



FAQs Social and Emotional

How would the social and emotional health of students be met in the hybrid/remote learning mode?

Like you, we are concerned about the social and emotional health of our students and our entire HPS community during this isolating, stressful, and traumatic period. We are assuming that all students are impacted by this pandemic in some way and our school counseling and teaching staff are prepared to address Social-Emotional needs continuously. Adjustment counseling services are available to all students. The staff will actively engage with students, create collaborative learning environments, assign group projects, provide adequate time for stress relief, and establish connections and a sense of community.

HPS will continue to use many of the same Social-Emotional resources including:

- Whole School Interventions (Tier 1): Toolbox, Responsive Classroom & Calm Classroom
 - These programs support children in understanding & managing their own emotional, social and academic success
 - School-wide roll out and woven into everyday curriculum by teachers and school staff
- Specialized Interventions (Tier 2 and 3): multiple screenings to determine which students may benefit from added support
 - COVID-19 Trauma Screening: completed by students / parents in the first few weeks
 - Brief Teacher Screening: completed twice within the first couple months to assess how students are transitioning back to school and/or managing remote learning
 - Universal Screening (SRSS-IE): same tool HPS has used the past 2 years to identify students who may benefit from additional Tier 2 support.
 - Completed in November and again in the Spring
- [HPS Social Emotional Wellness Website](#)

As of October 26, 2020

The hybrid/remote learning model will be a challenge but our teachers and staff are committed to this work as much as they always have been, if not even more so. We know school will look and feel very different for your children, for you, and for us. We are all mourning what we've lost but we will find new ways of connecting so that you will hear the joy in your children's voice as they relay the cute photo Mr. Raymond shared of his new baby; or how Dr. Austin read a story on zoom today; or how their classmates had a virtual birthday party for Olivia's dog. Children are incredibly resilient and while the effects of this pandemic will not be known for many years, trust that your child's teachers are doing everything they can to connect with and cheer your children on.

How will the district provide children with mental health conditions that may not qualify for an IEP the support and supervision that is needed?

Through the Hingham Tiered System of support, universal mental health screening occurs for all students in grades K-12. Many students who are struggling emotionally are identified through this process. However, that is not the only way that a student may be identified to be in need of support. School adjustment counselors, school counselors, and teachers work with a variety of students and/or families, regardless of special education services, to provide temporary flexibility and support when necessary. More specifically, adjustment counselors support students through a variety of interventions, including individual or small group meetings, parent or classroom consultation or referral to and consultation with outside providers.