Welcome to Newton County Theme School

The Newton County Theme School’s priority is to improve student achievement by actively engaging the students and their families. Parents must sign a Parent Involvement Contract and pledge to complete 20 volunteer hours per household, per year. Students must meet and maintain certain academic and behavioral requirements (as shown below) in order to be considered for enrollment at Newton County Theme School.

Academic Entrance Requirements

Kindergarten:
There are no academic entrance requirements for students applying for kindergarten.

First Grade:
For students applying for 1st grade, progress must have been demonstrated on all Georgia Performance Standards indicating that the child is exceeding the standards, meeting the standards or progressing toward meeting the standards.

Second & Third Grades:
For students applying for 2nd or 3rd grade, standards must have been met on the final report card by achieving marks of 2, 3 or 4 in all academic areas. On the academic subject areas of the report card where S, P or N is recorded, students must have earned marks of S or P.

Fourth through Eighth Grades:
For students applying for 4th, 5th, 6th 7th or 8th grade, a final average of 80 or higher in all subjects must have been earned. On the academic subject areas of the report card where S, P, or N is recorded, students must have earned marks of S or P. Additionally, students must have earned a level 3 (Proficient Learner) or 4 (Distinguished Learner) on the GA Milestones in English/Language Arts and Math

Behavior Entrance Requirements for All Applicants

Students must have zero out-of-school suspensions and have never been expelled.
Students may have no more than two detention or in-school suspension/time-out referrals.
Newton County Theme School Application Procedures

for the 2019-2020 school year

***Only current residents of Newton County may apply for their student to attend Newton County Theme School***

**KINDERGARTEN:** Applications for students entering Kindergarten only will be accepted on Monday, March 18th and Tuesday, March 19th from 3:00 - 6:30pm only.

A lottery will be held at 10:00 am on Wednesday, March 27th at the Newton County Board of Education. Parents will be notified via letter by mid-April of their student’s acceptance or placement on the waiting list.

**1st – 8th GRADES:** Applications for students entering 1st – 8th grades only will be accepted Thursday, May 30th between the hours of 3:00 pm and 6:30 pm & Friday, May 31st from 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm only.

A lottery will be held in early June. Parents will be notified via letter by mid-June of their student’s acceptance or placement on the waiting list.

Kindergarten applications will be available on Wednesday, February 20th.

1st – 8th grade applications will be available on Wednesday, May 1st.

Applications may be picked up at Newton County Theme School at 2207 Williams Street or downloaded from the school’s website at www.ncts.newtoncountyschools.org or at the district website www.newtoncountyschools.org.

All applications and required documentation must be hand delivered by the parent/legal guardian to Newton County Theme School at 2207 Williams Street Covington, GA 30014 on the designated dates and times listed above.

*Faxed, emailed, late, incomplete, or unsigned applications will not be accepted.*

***Please note that submission of an application does not guarantee placement at Newton County Theme School. All applicants meeting academic and behavior requirements will be entered into a lottery. Students will be placed on a waiting list in the order in which their name is drawn in the lottery. Parents will be notified via letter of their student’s acceptance or placement on the waiting list. Available spots will be filled from the waiting lists for each grade level.***
Please provide copies of the following information along with your completed application:

To help expedite the processing of your application, the following items MUST be submitted with your application for each child listed. Incomplete and/or late applications will automatically be denied. **No Exceptions.**

____ Two Proofs of Residency: Acceptable Proof of Newton County Residency MUST be:

1. a signed lease or rental agreement, deed, monthly mortgage statement or current property tax bill **AND**
2. at least one current utility bill (gas, electric or water bill only)

*The name(s) on the proofs of residency MUST be the parent named on the birth certificate or designated as the official guardian on the official court paperwork. If the proof of residency is in the name of a step-parent, a marriage certificate MUST be presented that proves the step-parent and official parent/guardian are married.*

____ Parent/Guardian Photo ID
____ Proof of Custody/Guardianship **“Notarized letters” will NOT be accepted in lieu of official guardianship papers.**
____ Birth Certificate
____ Social Security Card/Signed waiver
____ Immunization Record – GA Form 3231
____ GA Eye, Ear & Dental Form 3300
____ Final Year-end Report Card
____ Final G-Kids report must be submitted for all students applying for 1st grade only
____ 2019 GA Milestones Test Scores for students applying for grades 4th – 8th
____ Special Education, IEP or 504 Records
____ Home Language Survey
____ Student Records Request
____ All applicants MUST provide a Certified Copy of a Discipline Report signed by school administrator or designee

**Please note:** If your student is currently enrolled in any Newton County School System public school then you will only need to provide copies of the following:

____ Final year-end report card
____ Final G-Kids report must be submitted for all students applying for 1st grade only
____ All applicants MUST provide a Certified Copy of a Discipline Report signed by school administrator or designee
____ 2 current proofs of residency (as defined above)
____ Parent/Guardian Photo ID

♦ **Please note that all Pre-K students who attend an NCSS Pre-K program must have a signed letter from the site director listing any in-school suspension/time-out or out of school suspension**

• The person applying for the student MUST be the parent named on the birth certificate unless official guardianship papers are presented. **“Notarized letters” will NOT be accepted in lieu of official court mandated guardianship papers.**

• In the case of divorced parents, only the parent who has “primary physical custody” as designated in the final divorce decree will be permitted to apply for the student. **A final divorce decree MUST be presented with the application.**