

2020/2021 ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES

- Gathering Waters Chartered Public School is a tuition free, public school for students residing in NH.
- Students applying from surrounding states by the lottery deadline are subject to tuition and accepted according to available space after NH residents have been admitted. *All* students applying after the lottery deadline are admitted on a rolling basis as space allows.
- Beginning on January 2, 2021 GWCPS will be accepting applications for children in grades 1 through 9, for the 2021/2022 school year.
- All applicants will be eligible for the classroom that corresponds with their age as of September 30, 2021. For students currently enrolled in a school-based program, we encourage families to continue on their current academic track but have allotted the age guideline below:

Age requirements are as follows: (*As of September 30, 2021)

1st grade- At least 6 years of age*	6th grade- At least 11 years of age*
2nd grade- At least 7 years of age*	7th grade- At least 12 years of age*
3rd grade- At least 8 years of age*	8th grade- At least 13 years of age*
4th grade- At least 9 years of age*	9th grade- At least 14 years of age*
5th grade- At least 10 years of age*	

Please follow these steps to ensure your initial application is complete and ready for processing:

1. Parent/Guardian must sign the “Certification”
2. Parent/Guardian must complete the Statement of Interest for Grades 1-8, and Students above grade 8 must complete the Statement of Interest.
3. Please complete and submit a separate application for each child that you wish to enter the school.
 - Please complete and include all pages of the application packet.
 - Please print clearly.

- Any incomplete applications will be returned.
4. **PLEASE fill out the application following the link provided on our website or mail the Application Packet to:**

Gathering Waters Chartered Public School | PO Box 371 | Keene, NH | 03431

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Completed application packet (Enrollment Application including all signatures required therein *and* Statement of Interest) must be submitted online or sent by US Mail. Mailed-in applications must be postmarked by January 29 to be processed for the February 1 deadline.

Additional Application Process Information:

- **Confirmation** of receipt of applications will be sent by email if provided. Please ensure the email address you provide is current and legible on the application.
If GWCPs receives more applications than available student slots, by law, a random public lottery will be held on February 15.
- **If Applications do not exceed availability by the end of the enrollment period** and a student meets the criteria outlined above, they are conditionally admitted to GWCPs.
- **Students who choose to attend GWCPs** must *fully complete and submit the Conditional Student Enrollment Package including the Admissions Agreement*. Students who do not submit a complete enrollment package will be withdrawn from the accepted enrollment list and must reapply if they wish to attend GWCPs.
- **Once admitted to GWCPs**, enrolled students in good standing are not subject to the enrollment lottery and are automatically offered space in the school. Families of enrolled students will be asked to sign and submit a letter of intent to reenroll by an established date prior to the enrollment lottery. Students who have unenrolled from the school and wish to re-enroll must reapply subject to the above procedure.
- **New students must successfully complete the orientation experience** before their formal admissions period is completed. Students who have been accepted for orientation may attend the school while completing their admissions period.
- Once accepted, **if a student is enrolled in a school district special education program**, the student's sending school's Evaluation and Placement Team will be contacted to discuss special education support services. The student's parent

or legal guardian will provide additional application components as needed: a completed educational history, transcripts from previous schools attended, and releases of information needed for obtaining records from prior schools.

Lottery:

If there are more applications than there are available places, by NH law, a lottery will occur.

Lottery Guidelines For Applications Received By February 1 and in numbers that exceed the approved class size:

- **Applicants:** All names of NH students who have submitted completed applications will be given a lottery number.
- **Drawing:** As a student's lottery number is drawn, the student will be admitted or placed on a waiting list, according to the criteria outlined above.
- **Admitted Students:** If a student's number is drawn and they meet the requirements outlined above, they will be conditionally admitted to GWCPs. Parents of admitted students will receive enrollment paperwork and are expected to attend an orientation.
- **Siblings of admitted students:** When a student is admitted, siblings' names are automatically drawn for their prospective grades. If there is space, siblings are admitted as well. If not, they will be placed on a waitlist.
- **Waitlisted Students:** When all available spaces are filled, the student will be placed on a waitlist in the order that his or her name was drawn. If an opening occurs in a given grade, students on the waitlist will be contacted according to their order on the waitlist.
- **Students who apply to GWCPs after February 1** will be conditionally admitted only if space is available and they meet the appropriate requirements outlined above. If space is not available, they will be placed on the waitlist in the order that their completed application is received.

If printing and completing the application on paper, PLEASE MAIL APPLICATION PACKET TO: Gathering Waters Chartered Public School | PO Box 371 | Keene, NH | 03431