

2026-2027

School

HANDBOOK SUPPLEMENT



KIPP COOPER NORCROSS HATCH ACADEMY

Contact Information

School Name	KIPP Hatch Academy (KHA)
School Address	1875 Park Blvd., Camden, NJ 08103
School Phone	856-359-7046
School Fax	856-295-8320
Website	kippnj.org/schools/kipp-hatch-academy
School Leader	Ms. Williams
Assistant School Leader	Ms. Lunig
Asst. School Leader – Special Ed.	Ms. Barto
Asst. School Leader – Culture	Mr. Hadi
Director of School Operations	Mr. Zuber
Social Worker	Ms. Ebone
Grades Served	5th – 8th Grade

For the most current staff contact details, please reach out to the main office at 856-359-7046.

School Overview

Mission

The mission of KIPP Cooper Norcross Academy (KCNA) is to create a network of schools in Camden, New Jersey that instills in students the desire and ability to succeed in college in order to change the world.

Vision & Values

KIPP Hatch community members share the same fundamental assumptions:

- We all will learn.
- We share responsibility for our children and our mission.
- Families and communities are valued partners.
- Collaboration and cooperation improve results.
- Data guides decision-making.
- Actions speak louder than words: be the change you wish to see in the world.
- We are responsible for our choices and actions.
- Students, like all people, deserve respect.
- We value debate and dialogue so we are curious about others' ideas and opinions.

Academic Belief

At KIPP Hatch, we believe every student can learn and grow. Our extended school day, rigorous academics, and strong student-teacher relationships are all built on the conviction that effort and persistence lead to success. We hold high expectations for every scholar and work tirelessly to provide the support students need to meet them.

School Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:45 AM – 3:45 PM

Doors open at 8:45 AM. Students arriving after 9:00 AM will be marked tardy.

Students must be picked up between 3:45 – 4:00 PM Monday through Friday.

Course Offerings

KIPP Hatch Academy serves students in Fifth through Eighth Grade.

Core academic courses include ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, and electives aligned to our college-preparatory mission.

Extracurricular Offerings

We believe in educating the whole child. KIPP Hatch offers a variety of afterschool programming, including:

Competitive Sports:

- Girls/Boys Basketball, Track, Flag Football, Volleyball, Soccer

Clubs:

- Cooking Club, Yearbook, Newspaper, Gaming, Mentoring, Girls Scouts

Spaces are limited. Be sure to submit your application during Back to School Night in August.

Coaches and leaders may set criteria for participation (behavior, attendance, or GPA requirements) communicated at the start of the program through a signed contract.

For competitive sports, we follow Camden City guidelines for competition.

Arrival & Dismissal

Safety is our number one priority during arrival and dismissal.

Arrival

- Doors open at 8:45 AM. Walkers enter through the gates in front of the main entrance.
- Students arriving after 9:00 AM must enter through the main entrance and will be marked tardy.
- Students can still receive breakfast as long as they arrive by 9:00 AM.

Dismissal

- All walkers exit through the main entrance.
- Students must be picked up between 3:45 – 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.
- Main offices close for 30 minutes before dismissal — no early dismissals are permitted during 3:15 – 3:50 PM daily.
- A student will only be dismissed to a parent or person listed on the authorized release list.

Transportation

All students at KHA qualify for busing services. Students living 2.0 miles or more from KIPP Hatch, and students with door-to-door busing in their IEPs, receive transportation provided by Camden City School District. Students who live less than 2.0 miles from KHA may receive courtesy busing provided by KIPP. Families wishing to opt out of transportation services may do so by contacting the main office.

Recess Policy

The purpose of recess is to provide students with a short break, fresh air, and informal participation in positive social and physical activities.

- Recess will be held either inside or outside. Families are expected to ensure their child is dressed appropriately for the weather.
- Parent requests for inside recess during cold weather create a serious supervision challenge, as teachers must be outside with children. If there is a medical reason your child is unable to participate, please contact the nurse.
- Students may be required to miss recess if they earn a detention for behavior in class.

Uniform Policy

All KHA students are required to wear the complete KHA uniform every day. Our uniform policy is designed to build a sense of pride within our school community and to ensure students look professional yet remain comfortable as they learn. Students must remain in uniform at all times while on campus.

Required Tops

- Navy blue KHA t-shirt
- Navy blue KHA short-sleeve polo
- Navy blue KHA long-sleeve polo
- Navy blue KHA crew neck sweatshirt
- KHA sweatshirt (no hooded sweatshirts)
- KHA shirts earned at school through activities

Bottoms

- Jeans, khakis, or sweatpants. No rips in pants. No leggings. No shorts.

