

General FAQ's

- **How do we get into Bush?**
 - Bush students must currently live in our attendance zone, and we must have space available.
 - Principal is unable to grant transfers into Bush due to our overcrowding.
- **Do we have to be zoned to Bush to attend there?**
 - Yes
- **When will registration dates be announced?**
 - Registration dates are typically announced posted in the spring on our website and the weekly newsletter.
 - **April 20-26 Kinder Siblings of currently enrolled students.**
7:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
 - **May 3-6 NEW Zoned Kinder students (no siblings at Bush)**
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - **May 24-26 NEW Zoned Kinder students**
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - **June 8-10 NEW Zoned Grades 1-5 Students**
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- **What are the school hours?**
 - 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- **Can my child ride the bus?**
 - Buses are only available for students who reside in Memorial Thicket.
- **What time can I drop my child off in the morning?**
 - Supervision begins at 7:20 p.m.
- **Can my child eat breakfast at school?**
 - Currently, breakfast is free for all students and offered from 7:15 a.m. – 7:30 a.m. in the school cafeteria.
- **How do I know that my child will get to the right dismissal place?**
 - The teachers will ask before school starts whether your child is a bus rider, daycare rider, carpool rider, or walker. The students are released to their respective dismissal locations. Any time a change is made in dismissal plans, the teacher must be notified at least a day in advance. This should not happen often.
- **What is the latest I can pick up my child?**
 - 3:00 p.m.
- **How do I know what is for breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria?**
 - Breakfast and lunch menus are available online at <https://www.schoolcafe.com/menus/0>

- **My child is a vegetarian, what can he/she eat at school?**
 - A monthly cafeteria menu is available on-line. If your child has special dietary needs, we strongly encourage you to send students to school with a packed lunch.
- **Can the nurse give my child medicine at school?**
 - Yes, with physician's orders (HISD Form) along with medication labeled with a prescription.
- **My child is severely allergic to peanuts, what precautions do you take at school?**
 - Please speak to the nurse regarding any life-threatening allergies.
- **What type of backpack can my child use?**
 - Students need a backpack that is large enough to fit a folder. No roller backpacks are allowed at school.
- **What/when is ancillary**
 - Ancillary is a daily 45-minute period when students attend specialist classes: music, art, drama, technology, physical education, and library. This also give a 45-minute time for teacher to plan, prepare, and meet with parents about their child's progress.
- **Are there any after school programs?**
 - We do not have after-school care; however, we do have a variety of after-school activities: chorus, Name That Book, and seasonal PE sports.
- **Can my child have a cell phone?**
 - Yes, but it must be turned off an in their backpack during the instructional day. Students may use their cell phone after 3:00 p.m.
 - See Cell Phone Policy in Parent Handbook available on the Bush Website.
- **Where can I buy Bush apparel?**
 - School apparel may be purchased online at <http://bbpto.3dcartstores.com>
- **Where can I find additional information about Bush Elementary?**
 - For additional information, please visit the Bush Elementary School website at <http://houstonisd.org/bushelem>. The Parent Handbook and weekly school newsletters (Paw Prints) are located on this same website.

GT Questions

- **How does my child qualify for GT?**
 - Your child must take a battery of assessments and based on his/her performance; a matrix is completed to determine if he/she meets HISD's GT qualification standards.
- **When can my child be tested for GT?**
 - There is ONE GT testing cycle for Grades 1-4. Gifted and Talented Neighborhood applications are usually due in December. Please check the Gifted and Talented website (<https://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/32983>) periodically to see updates of application deadlines.
 - If your child is applying to a Vanguard Magnet school and has not already been identified as GT, then you must apply online at <http://www.houstonisd.org/magnet>.
- **Do you test PreK students for GT Kindergarten?**
 - No, Bush is not able to participate in the Entering Kindergarten GT Testing program. However, if your child is identified as GT through the Entering Kindergarten testing process at a Vanguard Magnet school, he/she will be placed in a GT Kindergarten class here at Bush. Parent is responsible for providing a copy of the completed matrix in order to be placed in a GT class.
- **Do all kindergarteners get tested for GT?**
 - All kindergarten students who are not already identified as GT (through the Entering Kindergarten process) will be universally assessed in kindergarten for spring services and future grades in elementary school.
- **Do 5th graders get tested for GT for middle school purposes?**
 - All 5th grade students who are not already identified as GT will be universally assessed during the fall of 5th grade for spring services and secondary school.
- **If my child applies for a Vanguard Magnet school (ie. T.H. Rogers, Askew, etc.), does he/she also apply here at Bush?**
 - No. If your child is applying for a Vanguard Magnet program at another school, complete the application/testing process with that school only. Do not submit another application to Bush.
- **If my child (who is zoned to Bush) is tested and qualified at another HISD school, does he/she need to test again at Bush?**
 - No. If your child qualified at another school within HISD, then we just need a copy of the GT matrix to ensure proper placement.
- **If my child tests and does not qualify, can he/she test again?**
 - Students can only be tested once per calendar year. Therefore, if a student tests during the testing window this year, then he/she will be able to test during the testing window during the following school year.
- **My child qualified for the GT program in Katy, can he be in a GT class at Bush?**
 - Bring all documents you have identifying your child as GT.

PreKindergarten (PK) Questions

- **How do we register for PK?**
 - HISD has taken over the lottery process for all PK programs. To be considered for the PK lottery at Bush Elementary School, parents need to apply online at <http://hisdchoice.com/>. Priority is given to students who are four on or before September 1st and who have an older sibling already enrolled at Bush Elementary. Then next priority is for students who are four on or before September 1st and live in the Bush zone.
- **Do we have to be zoned to Bush to attend PK?**
 - Yes, due to limited spaces available in our PK, no out of zone students will be included in the lottery for the Bush PK spaces.
- **Who qualifies to attend PK?**
 - Students must qualify for PK following the federal guidelines that are outlined on the website listed above. Tuition PK will not be available at Bush Elementary.
- **Is PK all day?**
 - Yes, 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Subject to change)
- **Do PK students need to be toilet-trained?**
 - Yes. All PK students must be independent in the restroom and be able to feed themselves at school.
- **Is there after school care?**
 - No, however, there are many private daycares that drop off and pick up from Bush.
- **My child will be 4 years old on September 15th of this year, can he start PreK this school year? He will be four, just 2 weeks after the September 1.**
 - State Law requires that students must be 4 years on or before September 1st.
- **How many spots are available for PK?**
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