



**JOHN M. BARRY
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF NEWTON**

What grades can attend the program?

The Out-of-School Time Program is offered for children and teens in grades K to 8.

What if Newton shifts to full remote schooling?

In the event Newton makes a decision to go to full remote, the program hours would be shifted to 8 AM to 4 PM and costs may be adjusted downward for the shorter day. 8 hours of care will be provided per week day and reservations will remain in place for those already in the program.

What if Newton shifts to increased or full in person schooling after I have paid for a month?

If Newton shifts to increased or to full in person school in the middle of the month, your rate will be pro-rated and your account will be credited for any remaining balance after the adjusted rates are applied. The credit can be used for future afterschool or summer camp services. Refunds will be made available to those who request them if more than 50% of a month remains unused after the switch is made.

I have selected the full remote option for my child, can they attend the Boys & Girls Club of Newton's program?

Yes – the Boys & Girls Club will accept your child for the full day hours of the program if they are not enrolled in the hybrid school option.

My children do not go to school in Newton, can they still come to your program?

Yes – However the program is designed to complement Newton's Public Education plans and depending on the start and end times of your town, there may be a required period that lacks the necessary coverage. You must also be able to conform to the Club's drop off and pick up procedures and times.

What happened to Membership and Drop-in programs at the John M. Barry Boys & Girls Club?:

General Membership drop-in activities are not possible under Covid-19 precautions. You have to know in advance who is coming. There is no flexibility in staff or child crossover between groups of children. It is hoped that we will be able to return to that model of operation when the children return to school full time. High School and middle school members will be invited to resume athletic and small group activities in mid-Fall, but advanced reservations will be required and full covid-19 precautions will be in place.

Why is this program so expensive?

A typical week of afterschool care in Newton includes up to 17.5 hours of service to provide coverage for working parents and that included care until 6:00 PM daily. This includes 3 hours per day of care four days per week and 5.5 hours on the Tuesday early release day. As the school year begins, Newton's elementary hybrid schedule includes only 8 hours per week of in person time. Full time working families therefore require up to 42.5 hours per week to provide a similar level of coverage to what they had before between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5 PM.

In addition, all of the economies of scale that have typically benefited the John M. Barry Boys & Girls Club to help keep pricing low, are no longer in play under Covid-19 Precautions. Staffing levels are not flexible and cannot be adjusted to changing demand because two staff and an available back up are required for each individual group and mixed staffing is prohibited. In addition, providing individual supplies unique to every child, extra cleaning supplies, along with extra janitorial services all add to the Club's expense budget. Although all of this clearly necessary to maintain safety, this is a very expensive form of childcare for providers to deliver.

Why can't you service as many kids every day as you used to be able to do?

Due to 6 foot social distancing regulations, space in this program will be limited and our daily capacity is capped based on the spaces available to us within our building. The children do not share workspaces under covid-19 precautions. Each has their own individual workspace and materials that are unique to only them. Therefore, the size of our program is limited to the number of children who will participate on Wednesdays, when all of the children in the program are fully remote.

Why can't my child just come for one or two days per week?

Since Newton is fully remote on Wednesday, the size of our program is limited to the number of children who will participate on that day. If we are to preserve the system of unique workstations for each child, it is not possible for us to accommodate mixed schedules. Your child's chair and workstation are theirs exclusively, and are not used for other students when they are not present.

Why can't you provide devices for the children and what happens if my child's battery dies during the school day?

There is a national shortage of devices such as chromebooks and ipads as school systems have been scrambling to stock up. The Club has approximately 35 laptop computers that can be used to augment a child's capabilities in the event their device fails. However we are not in a position to provide unique devices for all of the children enrolled in the program. In addition, headphones and devices are a high touch items. Shared use would provide an available point of spread.