



Carole Eason, Principal

Madeline Baez, Assistant Principal

265 Peninsula Blvd, Hempstead, New York 11550

Parent Handbook

2020-2021

Prospect is a candidate school for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program and pursuing authorization as an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy—a commitment to improve the teaching and learning of a diverse and inclusive community of students by delivering challenging, high quality programs of international education that share a powerful vision. Candidate status gives no guarantee the authorization will be granted.

Dear parents and guardians,

We want to welcome you and your child to Prospect Elementary School. We look forward to an exciting year of new experiences and lots of fun! It is during the first years of life that children form attitudes about themselves, others, learning, and the environment. These attitudes last a lifetime, so we work very hard to find ways to help children develop positive attitudes. Educating a child is most successful when families and schools work together in the best interest of the child.

The health and safety of our students and staff is paramount. We reopen the 2020-2021 school year with a plan to provide in person, hybrid and remote learning. Communication with parents and our learning community will be frequent and ongoing during this national crisis. We encourage home and school to work together to help children reach their potential. All the staff members at Prospect School want to work with you and your child. If you have any questions throughout the year, please call, or write to the teacher. Your child will benefit from your continued interest and participation this academic year.

The goal of our program is to meet your child's needs not only intellectually, but also physically, socially, and emotionally. Going to school is one of the most important experiences in a child's life. School can be an exciting place where children meet new and different people and participate in many new and different experiences. We promise to work diligently to provide the children with wonderful experiences that help them to feel good about themselves and their school.

Best wishes for a productive and enriching school year.

Educationally Yours,

Carole Eason, Principal

Madeline Baez, Assistant Principal

Welcome to Prospect Elementary School



**265 Peninsula Blvd
Hempstead, New York 11550
(516) 434-4700**

Our Mission

Prospect School aims to inspire students to become lifelong learners who are globally minded. We will create opportunities for students to be active inquirers, thinkers and contributing members of society.

Our Vision

Prospect School aims to provide developmentally appropriate learning experiences by making learning fun, interactive and productive. We will differentiate instruction and integrate technology to build a school community of 21st century learners. Prospect School will maintain a robust home school connection to recognize and celebrate the uniqueness of each child. We will promote social awareness and global citizenship.

What is the Mission of IB?

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment. These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Prospect School

Student Pledge



P - We are Principled

R - We are Reflective

O - We are Open-minded

S - We are Smart

P - We are Partners

E - We are Enthusiastic Learners

C - We are Caring

T - We are Thinkers who are Globally Minded

WE ARE PROSPECT SCHOOL!



As of September 1, 2018, we are an official candidate school for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (PYP). Our school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School and is currently fulfilling the necessary requirements. As a candidate school we can use the program and IB resources.

What Does IB PYP Look Like at Prospect School?

In the classroom/school:

- Essential agreements and a sense of community
- Students engaged in inquiry based learning and hands-on activities
- Teachers collaborating and sharing best practices



In the community:

- Active, compassionate, life-long learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right
- Members taking action to make their communities a better place to live for all

How will students learn?

Students engage in four of six IB transdisciplinary themes each year for several weeks at a time (please refer to our school's Program of Inquiry on our website). Early learners engage in units of inquiry driven by a central idea. Throughout each unit, students are guided to inquire and explore the central idea through key concepts, approaches to learning skills and the learner profile attributes.

Themes:

Who we are: Inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social, and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities, and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human

How we express ourselves: Inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs, and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend, and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic

How the world works: Inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment

How we organize ourselves: Inquiry into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment

Sharing the Planet: Inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and other living things; communities and the relationship within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution

Where We are in Place and Time: Inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; home and journeys; the discoveries, explorations, and migrations of humankind; the relationship between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives



IB learners strive to be globally minded through the learner profile attributes.



IB learners use Key Concepts to engage in higher order thinking and apply their understanding of what they learn across the curriculum and culture.

Form – What is it like?

Function – How does it work?

Causation – Why is it like this?

