

Joyner Elementary School



Back to School FAQ: Commonly Asked Questions

Q: When is the first day of school for students?

A: The first day of school for all students is Monday, August 29th.

Q: What time does school begin and end each day?

A: We will continue following last year's bell schedule. Joyner Elementary will operate on the following times for school each week: The school building will be opened at 7:00 am for all students. The instructional day will begin promptly at 7:25 am. Students will be marked tardy after this time. The end of the school day will be at 2:10 pm. Please make sure that your child is at school daily and on time to promptly begin instruction.

Q: If my child arrives after 7:25 am, what are the procedures?

A:

Bus Transportation: Bus riders arrive at the front of the school in the circle loop

- If your child is late arriving to school by GCS school bus, they will not be marked tardy as this is a factor outside of parent and student control.
- If your child missed the bus because of a GCS bus issue, they will not be marked tardy as this is a factor outside of parent and student control.
- If your child missed the bus because they were not at the bus stop at the time given for pickup, they will be marked tardy when they arrive. When dropping them off, you will need to come into the school with your child to sign them in at the front office.

Car Riders: Car Riders arrive at the back of the school in the pickup and drop off line

- If your child is late arriving to school by car and it is after 7:25 am, please come to the front of the school to drop them off. You will need to come into the school with your child to sign them in at the front office. They will receive a tardy pass at that time. Car riders are not to be dropped off in the front circle prior to 7:25, as this area is for our buses.

Q: What are the procedures if my child is absent from school?

A: All absences will be recorded as lawful or unlawful (excused or unexcused). Parents have three (3) days after a child returns from an absence to provide the teacher with a written excuse. Lawful absences are sickness, doctor's appointments, and death in the immediate family. Family vacations during the regular school year are not considered excused absences. If your student is traveling for educational purposes, we do ask that you notify us at least two weeks in advance of a trip to provide us with the necessary documentation to excuse the absence. Excessive unexcused absences may result in a contact from our social worker. Letters are generated after 3, 6 and 10 days of unexcused absences and the letter will be sent home to the parents.

Students are responsible for all work missed when absent from school. Immediately upon returning to school students must make arrangements with their teacher(s) to make up all work (assignments, test, projects, etc.) missed while absent.

Q: Can I walk my child to the classroom in the morning?

A: While we welcome parents to the building and encourage your presence throughout the year, we are also working to build independence among our students. We strongly encourage you to refrain from walking students to class after the first two weeks of school. Our students have shown so much independence during the pandemic years and they were able to make great strides being responsible for entering the school, grabbing their breakfast, and finding their way to class on their own. We believe that our students will be capable of continuing this expectation as we are preparing them to be responsible leaders of the future.

Q: How do I find out about bus transportation changes for my child?

A: Bus information will be available beginning Friday, August 26th. Parents can access their bus information using any of the tools below:

- [Here Comes The Bus \(HCTB\)](#) - Parent must create an account to sign-up to receive bus assignment information, as well as locate and track the school bus. To sign-up for HCTB, click [here](#).
- [Bus Stop Locator](#) - Once the student has been assigned to a bus, parents can access this [link](#) to receive the student's bus information. Student ID number and last name are required.
- Use the PowerSchool Parent Portal if you already have an account.

Q: What time is the best time to notify the school of transportation changes?

A: Please note that if your child's transportation has changed or changes during the week, these requests must be submitted in writing by 1:40 pm daily to the classroom teacher or front office.

Q: What is the procedure for picking students up early?

A: Anyone picking a student up early must come into the front office and present a government issued photo ID. The photo ID is needed so that it may be scanned on our computer system for checkout. Students being checked out of school early must remain in class until the parent arrives. No students will be called to the front office in advance. Informing teachers of early pickups in a timely manner will help to alleviate the wait time. Please make all attempts to avoid picking your child up after 1:40 pm to prevent any interference with our dismissal procedures. We understand that emergencies arise, but prior notice will help us ensure these processes are seamless for both you and your students.

Q: When can I begin to come in to eat lunch with my child?

A: While we welcome parents to the building and encourage your presence throughout the year, we are asking that you refrain from arranging lunch visits the first week of school to allow time for teachers to teach cafeteria expectations and for students to get acclimated to these procedures. We do encourage you to visit after that point and ask that you please give us the courtesy of advanced notice as much as you possibly can when arranging a time to visit students during lunch. All lunch visitors will be asked to eat with their child in a designated area of the cafeteria. You may only bring lunch for your child if you so desire. You must sign in at the front office and be ready to show an ID to get a visitor's badge.

Q: Is Breakfast and Lunch free for students?

A: Because we are a CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) school, all breakfast and lunch for students this year is free. However, it is important for you to complete the Household Income form given to you at Open House to ensure we keep this status and are able to keep Joyner's Title 1 status. This status supports our school and students with additional funding provided by the state of NC.

Q: Can I visit and volunteer in my child's classroom?

