course of Study established by the State Board of Education. These guidelines outline the knowledge and skills that students are expected to grasp by the conclusion of each grade or course. The NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website contains the standards for various subjects, such as Arts Education, Career Technical Education, Computer Science, English Language Arts, English Language Development, Student Success Standards, Healthful Living, Information and Technology, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Language. Local districts, schools, and teachers have the autonomy to decide the instructional methods for these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, and other resources.

Curriculum

The following links provide information related to curriculum in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools:
- Curriculum and Instruction Information
- Learning and Technology Resources / K-5 Curricular Resources (cmsk12.org)
- Learning and Technology Resources/ Middle School Curricular Resources
- Learning and Technology Resources/ High School Curricular Resources

Instructional Materials

Get in touch with your school principal to inquire about examining or buying textbooks and additional teaching materials from this website in the upcoming days.

In certain instances, principals might be able to furnish parents with physical or digital versions of specific supplementary instructional materials for examination at home. However, for most copyrighted materials, access for inspection may be limited to in-person viewing. Typically, requests to inspect school library materials will be accommodated by notifying parents of designated hours for browsing the library collection. You can find each school's library catalog online at Destiny Discover.

Additional information pertaining to the inspection of instructional materials can be located by completing the form below:
- Request for Information

Literacy Intervention Plan

Parents and guardians may view Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System's 2024-25 Literacy Intervention Plan at the following link:
- CMS Literacy Intervention Plan - LIP

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools provide courses in Career and Technical Education (CTE), enabling students to delve into career exploration and obtain credentials. Information on CTE Career Clusters, Pathways, Course Details, Credentials, and Course Standards can be accessed through this link.

For additional details on the CMS CTE Program, please visit the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Career & Technical

	Education (discovercte.com).
How will a parent learn about my child's progress in school or with a class?	Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System communicates students' progress through various channels, including quarterly report cards, progress reports, and feedback on assignments/tests, including conduct evaluations. Information regarding assessments and the evaluation of student progress in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is available through the following links: ● Academic Policy - A-ASM - Assessment of Students ● Academic Policy - A-PRA - Report Cards/Progress Reports/Transcripts **Local Assessments:** Quarterly report cards detailing grades and attendance are distributed, with specific quarter-end dates outlined in the school calendar. Parents can access attendance, grades, and testing information through the PowerSchool/Homebase parent portal using their login credentials. For assistance with PowerSchool access, parents can contact the school data manager. **State Assessments:** Individual Student Reports for end-of-grade/course tests and state assessments (English language proficiency assessment) are accessible in the parent portal of PowerSchool. In North Carolina, students undergo end-of-grade assessments in reading and math in grades 3-8, with science assessments in grades 5 and 8. High school students take end-of-course assessments in English II, Biology, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3. Grade 10 students take the Pre-ACT, grade 11 students take the ACT, and grade 12 CTE Concentrators take ACT WorkKeys, with results shared by ACT. For students in kindergarten through third grade experiencing reading difficulties, an **Individual Reading Plan (IRP)** is developed, featuring specific strategies for home use. The plans are shared through North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI)-selected mCLASS DIBELS® 8th Edition, a literacy assessment aligned with the Science of Reading. mCLASS results are included with the report card three times a year, corresponding with the first, second, and fourth marking periods.

(Updated 8/23/2024)

What are the qualifications of my child's teachers?	NCDPI Licensure Verification:Parents may look up your child's teacher licensure status at this website Link to the licensure website. Please contact the office of Human Resources at 980-344-0265 with any questions you may have regarding an educator's licensure status.

