



June 2, 2021

Dear Families,

You now can sign up your child for summer enrichment in all public schools, including CPE1. Before you do, please read this letter carefully.

The Summer Rising program is new. The New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) has explained some of how this summer will work. We are still waiting for some key details. Here is what we know.

Citywide Goals for Summer Rising

One of the city's goals is to get students ready for a full school re-opening in September. Part of each day will focus on reading and math. There will be trips, arts, and exercise as well.

Outside of schools, Summer Rising will create jobs and help them economy. Caregivers will have access to free summer childcare. That helps families earn and save more.

Community Organizations Blend with Schools

Summer Rising places community-based organizations into public school buildings. Schools host the programs, but do not fully plan them. The community organizations assigned to school buildings lead most of the activities.

At CPE1 this summer, the majority of staff will be hired and supervised by the community organization, not the school. Children from any elementary school - including private and charter schools - can sign up for Summer Rising in our building.

CPE1's Community Partner

The city has assigned our school a community-based organization, [SCAN-Harbor](#). SCAN has sites all around East Harlem, including at 1589 Madison Avenue, very close to CPE1. The "Harbor" in SCAN-Harbor refers to Boys and Girls Harbor, which many CPE1 families use for after-school.

SCAN-Harbor has been told to hire ten staff members to support up to 100 elementary school children in our building.

CPE1 Teachers and Summer Rising

In connection with Summer Rising, all schools run their own summer school programs. Summer school is designed to help students with reading, writing, and math. Children who participate in summer school spend afternoons with the Summer Rising community partner. When CPE1 summer school ends at 12:30, SCAN will involve students in enrichment activities until 6:00.

CPE1 has been told to prepare for one class of summer school. This class can hold up to 24 children. SCAN will use the rest of our floor for the enrichment program.

Who Goes to CPE1 Summer School

CPE1 has been allocated one summer teacher for one classroom. First priority for this classroom will be for children who need more academic support before September.

The second priority for our teacher-led classroom will be children who have been fully remote throughout this year. Almost half of our students have not been in the building for fifteen months. They should have an opportunity for hands-on learning and in-person routines.

Can We Get More Teachers for More Children?

Once again, CPE1's summer school has been budgeted for one classroom with one teacher. One hundred total children will have a place in our building with our community partner. We don't know yet whether NYCDOE would let us hire another teacher for mornings with CPE1 summer school.

My *unconfirmed hunch* is that if many children are signed up by the end of June, NYCDOE will allow us to hire another summer teacher. That's just my guess, not a promise from NYCDOE. The teachers may come from outside CPE1.

Considerations Before You Sign Up

Free summer enrichment can be a big help to families. In general, Summer Rising can support children's learning as well.

You can apply to Summer Rising all over the city. If you live far from CPE1 and want your child close to home or your place of work, [you can search for nearby Summer Rising programs](#).

If you want your child at CPE1 specifically, choose our school when you apply. Please remember that our priorities for our one teacher-led classroom will be children who need academic support and children who stayed remote throughout 2020-2021. Your child might not know the adults SCAN hires, but your child probably will see other CPE1 students.

If you need help applying for Summer Rising – at CPE1 or any other school, please let me know. I will keep sharing details as we learn more.

Gabriel