NYC Public Schools
Chancellor Kamar H. Samuels

November 2026

Dear Families,

At New York City Public Schools (NYCPS), we believe every child deserves to feel safe, welcomed, and valued at school. Our schools are places of learning and opportunity for all students, regardless of their immigration status, country of origin, or the language they speak at home.

In September, I shared our commitment to supporting all children and families, including our immigrant communities. Today, as immigration enforcement activity continues to create uncertainty and concern for many New Yorkers, I want to reaffirm that commitment: **Every child belongs in our schools, and every family is important to our school community.**

We want every family to feel informed, prepared, and supported and that's why we have recently updated our Non-Local Law Enforcement protocols before the start of school. These updates address arrival, dismissal, offsite activities, and afterschool and weekend programming. The accompanying *Immigrant Family Rights and Resources Guide* provides additional information about student protections, school safety procedures, emergency planning, language assistance, and available legal and community resources. Families can also visit schools.nyc.gov/ProjectOpenArms to learn more.

NYCPS does not ask for or track the immigration status of students or their families, and we protect student information consistent with both federal and state privacy laws. We also follow strict protocols when responding to immigration enforcement authorities.

Our commitment to our immigrant families is clear: Every child is welcome, every family is treated with dignity, and every student is supported. Your children belong in our classrooms. We stand with you in supporting their education and well-being.

Thank you for trusting us with your child's education and for being valued members of our school communities.

In partnership,

Kamar H. Samuels
Chancellor

Scan QR Code to Access *Immigrant Family Rights and Resources Guide*