What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?	The requirements on enrollment in and eligibility to attend a Charlotte-Mecklenburg School can be located at:
	● Eligibility for school enrollment
	  ○ State admission requirements
	    ■ GS_115C-364.pdf (ncleg.gov)
	  ○ CMS policies
	    ■ Admission of Resident Students
	    ■ Admission of Non-Resident Students
	    ■ Students Experiencing Homelessness and Students in Foster Care
	● Health requirements for school enrollment
	  ○ Immunization policy
	  ○ Health Assessment policy
	
	Parents and Guardians can enroll students at the following link:
	● CMS registration
	
	The following are statutory school entry requirements, this includes required immunizations:
	● Immunization records: GS_130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov)
	● Immunization requirements: GS_130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov) (*this law was amended but is not reflected on the current GA page; see SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov), Section 5.8(e) on page 64")
	
	Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS).
	NCDHHS Immunizations Resource
	● CDC immunization schedule recommendations
	● NC DHHS Recommended Immunization Schedules:
	  ○ Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements

	○ [Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements](#) ○ [Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements](#) ● [CMS Immunization Notification Requirements by grade](#)
How can a parent help their child learn and make progress?	Active involvement in your child's education is crucial for their learning journey. Regularly ask your child about their school day, discussing the topics and assignments they are currently working on. Connect with their teachers to gain insights into your child's progress and inquire about ways to support their learning. Attend various school events to stay connected and learn more about how to assist your child. Create a dedicated space at home for homework and studying, if possible, and encourage a reading culture by modeling reading behavior. Discuss your child's progress and efforts, being an engaged participant in their education. Maintain open communication with your child's teacher and keep a diverse range of books at home to encourage reading at different levels. Utilize local resources such as homework assistance and refer to parent guides for academic standards. These guides provide information to help parents understand the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and offer practical strategies for implementation at home. Explore reading and literacy support resources, including the [mCLASS® Home Connect - Parent Resources](#), which offers materials for families to practice crucial literacy skills. Additionally, [North Carolina's Digital Children's Reading Initiative](#) (DCRI) provides home activities, printables, and games covering various literacy topics for Pre-K through Grade 5. Access the printables [guide here](#). Further, the [Learning and Technology Resources / Home (cmsk12.org)](#) has reading and math resources for students to use beyond the school day.
How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for	Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools utilize The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) SEL Framework with five core competencies to support learning and development, as well as four key settings where SEL can be practiced, generalized, and supported. The CASEL core competencies can be taught and applied at various developmental stages from childhood to adulthood and across diverse cultural contexts to articulate what students should know and be able to do for academic success, school and civic engagement, health and wellness, and fulfilling careers. More information can be found in the CMS

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| others? | [Parent-Student Handbook](#)

For additional resources, parents can access The [Student Wellness and Academic Support](#) web pages that include [Social Emotional Learning](#) or reach out to their school's Student Service Team.

Designing a process to strengthen a child's citizenship, social skills, and respect for others involves incorporating various elements into their upbringing. A comprehensive plan parents can follow:

1. Lead by Example:
- Demonstrate positive citizenship by engaging in community service or volunteering.
- Exhibit respectful behavior towards others, including neighbors, friends, and strangers.
- Share stories of your experiences that highlight the importance of empathy and social responsibility.

2. Open Communication:
- Establish an open and honest line of communication with your child.
- Encourage them to express their thoughts and feelings without fear of judgment.
- Discuss current events, social issues, and ethical dilemmas to promote critical thinking.

3. Civic Engagement:
- Involve your child in age-appropriate civic activities, such as local community events or clean-up initiatives.
- Attend town hall meetings or community gatherings together to instill a sense of civic responsibility.
- Discuss the importance of voting and staying informed about local and global issues
.

4. Teach Empathy:
- Encourage your child to consider others' perspectives and feelings.
- Engage in activities that promote empathy, such as volunteering at a local shelter or visiting elderly neighbors.
- Discuss real-life scenarios to help them understand the impact of their actions on others.

5. Respect for Diversity:
- Celebrate diversity within your family and community.
- Introduce your child to different cultures, traditions, and customs.
- Teach them the importance of respecting differences and embracing diversity.

