



M.S. 101

THE EDWARD R. BYRNE SCHOOL

Student & Family HANDBOOK 2026 – 2027

School Motto: "Choose K.I.N.D. Every Day"

The K.I.N.D. Pillars: Kindness • Integrity • Noteworthy • Dependable

Key Contacts



Contacts

- **Principal:** Jared Rosoff – jrosoff@schools.nyc.gov
- **Assistant Principal:** Brenda McDonagh – bmcdonagh@schools.nyc.gov
- **Assistant Principal:** Leigh Turetsky – lturetsky@schools.nyc.gov
- **Guidance Counselor:** Carmen Del Valle – cdelvalle2@schools.nyc.gov
- **Social Worker:** Bena Ortiz – BOrtiz26@schools.nyc.gov
- **Parent Coordinator:** Teresa Wong – twong2@schools.nyc.gov
- **Dean of Students:** Denise Francis-Butler - Dfranci2@schools.nyc.gov



Additional Support Contacts

- **Students with IEPs:** Contact Ms. McDonagh – bmcdonagh@schools.nyc.gov
- **English as a Second Language (ESL):** Contact Mr. Maciel – amaciell@schools.nyc.gov
- **After-School Program (New York Edge):** Contact Ms. Rodriguez – DRodriguez@newyorkedge.org

1. WELCOME FROM THE ADMINISTRATION & PRINCIPAL

Dear M.S. 101 Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year at M.S. 101 — The Edward R. Byrne School! This handbook serves as your foundational roadmap for an exciting, productive, and safe academic year. At M.S. 101, we actively cultivate a collaborative community where families, students, and educators work hand-in-hand to realize excellence. Middle school is a time of immense growth, exploration, and transition, and we are fully committed to supporting every student as they navigate these pivotal years.

Our school culture revolves around our core framework: **K.I.N.D.** We strongly believe that every student has the right to learn in an environment that is physically and emotionally safe, academically stimulating, and rich with opportunities for personal maturation. By committing to **Kindness, Integrity, Noteworthy behavior, and Dependability** each day, our students do more than just follow rules—they build the character traits necessary to become compassionate leaders and critical thinkers.

True excellence is never achieved in isolation. It requires a robust, transparent partnership between home and school. We encourage our families to remain actively engaged, communicate openly with our staff, and regularly review their child's academic progress. Together, we will ensure that our classrooms remain spaces of high expectations, rigorous instruction, and unwavering support.

Thank you for your shared commitment to our community, our values, and the limitless potential of our students. Let's make this an incredible, noteworthy school year!

With appreciation,

The M.S. 101 Administration

Instructional Focus

"Through a collaborative partnership of families, students, and staff, we will advance literacy and mathematical thinking using rigorous Tier I instruction and targeted WIN (What I Need) support, ensuring every student graduates on or exceeds an 8th-grade proficiency level."

Mission & Vision

At M.S. 101, we believe that all children should be active participants in a learning process that maintains a solid commitment to the search for knowledge. M.S. 101 is a safe and nurturing community in which students create and maintain lasting relationships with peers, teachers, administration, and staff. As Ken Williams noted: *"We must work to create schools where we'd want to send our own kids."*

2. SCHOOLWIDE PBIS FRAMEWORK: THE K.I.N.D. MATRIX

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive approach used at M.S. 101 to establish social culture and behavioral supports needed for all students to achieve social, emotional, and academic success.



Choose "K.I.N.D."

Choose	Kind	Integrity	Noteworthy	Dependable
Classroom	▲ Understand and accept the different abilities and strengths of others- Choose Kind ▲ Use manners- please, excuse me, thank you. ▲ Choose kind words ▲ Treat others the way you want to be treated	▲ Learn from your mistakes- make the change ▲ Take responsibility for your own learning ▲ Be an advocate for yourself	▲ Respect others' perspectives and experiences- Using Accountable Talk Strategies ▲ Clean up your space-use garbage bins ▲ Understand and accept the different abilities and strengths of others	▲ Be an active participant in your education. Be in Uniform, Be Prepared, Be on time, Be Present ▲ Understand and follow class rules- rituals and routines ▲ Be prepared to learn each day ▲ Respect property- school, classroom and personal
Technology	▲ Use manners- please, excuse me, thank you.. ▲ Choose kind words ▲ Treat others the way you want to be treated	▲ Cell phones off and away ▲ Technology is only used for educational communication	▲ Be your authentic self and spread positivity only	▲ Engaged in meaningful task assignments when using technology ▲ Use care when handling classroom technology
Hallways	▲ Use manners- please, excuse me, thank you.. ▲ Respect personal space- stay to the right ▲ Choose kind words ▲ Treat others the way you want to be treated	▲ Cell phones off and away	▲ Respect Personal Space- stay to the right	▲ Sign out and have a pass when required ▲ Transition promptly- sense of urgency
Lunch Room	▲ Use manners- please, excuse me, thank you.. ▲ Demonstrate sportsmanship ▲ Choose kind words ▲ Treat others the way you want to be treated	▲ Cell phones off and away	▲ Be inclusive of others- every person is a new opportunity to make a new friend ▲ Clean up your space-use garbage bins	▲ Walk while in the cafeteria ▲ Sign out and use passes for restroom- return to cafeteria promptly ▲ Remain in your assigned location

3. STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

(Aligned with New York City Public Schools guidelines)

 **Our Core Promise:** Every student has the absolute right to learn without disruption.

Students Have the Right to:

- Learn in a safe, clean, supportive, and secure school environment.
- Be treated with dignity, fairness, and mutual respect by all staff members and peers.
- Receive high-quality instruction tailored to advance academic growth.
- Feel physically and emotionally safe, completely free from discrimination, intimidation, and harassment.

Students Are Responsible for:

- Respecting all members of the school community, including peers, educators, security, and support staff.
- Following directions from all school staff members promptly, politely, and without argument.
- Respecting school property and keeping the physical building clean.
- Arriving prepared to learn every day with the required materials, notebooks, and completed assignments.
- Resolving conflicts peacefully through positive communication or seeking mediation from staff.

4. DAILY EXPECTATIONS & ATTENDANCE

- **Attendance & Punctuality:** Regular attendance is directly linked to academic achievement. Students must arrive at school on time daily. If an absence is unavoidable due to illness or emergency, a written note from a parent/guardian or medical professional must be submitted to the main office immediately upon return.
- **Uniforms/Dress Code:** All students are expected to be in MS 101 uniforms daily including appropriate footwear.
- **Technology & Electronic Devices:** School-issued devices are strictly for educational use. Personal cell phones, smartwatches, and headphones must be turned off and stored in a Yondr pouch during the instructional day. Unauthorized devices will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent/guardian. Please refer to the MS 101 Internet Enabled Policy.
 - **Device Care & Handling:** Students must handle all school technology, including Chromebooks, laptops, and tablets, with extreme caution using two hands. To prevent physical damage, never touch settings (such as changing the wallpaper), remove keys or labels, or disconnect cables. Additionally, food and drinks—including water—are strictly prohibited near any device.
 - **Academic Use Only:** School computers are dedicated exclusively to learning and schoolwork. All projects should be created and stored within your school Google Account (Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides) to keep local computer storage clear.
 - **Cart Etiquette:** At the end of use, always return your device to its designated slot in the computer cart and plug it back into the charger so it is ready for the next student.
 - **Account Privacy & Respect:** To uphold our community values, never access another student's account. If you find a device left logged into someone else's

email or Google account, log them out immediately, notify the teacher, and remind the student to secure their account.

- **Cyberbullying & Reporting:** Cyberbullying—including harassing, intimidating, humiliating, or posting hurtful and inappropriate content online—is strictly forbidden under the NYCPS discipline code. If you experience or witness any behavior that threatens the physical or emotional safety of another student, report it to a staff member immediately.
- **Academic Success:** Students are expected to monitor their academic progress regularly via Sync Grades and Google Classroom. Grades are compiled based on the MS 101 Grading Policy (see below).

 2026-2027 MARKING PERIOD/ REPORT CARD/GRADES			
MARKING PERIOD	DATES (INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS)	GRADES DUE	REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION
	SEPTEMBER 10, 2026 – NOVEMBER 13, 2026 <i>(43 Instructional Days)</i>	 NOVEMBER 20, 2026	 NOVEMBER 24, 2026
	NOVEMBER 16, 2026 – JANUARY 29, 2027 <i>(45 Instructional Days)</i>	 FEBRUARY 5, 2027	 FEBRUARY 10, 2027
	FEBRUARY 1, 2027 – APRIL 9, 2027 <i>(42 Instructional Days)</i>	 APRIL 16, 2027	 APRIL 20, 2027
	APRIL 12, 2027 – JUNE 28, 2027 <i>(44 Instructional Days)</i>	 JUNE 21, 2027	 JUNE 28, 2027
PROGRESS REPORTS  MARKING PERIOD 1: OCTOBER 23, 2026  MARKING PERIOD 2: MARCH 2, 2027			

- **Lunch Expectations:** Upon entering the cafeteria, students must immediately sit at their assigned class table and remain seated with their legs underneath the table. Once their class is called for lunch, students are to eat only within the cafeteria—not in the yard—and must raise their hand, sign the sign-out book, and use the single-student pass

if they need to use the restroom. Personal electronics, including gaming devices, iPads, and laptops, are strictly prohibited. Finally, when the class is called to clean up, students must dispose of their trash, clean up after themselves, and wait for instructions to walk to the upper yard for recess with all of their belongings.

