

**Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School
Curriculum Accommodation Plan**

“Achieve Excellence for All Students!”



Chapter 71: Section 38Q 1/2--Curriculum Accommodation Plan

Section 38Q 1/2. A school district shall adopt and implement a curriculum accommodation plan to assist principals in ensuring that all efforts have been made to meet students' needs in regular education. The plan shall be designed to assist the regular classroom teacher in analyzing and accommodating diverse learning styles of all children in the regular classroom and in providing appropriate services and support within the regular education program including, but not limited to, direct and systematic instruction in reading and provision of services to address the needs of children whose behavior may interfere with learning, or who do not qualify for special education services under chapter 71B. The curriculum accommodation plan shall include provisions encouraging teacher mentoring and collaboration and parental involvement.

Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School

The Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School is a two year school serving all fourth and fifth grade students in the Town of Barnstable.

MISSION – Excellence for All!

The Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School serves all fourth and fifth graders in the Town of Barnstable with innovative learning and assessments. *The mission of achieving excellence for all students is our goal.* We have a major impact on students' academic, individual, social, and technological skills by creating a school environment which provides a high quality curriculum and innovative instruction. The school demands excellence from all in order to prepare students for successful learning.

Excellence will be demonstrated by:

- a. Preparing students to meet rigorous academic standards and assessing their progress
- b. Helping students to achieve high standards of social and civic responsibility
- c. Involving parents in their child's educational program
- d. Engaging the community in lifelong learning and in the success of the school
- e. Using technology to enhance our instruction, management, and communication

VISION - A SCHOOL WITH TOMORROW INSIDE

The vision of our school is to provide an educational environment for a community of lifelong learners, designed to educate all students to reach their full potential and be able to master the skills, knowledge, and understanding needed to be successful in the 21st century. Our school operates as the social, educational, and human resource center for the entire community. It is designed to teach all the technological, social, and higher order thinking skills that will enable children to be productive individuals. The school maintains an environment where high expectations for all translates into a place where students and staff learn to work together as critical thinkers and problem solvers, and where differences are respected and the community is enriched.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

At the Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School, we believe that all of our students can master elementary academics, though not in the same time, the same way, or at the same pace. We also believe that our school is a place that fosters cultural literacy, special talents, character development, and civic responsibility so that our students will become educated, well-rounded individuals and contributing members to our democratic society. With a partnership comprised of students, parents, school, and community, we strive to construct a creative and exciting educational environment which will prepare our students for lifelong learning.

GOALS AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. All students will master a common core curriculum needed to be successful in elementary school and beyond. Our students will have a standards-driven education, based on the Massachusetts State Frameworks and the Barnstable Public Schools Curriculum.
2. All of our students will learn and attain high standards in academic subjects although they may vary in their learning style and the time they need to learn.

3. The progress of every student will be closely monitored using a variety of assessments entered into our database.
4. We will guide our students' behavior through the implementation of our Code of Conduct and a student ambassador program.
5. We will create a professional resource center and have ongoing professional development for staff. Teachers will have freedom to exercise their professional judgment in how they organize instruction, so that they best meet their students' needs.
6. Parents and community members will be a part of our students' education. We will offer parent forums, parent information sessions and encourage parent involvement in the school.
7. We will use advanced technology to enhance our teaching, communication, and assessment.
8. We will maintain established lines of communication with all Barnstable K-3 elementary schools and Barnstable Intermediate School (BIS) in order to offer a better educational program for our students.
9. We will serve as a model to other public schools, proving that public schooling ensures that children will acquire the knowledge and skills needed to become educated, responsible, and productive citizens.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Barnstable Horace Mann Charter School offers a rigorous academic program, which is standards-driven and documents continuous student progress. Core subjects include English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science, while enrichment subjects include Music, Art, Technology, Physical Education, Health, Library Skills, and Foreign Language. Teachers use instructional methods and strategies that adapt to the individual strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles of students. The approaches include: high expectations of all students, teaching basic and critical thinking skills, process and problem-solving approach, active and engaged learning, flexible grouping, careful monitoring of student progress, and high levels of parental and community involvement.

SUPPORT SERVICES FOR STUDENTS, STAFF, AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

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| • English Language Learner Program | • School Nurse |
| • Title 1 Math and Reading | • Special Education Program |
| • Guidance Department | • Gateway (Gifted and Talented) Program |
| • School Psychologist | • Assistive Technology |
| • Adjustment Counselor | • Crisis Intervention Team |
| • Prevention Specialist | • Community Service Volunteers |

GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM ACCOMODATIONS

Best teaching practices are utilized in order to adapt the learning environment and methodology of instruction to meet the needs of all students. General education teachers will, with the assistance of a myriad of specialists when necessary, provide students with the accommodations necessary to succeed in the general education setting. Below is a partial list of examples of the type of individualization and flexibility teachers may provide for students.

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| • Cues for Transitions | • Multi-level Pairing Activities |
| • Homework Reduction | • Extra Time for Work Completion |
| • Preferential Seating | • Organizational Strategies |
| • Clarification/Repetition of Directions | |

- Mnemonics Devices for Academic Success
- Chunking of Assignments
- Untimed Tests
- Multiple Modes of Instruction
- Place-markers while reading
- Opportunities to preview or retake tests

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT INTERVENTION PROCESS (ISIP)

ISIP teams work to systematically identify and implement strategies to support students' academic, social and emotional achievement. The ISIP process assists teachers with the identification of student needs, the implementation of practices that improve learning outcomes for those students, and the documentation of the details of such investigations. Adjustments to the environment, curriculum, teaching methods or teaching materials are examined. ISIP records are placed in students' Cumulative Folders so that subsequent teachers are made aware of individual student needs.

CURRICULUM SUPPORTS

- Thematic Approach to Instruction
- Mobile labs and Alpha Smarts
- Promethean Boards
- Computer Programs for Individualized Curriculum Support
- MAST: MCAS After-School Tutoring Programs in ELA and Math
- After-School Daycare
- Student Extracurricular Activities

PARENT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

BHMCS considers parents/guardians partners in meeting individual student needs. We encourage open communication and working together to support students so they may experience success in all areas of their school day.