A: It is important that any adult who plans to enter Joyner Elementary to volunteer for any period of time is an approved volunteer. You can apply for this background check by visiting the link provided in this email: <https://www.gcsvolunteers.com/>

Please note that all visitors and volunteers to the school must check in with the front office, sign in, and get a visitors' badge to be in the building. Visits to classrooms will only be allowed by appointment only in order to reduce classroom disruptions. It is important that classroom volunteers are coming in with preapproval from the classroom teacher/principal and are working with students and the teacher for a designated and intentional purpose and not just visiting. Under no circumstances, should a parent or visitor go directly to a classroom without checking into the front office and receiving a visitor's pass. This is for the protection of all children.

Q: Are birthday parties/celebrations allowed in the school?

A: Birthday parties are not allowed at school. Birthday treats are allowed as part of snack with lunch. Any treats given to students must be sealed in the original wrapper and/or a sealed box from a bakery, grocery store, etc. Home-made food items cannot be given to students (Student Wellness Policy IHB-P on-line). Please do not send or bring flowers or balloons to the school. Students are not allowed to take these items on the school bus (particularly balloons). Please notify the teacher the day before if you plan to bring a birthday treat.

Q: Is my child allowed to have a cell phone on campus?

A: The district allows students to possess personal cell phones; however these devices must be turned-off during the instructional day as well as on the bus and stored in a backpack. If a student uses the phone without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated and held in the office for a parent to pick-up. Joyner Elementary is not responsible for lost or stolen devices. We do have phones in classrooms if the student needs to contact you.

Q: What is the best way to handle a conflict my child is having in the classroom?

A: If you have questions or concerns, please communicate these to the classroom teacher first. If the problem is not handled or you are not satisfied with the outcome, please schedule an appointment with the principal, Tiffani Ingram at ingramt@gcsnc.com or 336-545-2020.

Q: What is the best way to conference with my child's teacher?

A: If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher to schedule an appointment either during his/her planning time or afterschool. Mornings are a very busy time and the teacher's main focus is on the students so please refrain from attempting to hold a conference during this time. Email is the easiest form of communication or Remind for a quick response from staff members. Staff members are expected to reply within 24 hours. If you have any questions or concerns about our campus, please set up an appointment with Tiffani Ingram, principal at ingramt@gcsnc.com or 336-545-2020. Our goal is to return any phone call or email ASAP but please allow 24 hours for a timely response.

Q: Does Joyner Elementary School have a dress code for students?

A: Students are to dress appropriately for school. Attire should not interfere with the learning and/or restrict them from participation in any school activities. Tennis shoes are required for PE days. If students wear shoes, other than tennis shoes, make sure that the shoes fit appropriately and that the shoes will stay on their feet while playing. Flip flops and shoes with high heels are not safe for physical activity and should not be worn. We reserve the right to limit activity if students are not wearing appropriate attire, including shoes.

Please adhere to the following dress code requests:

- We do not require uniforms/SMOD.
- No bare midriffs, spaghetti straps (T-straps) or bare backs. Top and bottom garments must meet all the way around.
- No clothing or accessories advertising vulgarity, alcoholic beverages, violence, sex, tobacco or drugs.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- No shoes with wheels or rollers, flip flops or slides are permitted.
- Hats, caps, bandanas, scarves and sunglasses are not to be worn inside the building.
- Pants must be worn securely at the waist.
- Skirts, shorts, and dresses must be an appropriate length. The clothing item should not be shorter than the wearer’s fingertips. (Hold arms straight at sides with hands straight. Shorts/skirt/dress should be longer than the end of fingertips about 3 inches)

Q: When will my child receive interim reports/report cards throughout the year?

A:

End of Grading Period/Report Card and Interim Report Dates

End of Grading Period	Report Card Distribution Dates	Interim Report Dates
1 st Quarter: Oct. 27 th	1 st Quarter: Nov. 7 th	1 st Quarter: Sept. 27 th
2 nd Quarter: Jan. 26 th	2 nd Quarter: Feb. 7 th	2 nd Quarter: Dec. 7 th
3 rd Quarter: Mar. 30 th	3 rd Quarter: Apr. 6 th	3 rd Quarter: Feb. 28 th
4 th Quarter: June 9 th	4 th Quarter: mailed by June 21 st	4 th Quarter: May 9 th

Q: How can I find out information about the great things going on at Joyner Elementary?

A: Here are a few ways:

- Check out our new and updated school Facebook page entitled: James Y Joyner Elementary Greensboro and sign up for our Twitter and Instagram page using the QR codes provided at Open House.
- Visit our school website for regular announcements.
- Sign up for the Remind 101 app with your child’s classroom teacher to receive school and class announcements.
- Update your contact information in Schoolmint to receive Sunday Blackboard Messages from the Principal.
- Join the Joyner Elementary School PTA. We need more members!!
- Check your child’s green folder daily/weekly.