Additional Dress Code Requirements

- Sleeveless or midriff shirts/blouses are not permitted.
- Jewelry should be minimal and may be asked to be removed if distracting.
- No hats permitted inside the building.
- Athletic or dress shoes are permitted, provided students can safely run during gym/recess at the teacher's discretion. Sandals, crocs, flip flops, heels, platforms, and shoes with wheels or lights are not permitted.
- Only KHA shirts/sweatshirts are allowed. Any other sweatshirts or jackets must be left in cubbies or lockers at the beginning of the day.

Violations

Any accessory or article of clothing that becomes a distraction will be sent home with a note. Students dressed improperly may be required to call their parents/guardians to bring appropriate clothing. Repeated violations will result in additional consequences.

Ordering from Flynn & O'Hara

- Online: flynnohara.com
- Phone: (856) 931-8838
- Hours: Monday 10 AM – 7 PM; Tuesday–Wednesday 10 AM – 6 PM; Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM
- Store: Garden State Pavilions, 2240 W. Marlton Pike, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Parent Involvement

Parent-Teacher Communication

At KIPP, we believe students are most successful when teachers and families form a partnership through open and regular communication.

Progress Reports:

Progress reports are distributed to students every week on Fridays. They display students' current progress toward standards in each subject, absences, tardies, and other student data. Students are responsible for ensuring progress reports are shown to parents, signed, and returned.

Report Cards:

Report cards are given out four times during the school year after each quarter at Family-Teacher Conferences.

Teachers' phone numbers will be provided — please call your child's teacher with questions or concerns. If you have additional concerns, call the main office at 856-359-7046 to schedule a meeting with the school's leadership team.

If You Have Concerns

Parents are encouraged to first address any concerns with your child's classroom teacher. If no resolution is reached, contact the Grade Level Chair or Assistant Dean. If still unresolved, contact the principal as a last resort. Parents will not be allowed to address concerns with teachers during instructional time.

Visitors Policy

To ensure the safety of our students and staff, all visitors — including parents — must check in at the main office.

- Visitors are required to sign in using a photo ID (driver's license preferred) and will be given a visitor badge to wear while in the building.
- Even regular visitors must sign in every time.
- Please sign out at the main office before leaving.
- If you are not following security procedures or are being disruptive, our staff and security personnel reserve the right to ask you to leave.

Birthday Policy

KHA recognizes the importance of birthdays and will do our best to make each student's birthday special while respecting the wishes of those who choose not to participate. If families wish to celebrate their child's birthday at school, the following guidelines must be followed:

- Families must notify the child's teacher(s) at least one day prior.
- Families may send birthday treats on the scheduled day, to be distributed at a time determined by the classroom teacher.
- All birthday treats must be store-bought and sealed prior to being brought to school.
- Treats may not include nuts as an ingredient.

Recommended Supplies

Bring to School Each Day

- 4 pencils
- Agenda
- Homework binder
- Reading books

*Reading books, binders, and agenda will be provided by the school.

Keep at Home (for Homework)

- 1 box of at least 24 crayons
- 1 box of washable markers
- Scissors (school-safety scissors with blunt tips)
- 1 bottle of glue or a large glue stick
- Loose-leaf, white-lined, wide-ruled paper
- Extra pencils
- Pencil sharpener

*There will be frequent homework assignments that require these supplies.

Bathroom Accidents

Students of any age who have a bathroom accident with no extra clothes will follow this procedure:

1. The student will wait in the nurse's office until a change of clothes is secured.
2. The parent/guardian will be notified to bring clothes to school. We ask that parents make every effort to comply with this request as soon as they are notified.
3. If a student has frequent bathroom accidents, the parent should follow up with the student's Primary Care Provider.

Students may go to the bathroom at the teacher's discretion whenever necessary throughout the day. Please notify the school if your child has unique needs regarding restroom use.

Personal Electronic Device Policy Summary

To ensure our students can thrive in a distraction-free environment that promotes academic excellence, social-emotional growth, and character development, KIPP Cooper Norcross schools implement a strict No Cell Phone Policy during school hours, including recess.

For all official policies and additional important information, visit the KIPP Cooper Norcross Regional Student & Family Handbook at:

https://kippnj.org/school-resources/

KIPP COOPER NORCROSS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

kippnj.org

This is a school supplement only. To access official district policies, see the KIPP Cooper Norcross Regional Student & Family Handbook at: https://kippnj.org/school-resources/