

Boston Green Academy- Frequently Asked Questions

2019-2020

All Students

Is There Summer Reading?

Yes! All students are required to complete a summer reading assignment. Please click www.bostongreenacademy.org/library for more information or visit the BGA website (www.bostongreenacademy.org/library)

When is Orientation and Back to School Night?

Students and families who are new to BGA this year are required to attend BGA New Families Orientation on Wednesday, August 21st from 3-5pm at the Grove Hall Public Library (41 Geneva Ave, Dorchester, MA 02121). For all families, we encourage you to attend Back to School Night on Thursday, September 26th, from 5:30-7:30 at BGA.

How can my family check on my grades and attendance?

BGA uses two online systems: Jupiter Grades for homework assignments and classwork grades and Aspen for attendance and report cards. All families will receive passwords to access both of them and links to both are on the BGA website. If you have any issues accessing the systems, please contact Mr. Deckard, BGA's Director of Technology, at rdeckard@bostongreenacademy.org or call the BGA Main Office to leave a message for him.

How can I contact BGA and leave messages?

BGA's main office phone is 617-635-9860 and you can reach someone every school day from 7:30am to 3:30pm on school days. Para obtener ayuda en español, llame a la línea directa de español de BGA al 617-635-8431. All administrative offices have extensions and voicemail that you can access from the directory. Things often get busy in the office but your call is very important to us. If you can't get through, please leave a message or keep trying until you reach someone. We look forward to speaking with you.

How can I get to BGA on BPS or Public Transportation?

There are many easy ways to get to BGA. Please see the attached Transportation sheet for all details.

What policies and procedures should I know?

Please make sure to consult both the BGA Student Handbook (available on the BGA website) and the Boston Public Schools Guide for Students and Families (available in all languages at www.bostonpublicschools.org/familyguide). Both of these documents detail policies that are binding and helpful for all students and families. For more resources for families and back to school resources, please visit the BPS Families Website at www.bostonpublicschools.org/backtoschool

For Students with Disabilities or English Language Learners who should we contact?

For support for Student with Disabilities please contact Ms. Grunert, BGA's Coordinator of Special Education, at jgrunert@bostongreenacademy.org. For support for English Language Learners, families should contact Ms. Eberle, middle school ESL teacher, at aeberle@bostongreenacademy.org or Ms. Lefkowitz, high school ESL teacher, at mlefkowitz@bostongreenacademy.org. All staff can be reached at 617-635-9860.

What's new this year at BGA?

So many things! We are excited to expand our partnership with City Year to include 9th grade (they now cover grades 6-9), to expand our Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring program to include 12th grade (now in all grades 9-12), to add new girls groups in both middle and high school, and to open our new creative Maker Space (including 3D printers and a recording studio!) in October. We are also expanding after school academic support and clubs across the school and continuing our mandatory program on Wednesday afternoon to help students who are behind catch up again. For everyone, BGA now has an improved school store where you can earn (through Green Bucks) or buy (at a discount) BGA shirts, uniforms, water bottles, and other excellent items to show your BGA Pride! We look forward to a great year!

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

What time do I have to go to school?

8:00am-3:00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and 8:00am-12:00pm Wednesday

When is the first day of school?

Thursday, September 5th

What is the Uniform Policy?

BGA's middle school uniform policy has changed for this year to provide more options and allow for expanded student expression. Uniforms must be worn by all students in grades 6, 7 and 8 at all times on Monday-Thursday and will be checked at the front door by school staff. Students without uniforms will be provided a loaner shirt to wear. No headgear is allowed (hats, hoods, do-rags, etc.) except for on announced Dress Down Fridays. On Fridays uniforms are optional and students may dress down as long as they conform with BGA's dress code (see Student Handbook). The required middle school uniform consists of:

6th Grade: BGA Polo shirt (blue) is required. BGA hoodie or other BGA attire may be worn over it. Khaki pants are strongly recommended, but are not required

7th & 8th Grade: Students must wear BGA-themed attire, including polos, hoodies, fleeces, t-shirts, or other BGA apparel. Khaki pants are strongly recommended but not required.

