

Social Story

My Visit to Bard High School Early College Queens

This social story is a resource that has been created to provide information on how to access Bard HS Early College Queens. This resource will help you plan your visit in advance and explain how to access the building, what to expect when you enter, and who to ask for assistance.



Social Story

Next year, I will be in ninth grade, which means I will be leaving my current school to attend a high school. The best way to learn about which high school would be right for me is to attend an event called an open house.

An open house event usually has two parts: an information session and a tour. The information session is a time to listen and look for clues about types of courses and student activities offered.

The tour portion offers me a chance to see what classrooms and areas like the library and cafeteria look like. I might also look out for comfortable quiet nooks and student lounge spaces.

At Bard High School Early College Queens, I will have a chance to meet current students and staff during the tours. I can ask questions like, “what do you teach” or “what is your favorite thing about this school?” or “what clubs and sports do you have?”

Bard High School Early College Queens is a high school for students in 9th through 12th grade. Often, people refer to Bard High School Early College Queens as just Bard.” I can refer to the school as Bard too. I will be visiting Bard for an open house event with my parents. I might consider this as a high school to attend next year.

How to access the Bard building

There are two entrances to Bard. One on Thomson Avenue and one on 47th Avenue. I will enter on 47th Avenue which is the entrance in the middle of the block, right in front of the parking lot. There is also a ramp at this entrance.



(Thomson Avenue entrance)



(47th Avenue entrance)

When I first arrive at Bard, I will see many students outside. Bard shares a building with LaGuardia Community College so many of the students I see outside may look older than me and that is OK.

Once I enter the building I will walk around the security and see a large open space or atrium.



The elevator area has 6 elevators in total. Bard is on the 6th floor. All elevators will stop on the 6th floor.



I will press the button for the 6th floor. Bard shares the building with other schools so the school is only on the 6th and 7th floors. I will get off on the 6th floor. When I see the Bard sign, I know I am in the right place.



When I enter I will see a security agent. Usually, the security agent is Agent Mosley. She is very helpful. The adult I am with will have to show ID and sign in. She will then direct me to a Student Ambassador.



Student Ambassadors are current Bard students who help with events at Bard. There will be student ambassadors throughout the school. One of these ambassadors will greet me and my parents and say hello. I can introduce myself and say hello. If I need directions or help, I can ask a student ambassador. I can identify a student ambassador by their bright name tags.



They will then show me the way to the Black Box Theater, where an information session will take place. The Black Box Theater has dim lights. My parents and I will be able to pick where we would like to sit.



I will hear introductions from some of the teachers at Bard and will learn about some of the resources and supports they offer to students like me.

I will raise my hand if I have a question or something to say. I might get excited and forget to raise my hand and that is OK. Someone might tell me to wait a moment before they answer my question. There is space at the end of this guide for me to write down some questions so I won't forget them. Some questions might be "how do you help students?" or "does Bard have a _____ club?"

Once the information session is over, I will be assigned to a small group for a tour. I will walk around the 6th and 7th floors of Bard to see the classrooms, music rooms, art rooms, and other spaces. I will be looking for the ways classrooms are set up. I will be looking for art and other school wide posters that are hung on the walls. I will look for other students walking around.

If I have any questions, I will raise my hand and ask. I might get excited and forget to raise my hand and that is OK.



The student ambassador will let us know when the tour is over. Tours are usually 30 minutes long. If I need a break or a quiet moment I can go back to the black box theater and there will be a dedicated quiet space there. I can ask the student ambassador how to find this space. When I am ready to leave, I will go back to the entrance where Agent Mosley sits and take the elevator down to the C level.