6. Problem-Solving Skills: |
|---|---|

	● Help your child develop problem-solving skills to resolve conflicts peacefully. ● Encourage them to think critically about solutions and consider the consequences of their actions. ● Model effective conflict resolution in your own relationships. **7. Digital Citizenship:** ● Educate your child about responsible internet use and online etiquette. ● Discuss the impact of cyberbullying and the importance of treating others with respect online. ● Set guidelines for screen time and monitor their online activities. **8. Community Involvement:** ● Engage in community service projects as a family. ● Support local organizations and charities together. ● Help your child understand their role in contributing to the well-being of the community. **9. Encourage Leadership:** ● Foster leadership skills by involving your child in group activities or clubs. ● Support their involvement in school or community leadership roles. ● Teach them to lead with integrity and a sense of responsibility. **10. Reflect and Reinforce:** ● Regularly reflect on experiences and discuss the lessons learned. ● Provide positive reinforcement for acts of kindness, empathy, and good citizenship. ● Adjust your approach based on your child's individual needs and developmental stage. By incorporating these elements into your parenting approach, you can contribute to the development of your child's citizenship, social skills, and respect for others. Consistency, open communication, and leading by example are key components of this process.
How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?	Strengthening a child's realization of high expectations and fostering a commitment to lifelong learning involves creating a supportive and motivating environment. Parents can help their children set and achieve lifelong learning goals: **1. Encourage a Growth Mindset:** ● Emphasize the importance of effort, perseverance, and learning from mistakes. ● Praise their hard work and dedication rather than focusing solely on achievements.

- Teach them that challenges are opportunities for growth.

2. Set Clear Expectations:
- Clearly communicate your expectations for their behavior, academics, and personal development.
- Break down large goals into smaller, achievable tasks to make them more manageable.

3. Discuss Future Aspirations:
- Talk with your child about their interests and aspirations.
- Help them connect their current efforts and learning to their long-term goals.

4. Model Lifelong Learning:
- Demonstrate a commitment to your own learning and personal development.
- Share your experiences of acquiring new skills or knowledge.

5. Goal-Setting Rituals:
- Help your child set both short-term and long-term goals.
- Establish regular check-ins to track progress and make adjustments as needed.

6. Provide Guidance, Not Pressure:
- Offer guidance and support without imposing unrealistic expectations.
- Foster independence and self-motivation by allowing them to take ownership of their learning journey.

By implementing these strategies, parents can contribute to their child's understanding of high expectations and instill a lifelong love of learning. Remember to adapt these approaches based on your child's individual needs and interests.

| **How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?** | Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and the district utilize Parent Square and Blackboard Connect notification service to disseminate crucial information to families through phone calls, emails, and text messages.

 To ensure broad communication during emergencies, all families are automatically enrolled to receive text messages from Blackboard Connect. General school updates are shared via email and text, while urgent information is conveyed through phone calls. For further details, please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook Communication section on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools website. For additional information about your |

	student's school, visit cmsk12.org and select your school from the "All Schools" option at the top of the page.

Guidelines for the appropriate use of technology platforms can be found in the Student Internet Use and Network Access policy (S-SINT) and regulation (S-SINT/R).

Parents can access information about attendance, grades, and testing through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Instructions for how to create an account can be found HERE. Contact your school for assistance with PowerSchool access, information on creating or changing login credentials. Additionally, any inquiries not covered by the provided link can be directed to the school data manager.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System has established a policy promoting effective communication between schools and parents, outlined in the Parental Involvement Policy, and Title I Parent and Family Engagement at Title I Schools.

NCDPI-developed parent guides offer suggestions for building strong relationships with your child's teacher and supporting communication between home and school, including guides such as "Building Strong Relationships with Your Child's Teacher" and "How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child's Learning" from the NC Rethink Education Program.

For additional general parent guides and recordings of parent resource webinars, please visit this website. |
| **What services are available for parents and their children?** | **Family Literacy Services:**
Literacy at Home: The Digital Children's Reading Initiative, developed by NCDPI, presents literacy activities tailored to each grade level, spanning from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

Mentoring:
Mentoring services are accessible at specific schools. Parents can get in touch with their child's school to learn more about these services.

Tutoring:
NCVPS EdVantage Tutoring provides virtual statewide comprehensive support for middle and high school students in NC public schools. Tutoring covers Math, Science, and ELA and is delivered through a personalized |

partnership with district/school leadership to effectively address the needs of selected students each semester.