An expanded list of BGA-themed clothing options are available for purchase at L&M Bargain Stores:

- L&M Bargain @ 640 American Legion Highway, Roslindale, MA 02131, 617.971.0012
- L&M Bargain @ 745 Dudley Street, Dorchester, MA 02125, 617.265.1845

**If a student is unable to meet the dress code obligations, we will have a conversation with the family. Students who continue to struggle to meet the dress code after a family conversation will be required to perform community service. If families have financial challenges with the policy, please contact the student's advisor.*

How do I get to Boston Green Academy?

All 6th graders: Corner-to-corner transportation on yellow school buses will be provided by Boston Public Schools to and from school each day. Please visit their website [here](#) for more information. Yellow bus assignments will be mailed by BPS to families before school starts. You must be officially registered with the BPS in order to receive transportation.

7th and 8th graders: Students whose Special Education IEPs call for transportation will be assigned yellow bus service by BPS (see above). All other 7th and 8th graders will receive an MBTA pass (good for 7 days from September to June) on the first day of school. Families must arrange transportation to BGA on the morning of the first day. School starts at 8am. Public transportation options are listed at the end of this document.

Do I need to bring my own lunch?

No, Boston Public Schools provides breakfast and lunch to all our students free of charge. If you would prefer to bring your own, you may do so, but there is no refrigerator for students. A microwave is available.

6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Supply List

Supply lists are posted on the BGA Website (www.bostongreenacademy.org) and you can also find them [here](#).

Do you have an after school program?

There are many after school activities at BGA (Homework Club with City Year, sports, and clubs) that usually end at 4pm. For a full afterschool program that runs until 7pm, we highly recommend the West End House Boys & Girls Club. The Club is a short 10 minute walk from BGA and offers after school programs, academic support, meals, sports and more for a very reasonable price (\$15 per year for 11/12 years olds; teens are free). For information, visit westendhouse.org/get-involved/join/ or call 617-787-4044.

High School (Grades 9-12)

What time do I have to go to school?

8:00am-3:00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and 8:00am-12:00pm Wednesday

Important Note: If you are a student who is behind on credits, you may be required to participate in our credit recovery program (G Block/Phoenix Program) that meets on Wednesdays from Noon-2:30pm. Students in this program will see a G-block class on their schedule and will be contacted directly about requirements.

When is the first day of school?

Thursday, September 5th

Do I need to bring my own lunch?

No, Boston Public Schools provides breakfast and lunch to all our students free of charge. If you would prefer to bring your own, you may do so, but there is no refrigerator for students. A microwave is available.

What is the dress code policy for high school students?

Be yourself but be appropriate! BGA high school students do not have a uniform requirement. However, all students must dress appropriately for school according to the BGA dress code outlined in the Student Handbook. Headgear is not allowed except for certain 'dress down Fridays' that will be publicized in school. Dress code violations will be addressed by the Student Support Team and families will be follow up with for repeated incidents.

How do I get to Boston Green Academy?

Students whose Special Education IEPs call for transportation will be assigned yellow bus service by BPS (see above). All other high school students will receive an MBTA pass (good for 7 days from September to June) on the first day of school. Families must arrange transportation to BGA on the morning of the first day. School starts at 8am sharp.

What supplies should I bring to school?

Supply lists are posted on the BGA Website (www.bostongreenacademy.org) and you can also find them [here](#).

We know you will have more questions! We look forward to hearing from you.

Questions?

Contact Mr. Woodberry, Coordinator of Enrollment and Family Engagement, at dwoodberry@bostongreenacademy.org or 857-891-1742 or Ms. Rios, Office Manager, at jrios@bostongreenacademy.org or 617-635-9860.