Change – How is it changing?

Responsibility – What is our responsibility?

Connection – How is it connected to other things?

Perspective – What are the points of view?



IB learners use Approaches to Learning Skills to learn independently and with others.

Social Skills – I care. I can take turns.

Self-Management – I finish my work on time.

Thinking Skills – I think about my learning.

Communication Skills – I share my ideas.

Research Skills – I ask questions.



Prospect School Telephone Directory:

Main Office: 516-434-4702

Nurse's Office: 516-434-4705

Attendance Office: 516-434-4706

School Social Worker: 516-434-4707

Psychologist: 516-434-4713

Stay in Touch through our School Website:

From the Hempstead Public School Website
Click on Schools (a drop-down menu will appear)

Select Prospect School

You can access:

Parent Announcements

IB PYP

Learning Resources

School Calendar / Monthly Highlights

Academic Links

Instructional Teams

Team A: Pre-Kindergarten - Ms. Ambrosio, Ms. Gedeon, Ms. Lanzer,
Ms. Lewis-Mency, Ms. L. Walker, Ms. M. Walker

Team B: Kindergarten - Ms. Brandman, Ms. Hodish, Ms. Mavrofidis, Ms. Valentine,
Ms. Wilson, Ms. Wilson-McNeal

Team C: Kindergarten - Ms. Arroyo, Ms. Curiel, Ms. E. George, Ms. Gioia, Ms.
Horan, Ms. Norris, Ms. Ronan, Ms. Tortora, Ms. Whitfield

ENL: Ms. Bayat, Ms. Carlson, Ms. Cullen

Speech: Ms. Nuesi, Ms. Lyons

Art: Ms. O'Shea

Music: Ms. Gortman

Physical Education: Ms. Sicurella

IB Coach: Rhonda Chung

Support Staff

Social Worker: Peggy Wilkins-Walker

Psychologist: Monifa Salako

Building Security

Building security is taken very seriously at Prospect School. Many precautions are taken to make our school as safe as possible. Outside doors are locked after school begins. All visitors must present valid identification upon arrival. Students will only be dismissed to an authorized ADULT who possesses valid identification. Due to Covid-19, appointments must be made to enter the school building.

Attendance Procedures

Students are expected to attend classes every day. If your child is absent from class, you must call the attendance office at 516-434-4706 and send a note with your child upon return to school. If your child is absent from school due to an illness, a doctor's note must be provided. If a note is not provided, your child's absence will be recorded as an unexcused absence. Your child's attendance in school is very important to his or her success. If a pattern of absences occurs, an investigation will take place by the attendance teacher.

School Nurses

Our school Nurses are Ms. Velasquez and Ms. Alpern. They can be reached at 516-434-4705.

Health Concerns: Please communicate in writing any medical condition or health concern your child has to the School Nurse.

Communicable Illness: Due to Covid-19 and to ensure the safety of our learning community, staff and parents must complete the daily health screener before coming to school. If your child is sick or has a temperature, do not send your child to school. You can find the daily health screener by visiting www.Hempsteadschools.org. Students must wear a mask on the bus and in school. Please report any communicable illness your child has to the School Nurse as soon as possible. This includes, but is not limited to, Covid-19, chicken pox, scarlet fever, Fifth's disease, ringworm, pink eye and lice. Please review with your child the importance of good hand washing practices.



Student Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Arrival:

Students should not arrive to the school campus before 8:15 a.m.

Students who are walkers must be escorted to the rear entrance. If your child takes the bus please arrive to the bus stop at your designated time. Every student receives a color-coded bus tag, which corresponds to the bus stop. Please ensure that your son/daughter has this color-coded tag adhered to the book bag every day.

Dismissal:

Busses will arrive at home school bus stops at 3pm. Please arrive 5 minutes prior to arrival time.

Walkers:

Student dismissal for walkers begins at 2:50 p.m. Parents, guardians, and daycare providers will pick up students at the rear entrance of the building. Please note that a valid photo identification is required to pick up students at Prospect School. Each parent/guardian is required to complete a student dismissal authorization form, which indicates the adults who may legally sign out a student.