Tutoring services are offered at certain schools. Parents can contact their child's school to obtain information about these services.

Other Academic Reinforcement Programs:
Various academic enhancement opportunities are provided at all Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Parents can reach out to their child's school to inquire about these services.
- [Learning and Technology Resources / Home (cmsk12.org)](#)
- [Expanded Learning Opportunities](#)
- Tutor.com free virtual tutoring in English/Spanish is available for all CMS students through the ONE Access Tutor.com resource. [Here](#) is a login flyer for ONE Access

College Planning:
Counselors are accessible in all Charlotte-Mecklenburg high schools to assist students in planning their path to college.
- [Naviance College and Career Planning System](#)
  - Every CMS high school student has a Naviance account; students and parents can use it to:
    - Explore career interests
    - Explore college options
    - Locate scholarships and internship opportunities
    - Upload transcripts for the college application process
- [High School Planning Guide](#)

What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?	The Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System offers avenues for parents to actively participate in their child's education. This involvement is outlined in the [Parental Involvement Policy](#), and [Title I Parent and Family Engagement at Title I Schools](#). For information on existing parent and family engagement opportunities under Title I, please reach out to your child's school and explore the information on the [Family Engagement and Community Outreach](#) webpage.
What are the	Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools offers a variety of options for students to pursue their interests, skills at their

rigorous academic programs available to my child? How canAdd I learn more about them?	academic level.

Career and Technical Education (CTE):
NC has made a significant investment in developing students and programs to meet the needs of the future workforce. Through Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, Public Schools offer opportunities for students to develop career awareness in 5th grade, explore careers in grades 6-8, and experience leadership, career development, and career-aligned content in grades 9-12.

In Charlotte Mecklenburg, students are able to explore these career pathways from grades 6-12: CMS CTE.

For more information on CTE in NC, and to learn about Career Clusters, Pathways, and Course Information, Standards, and applicable Credentials please visit: Course Management System.

In our district, there are the following programs available that are more rigorous and challenging than the standard content for students:

Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG):
In NC, school districts must identify and serve academically or intellectually gifted (AIG) K-12 students. These are students who are performing, or have the potential of performing, at high levels of accomplishment in intellectual and/or specific academic areas, such as reading and/or math when compared with other students of their age, or in their grade level, experience, or environment.

The CMS AIG Plan outlines specific opportunities for differentiated, rigorous instruction and accelerated programs. You can find the plan at this link.

Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools has provided an overview of gifted identification and CMS Gifted Identification Rubric within the Advanced Studies website to help parents better understand the identification process and AIG program. This describes how students will be identified and served across grades K-12. For more information, visit:
- Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Advanced Studies or call 980-343-6955

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools students are often provided the following services: |

- Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups;
- Accelerated opportunities;
- Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and may be within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and
- Other opportunities for extension of content standard.

Services for AIG students may be provided by AIG personnel or within the regular classroom by teachers trained to meet the needs of gifted students.

Honors Level Courses:
In Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools students have access to a variety of honors level courses in high school. These courses are available in the High School Progrm Planning Guide. Honors level courses typically have a faster pace than standard level courses. They offer additional rigor, complexity and creativity than standard level courses. NCDPI released a new Honors Level Course guide in July 2023. You can find this guide by clicking this link: https://www.dpi.nc.gov/documents/advancedlearning/honors-level-course-guide/download?attachment.

Career and College Promise (CCP):
Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools offers dual enrollment opportunities through the CCP program. If your high school student qualifies, students may earn high school credit by completing community college coursework. For more information visit CPCC College & Career Promise

CCP courses may be taken in the College Transfer or Career and Technical Education pathway. These courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families. For additional information please visit:
- College Credit Overview
- Additional information is available on the NCDPI CCP website.

Early & Middle Colleges:
- CMS Early Colleges
- CMS Middle Colleges

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:
Advanced Placement (AP) is a program developed by the College Board to offer college-level curricula and examinations to high school students.