- **School Yard Expectations:** During sports activities, students must use a variety of provided sports equipment appropriately, as using personal items is prohibited and misuse will result in a loss of privileges. It is important to note that students are not allowed to return to the gym to fetch equipment, and all borrowed items must be returned at the end of the period. Safety and respect are paramount: playing must stop immediately when the whistle blows, and any injuries or safety concerns must be reported to an adult right away under the "see something, say something" rule. Finally, everyone is expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship by choosing kind words and treating others the way they want to be treated.
- **Hallway / Staircase:** When moving through the building, students must respect personal space and always walk on the right side of the hallway. To ensure a prompt transition to class, voices should be kept low while moving through these shared community spaces. Additionally, students must use the dedicated staircase at all times and refrain from walking across the first or second floors. Please note: All student restrooms are closed the first and last 10 minutes of every period.
- **Entry:** Breakfast is served from 7:50 am to 8:15 am on the right side of the cafeteria, where students can sit, socialize, use the restroom, and gather by grade level: 6th grade on the lower level, 7th grade in the upper left, and 8th grade in the upper center. Personal sports equipment is not allowed during this time. Once breakfast concludes, first period begins promptly at 8:20 am, and students are expected to report directly to their classes using lowered voices.
- **Dismissal:** At the end of the day, students are officially dismissed by their teacher and must follow their designated dismissal plan, whether it involves a parent/guardian pick-up or another arrangement. Those taking the bus must report to the auditorium, while students participating in clubs are to head directly to the cafeteria; all other students must exit the building immediately. Finally, everyone must walk to the upper yard to unlock their Yondr pouches before departing.

5. FAMILY PARTNERSHIP & PRIVILEGE AGREEMENTS

A successful education requires a strong bond between the home and the school. We expect our parent and family partners to actively engage in their child's academic journey.

Parents and Guardians Agree to:

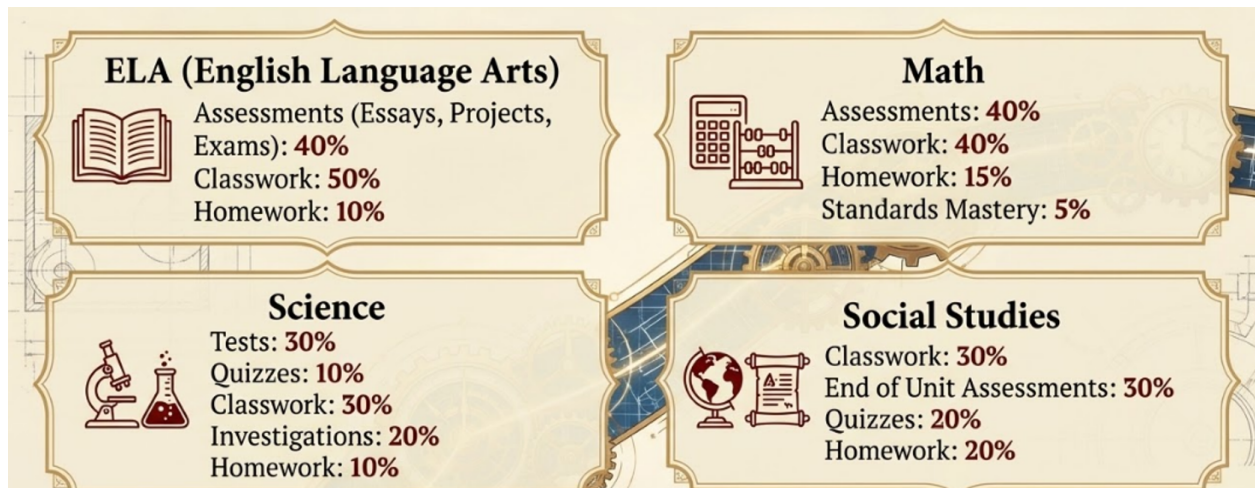
- Monitor daily attendance and ensure punctual arrival at school. All students should arrive at school no later than 8:10am.