Bus Student:

Student dismissal for bus students begins at 2:45 p.m. Students will arrive to the bus stop by 3:00 p.m. Your punctuality is expected, however should you have an emergency or will be tardy in picking up your child please call Prospect school as soon as possible.



Specials: Art, Music & Physical Education

Kindergarten students participate in Art, Music, and Physical Education classes. The classroom teacher will inform you of the class schedule. Please remember to have your child wear athletic clothing on days that they have physical education.

Report Cards/ Marking Periods:

Please note that there are four marking periods. Parent Teacher conferences are held three times per year; however, you may schedule an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher at any time. Please call or write a letter to schedule an appointment. All conferences will be virtual.

Report Card Distribution	Dates	Method of Distribution
First Marking Period	November 16, 2020	Parent Teacher Conference
Second Marking Period	February 3, 2021	Parent Teacher Conference
Third Marking Period	April 21, 2021	Parent Teacher Conference Bilingual/ENL Teachers
Fourth Marking Period	June 25, 2021	Sent home with students



Four ways parents can prepare their child for preschool

1. Read

Read to your child every day. Read favorite books so often that you and your child have them memorized.

2. Talk

Developing your child's oral language skills is a crucial part of preparing her for preschool. Engage your child in a discussion about the world around her. Ask questions. Talk about nature, and colors, and letters, and feelings. Put down your phone and listen when your child talks to you. Encourage your child to make eye contact and greet others with a "Hello" and a "Goodbye."

3. Play

Spend time every day on the floor playing with your child. Encourage pretend play and role playing. Get messy! Laugh and have fun together. Offer your child time to play by him or herself, giving him/her the opportunity to decide what to do.

4. Encourage Independence

Children who are able to take care of some of their personal needs do better at the beginning of preschool than children who rely on adults for everything. Make sure your child has shoes that she can put on herself. Allow extra time before you need to leave the house each day so that your child can put on her own shoes. Support your child in taking care of her own bathroom needs. Teach your child to wash their hands and flush the toilet to support self-help.

Kindergarten! ... here I come!



Skills Children Should Bring to Kindergarten

- Say first and last name
- Recognize his/her name in print
- Say birthday and age
- Recognize some letters and numbers (0-10) • Recognize and name some colors
- Count to 10
- Count five objects
- Recite the alphabet

- Communicate needs in a simple sentence
- Able to wait his/her turn and shares
- Follow two-step instructions
- Listen to others
- Attend to a story being read aloud
- Snap, zip and button jacket (and other clothing items)
- Care for toilet needs independently
- Experience drawing with crayons and pencils • Experience using scissors
- Experience playing with clay or play dough
- Bounce and catch a large ball

Helping Your Child Succeed in School

Your child is more likely to succeed in school when you . . .

Encourage reading at home by....

- Reading to your child and encouraging him/her to share books
- Asking questions about stories you have read
- Answering your child's questions about reading and stories

- Taking your child to the public library where she/he can choose books
- Keeping books, magazines, and newspapers around the home and reading in your child's presence
- Having a variety of children's books in an area where your child can go and spend time with them.
- Choosing some repetitive, rhythmic books. Children enjoy them.

Guide your child in the development of social skills by ...

- Talking about feelings such as anger and how to deal with them
- Supervising and playing games with him/her so that they have experiences dealing with rules and cooperative play
- Teaching respect for rights and property of others
- Encouraging him/her to share his/her toys or games with others



The Hempstead School District Mission – Children First

The mission of the Hempstead Union Free School District (HUFSD)

A suburban-urban culturally diverse public school system is to ensure that students achieve personal growth, academic success enabling them to compete and perform in a technological global society. Students, staff, family and community will be engaged in a comprehensive, challenging curriculum and effective instructional programs that respond to each student's needs and aspirations in a safe and nurturing environment.