In North Carolina, 40 Advanced Placement courses are offered in public high schools. Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools offers a variety of AP courses. For more information: Advanced Placement

Several AP courses satisfy graduation requirements for NC students as outlined in State Board policy. The State of NC funds the AP exam fee for any NC public high school student enrolled *in an AP course. Students are not eligible for exam fee funding for courses taken more than once.*

Colleges and universities may likely offer college credit for these courses if your child scores a 3 or above on the exam. All of the colleges in the UNC System offer credit. To see what credit a specific university offers, visit the College Board website.

More information is available on the NCDPI AP website.

International Baccalaureate Programs/Cambridge International Education programs:

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools offers IB programs. For more information visit: CMS School Choice

Several IB/CIE courses satisfy graduation requirements for NC students as outlined in State Board policy.

The State of NC funds the AP exam fee for any NC public high school student enrolled *in an IB (CIE course*

Colleges and universities may likely offer college credit for these courses if your child scores a high level. All of the colleges in the UNC System offer college credit if there is a 4 or higher on IB exams or an "E" on a CIE exam.

More information is available on the NCDPI Advanced Coursework website

NCVPS:
North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) is NC's state supplemental program and leader in online education, providing inclusive learning opportunities for students across the state. Founded in 2007, with a

strong commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, regardless of location, NCVPS has over 17 years of experience serving diverse learners.

Students may enroll in NCVPS courses for a variety of reasons. Work with your school counselor if you are interested in taking an NCVPS course.

Credit by Demonstrated Mastery (CDM):
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools offers opportunities for students to earn credit for a high school course without enrolling in the course. CDM is an option that allows students to demonstrate mastery and receive credit for a course by taking an assessment demonstrating proficiency by achieving the designated scale score or percent as established by NCDPI, and then completing an artifact reflecting content mastery. CDM is only available for standard-level courses. CDM credits are awarded as a pass/fail grade and therefore do not impact grade point averages.
- [CMS Credit by Demonstrated Mastery](#)

Governor's School: Each summer, NC Governor's School offers a unique opportunity for high-achieving rising juniors and seniors to learn with their peers from across the state in an 4-week residential program at two college campus sites. For more information on eligibility and the application process, contact your school counselor or visit the Governor's School website, www.ncgovschool.org.

| **What school choices are available for my child?** | Students in public school districts are assigned to certain schools based on a local assignment plan approved by the Local Board of Education.

Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools offers these additional school choice options for students/families:[CMS School Choice](#).You may apply for a seat by submitting an application [online.](#)

There are additional options for families to choose for their education:

Charter Schools
Charter schools are public schools of choice that are authorized by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. State and local tax dollars are the primary funding sources for charter schools, which have open enrollment and cannot discriminate in admissions, associate with any religion |

	or religious group, or charge-tuition. Charter schools operate with freedom from many of the regulations that govern district schools, but charter schools are held accountable through the State assessment and accountability system.

If you are interested in NC charter schools, visit NC charter school for information, resources, and contacts.

Nonpublic Education and Scholarship Grants
Nonpublic education is overseen by the NC Department of Administration.

For a list of private schools, visit this NC Private Schools.

For information on how to start a homeschool visit:
Homeschool Information

Scholarship grant programs/voucher information is available via the NC State Education Assistance Authority. |
| **What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?** | For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding the procedural safeguards available to ensure a free, appropriate, public education.

Parent Rights Handbook
Parent Rights Handbook (Spanish)
IDEA Dispute Resolution
Special Education Surrogate Parents
Project Child Find

Parents of children aged two years old or younger who may be in need of special education services should contact the Children's Development Services Agency at 980-343-6960 for K-12, PreK: 980-343-2772

Parents of children aged three or older who are not yet eligible to enter kindergarten should call the CMS Exceptional Children's Office at 980-343-6960 or access more information or here. |