- Encourage respectful, responsible behavior that aligns with school rules and the K.I.N.D. matrix.
- Regularly review grades, assignments, and school updates via Sync Grades.
- Communicate constructively and proactively with school staff regarding any concerns.
- Support school expectations, behavioral intervention steps, and academic goals.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Can a student lose the privilege to attend a field trip?** *Yes. Participation in field trips, extra-curricular events, and incentive activities is dependent upon maintaining good behavior standing and adhering to the school's behavioral contracts. This includes 8th Grade events (Dance, Trip and Graduation).*
- **Can a student receive Lunch Detention?** *Yes, students can receive lunch detention as a result of not following the expectations outlined in this handbook. Lunch detention takes place in an administrative office, where students will be provided lunch and given time to work on their class assignments.*
- **How do restorative conferences work?** *Restorative conferences provide a structured space for students to reflect on their actions, understand the impact on others, and make a formal plan to correct the behavior and repair relationships.*

6. MS 101 Grading Policy



7. PBIS Section Sheet

M.S. 101 Section Sheet							
Class:		Date:					
	Goals	Earned	Late/Absent	Left Room	Spotlight	Points	Initials
1	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						
2	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						
3	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						
4	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						
5	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						
6	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						
7	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						
8	Arrive to class on time						
	Cell phones away						
	Contribute positively to lesson						
	Respectful interaction						
	Engaged in task						

Notes:

8. We Celebrate Success

- At the end of each marking period, grade assemblies are held to celebrate student achievements and recognize those who have worked hard. Students have the opportunity to be a part of this recognition through several honors, including the Principal's Award, the Personal Growth Award, and the Academic Growth Award for those who demonstrate consistent hard work. Additionally, academic excellence is celebrated with the Honor Roll Award for students achieving an 85 or above, and the prestigious Principal's Honor Award for those earning a 95 or higher.
- On a weekly basis, students have multiple opportunities to be a part of those being recognized and celebrated across the school community. The week kicks off with the "Mirror Us Monday" announcement, which highlights student achievements and positive reflections. Later in the week, students can participate in the "Take a Look at Us Thursday" dress-down day, offering another fun way to showcase school spirit and individual expression.

9. General Information for Families

- Medication:** Students may only take medication at school if accompanied by a written statement from a prescribing physician detailing the dosage, along with the original, dated, and legibly labeled medication bottle.
- Medical Emergencies & Illness:** In the event of an emergency, illness, or accident, the school nurse and administration will assess the student and take appropriate action, including contacting EMS if necessary. Parents or guardians will be contacted immediately to determine if the child needs to be sent home; if they cannot be reached,

the school will contact the alternate individuals listed on the student's emergency contact blue card.

- **Crutches:** If a student requires crutches, parents must notify their grade-level assistant principal and provide a doctor's note specifying whether the student is cleared to navigate the building and use the stairs. For safety reasons, students on crutches are not permitted in the yard during recess.
- MS 101's main entrance is now secured by a new **Safer Access Door Locking System**, keeping the red front doors locked at all times except during scheduled arrival and dismissal periods. To gain entry, visitors must use the video doorbell system—equipped with a camera, microphone, and speaker—so School Safety Agents can verify their identity before unlocking the doors. Once inside, all visitors are required to **show a government-issued photo ID** and sign in at the security desk.
- To pick up your child early due to illness, appointments, or other reasons, you must present a valid photo I.D. to the Security Agent. For student safety, children will only be released to adults (18 years or older) explicitly listed on the blue Emergency Contact Card, and a parent or guardian must sign the student out. Please note that students are not permitted to leave school on their own before the official end of the school day.

10. iReady @ MS 101

- i-Ready is an adaptive online reading and mathematics program used at MS 101 to pinpoint your student's unique needs, personalize their instruction, and monitor academic growth throughout the year. Students take the individualized i-Ready Diagnostic three times a year; as they answer, the questions automatically adjust in difficulty to accurately map their current skills. Rather than issuing a traditional grade, the purpose of this assessment is to guide instructional support and determine student placement in math and literacy enrichment groups. Notably, i-Ready ELA results help determine their WIN (What I Need) class placements, ensuring every child receives targeted academic support. Families are encouraged to review these diagnostic growth reports with their children to celebrate strengths, and to partner with MS 101 teachers to secure resources that support specific learning goals at home.

11. "I CHOOSE K.I.N.D." SYSTEM COMMITMENT

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have read, understood, and agreed to adhere to the policies, expectations, and values outlined in the 2026–2027 M.S. 101 Student & Family Handbook.

By signing below, I confirm that I have received, read, and reviewed the 2026–2027 MS 101 Family and Student Handbook. I acknowledge that I am responsible for understanding the information provided and that my student will be held accountable for following all school rules and behavioral guidelines throughout the school year.

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Class: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature_____ / **Date**_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____ / **Date**_____