	Parents of children in kindergarten through 12th grade should contact their child's school. Parents may also contact the district Exceptional Children's Department at 980-343-6960 or complete Contact Form and a staff member will reach out to you.
What is the contact information for the schools and district office?.	Parents and guardians can contact Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools at (980) 343-3000 or by using the form on CMS website. CMS School Websites CMS Directory
What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?	CMS offers the following information and resources to support your child's health and wellbeing: ● Student Wellness ● Student Health Requirements ● Health and Wellness Supports for Students and Families Crisis Response: Schools may need to respond to crisis events at schools, including but not limited to suicide risk assessments; threat assessments; death of staff or students; etc. SHLT-003:School-Based Mental Health Policy requires a suicide risk protocol to identify students at risk of suicide and to utilize a protocol to address support needs for referrals. HB 605 requires assessment of and intervention with an individual whose behavior poses a risk to the safety of school staff, students, or self, including suggested definitions of threat levels with examples of behavior that would be considered a threat under the given definitions. The district is required to notify parents/guardians. Parents should be notified prior to or simultaneously when a Behavioral Threat Assessment is conducted. If a parent or guardian objects to a threat assessment being conducted on their child, inform the parent or guardian the district is required by law to initiate a behavioral threat assessment when it is alerted to a student exhibiting behavior that may pose a risk of harm toward self or others. Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) ● Immunizations ● Health Assessment

(Updated 8/23/2024)

- CDC [immunization schedule](#) recommendations
- Recommended Immunization Schedules
  - [Notice of Immunization Requirements by grade](#) 2023-24
  - [Grade Level Requirements English](#)
  - [Grade Level Requirements Spanish](#)

Influenza is a virus spread from infected persons to the nose or throat of another. Influenza can cause fever, sore throat, chills, coughs, headache, and muscle aches. A yearly vaccination is available.

Meningococcal disease is a serious illness caused by bacteria. It is an infection of the brain and spinal cord coverings and can cause blood infections. The vaccine for this is required for individuals entering 7th grade or by the age of 12.

For more information on these and other vaccines go to
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/vaccines-diseases.html

Short-Term Counseling Services
Every CMS student has access to small group or individual counseling services to address issues impacting students in the school environment. Contact your school's counselor, psychologist, or social worker to inquire about short-term services provided by one of these specialized instruction support staff members. While students may seek in-the-moment support for issues that arise during the school day, parents must give written consent for any singular need that will require more than three sessions.

School-Based Mental Health Services
To address student mental health and well-being, the School Based Mental Health (SBMH) program offers evidenced-based mental health services to students. The program is a collaboration between CMS, Mecklenburg county, and 8 local mental health agencies. These services seek to improve students' emotional well-being and enhance their ability to access and benefit from instruction.

Referral
Students can be referred for services as self-referral, parent referral, or school based staff referral.

(Updated 8/23/2024)

1. A CMS employee explains the SBMH program to the guardian; if the guardian agrees to the referral, they sign the CMS consent for Release of Information form between CMS and the assigned SBMH agency.
2. CMS employee enters the online SBMH referral.
3. The referral is reviewed and forwarded to the assigned SBMH agency.
4. Assigned agency contacts the guardian to verify insurance information and schedule a clinical intake assessment.
5. Guardian and student participation in clinical intake assessment and then outpatient therapy services begin.

Agencies and their assigned schools

SBMH partner agencies were carefully selected by a panel of CMS and community agency representatives for their ability to promote and support the CMS vision for school-based mental health services. Currently, the below agencies serve as SBMH partners:

- AffirmED Healing
- Alexander Youth Network
- Anderson Counseling and Consulting
- Atrium Health
- Cano Family Services
- Concrete Roses Life Center
- Continuum Care Services
- Family First Community Services
- Jenkins Creative Counseling and Consulting
- Self-Talk Counseling
- SPARC Services
- Thompson Child and Family Focus
- Turning Point Family Services

SBMH 2024-2025 School Assignments

(Updated 8/23/2024)

	Service Fees Provider agencies provide outpatient therapy and bill the student's insurance for all rendered services. Provider agencies will verify insurance benefits and review all projected fees with the guardian before any services occur. All agencies have agreed to provide a portion of their services pro bono. However, although pro bono services are available, it is important to note that the requests for pro bono services far outweigh their availability, resulting in lengthy wait times for pro bono service.