

New Hope TUTORIALS

A PARENT-BASED EDUCATIONAL SOLUTION
P.O. Box 1133 MIDDLETON, MA 978-750-3633
WWW.NEWHOPETUTORIALS.ORG

INFORMATION FOR NEW FAMILIES: **ENROLLING YOUR CHILD AT NEW HOPE**

As a family anticipating registering with New Hope for the first time, you may have some questions about how to proceed. We would like to guide you through the process as simply as possible! Keep in mind that space in certain tutorials is limited, so the sooner you return your materials, the better. Here are the basic steps:

1. **Get firsthand information about our tutorials so you can make good choices for your child.**
We depend on parents to be well-informed about New Hope and about the tutorials you choose. Browse through our website (www.newhopetutorials.org) -- reading tutor bios and course descriptions. Come to **Discover New Hope, usually held in May** (check the calendar on our website for the date) at our Danvers location. This is the best opportunity to meet all our tutors and hear from them directly about their plans for fall tutorials. Our Director, Joan Smith, welcomes phone calls (978-750-3633) as do our tutors if you have questions about specific tutorials.
2. **Read the entire contents of this letter** to be sure you have all the information you need about New Hope and registration. Pay particular attention to the August 1 deadline (**after August 1, you are financially responsible for the tutorials you register for, even if you drop a tutorial after that date**).
3. **Read the Parent and Student Contracts** included in this download/packet. These spell out parent and student responsibilities in the partnership you will be forming with New Hope. Be sure you're ready to commit to *all* the points in these contracts. **DO NOT SIGN AND RETURN THESE DOCUMENTS AT THIS TIME.**
4. **Read our Handbook**, which you can download from our website, to be sure you are in agreement with our policies.
5. **Fill out this Enrollment Application**, being sure to answer all the questions thoughtfully and thoroughly (no one-sentence answers, please!). Fill out one Enrollment Application for EACH CHILD. New Hope will contact you to set up a Family Interview to determine whether or not New Hope is the appropriate choice for your family at this time.

6. If your child is accepted to New Hope, you may then submit a **2010-2011 Registration Form** which will be available at **Discover New Hope** and on our website by mid-May.
7. If your child is accepted to New Hope, you will be expected to fulfill the following obligations:
 - attendance at one **New Parents' Night** during the summer. At least two of these meetings will be scheduled over the course of the summer, giving you the flexibility to work around family vacations and other obligations. **If only one parent can attend, it must be the parent primarily responsible for the homeschooling.**
 - attendance at our **Parent Orientation on Sat., September 11, 2010.**

OUR GOAL

As we begin our second decade at New Hope, we remain committed to partnering with families to enable them to continue their home-based education through the upper grades. Our small-group tutorials are intended to supplement the curriculum you have chosen for your child. **New Hope does not intend to replace your role as the primary educator of your children.** Rather, our goal is to work in partnership with you to achieve your academic goals. Consequently, while New Hope tutors take over a substantial portion of the academic responsibility for certain subjects, parents continue to be involved with the student at home. **The parent's role varies from one course to another.** For example, our Literature/Writing courses require limited involvement on the part of the parent. While some parents choose to read and discuss the literature along with their children, others simply oversee timely completion of reading and writing assignments. Other tutorials may require more involvement. **In any course, the parent remains a partner with the tutor and at times needs to be the equalizing factor if a student is falling behind.** At our Parent Orientation in the fall, each tutor will take time to discuss your role for the tutorials you have chosen.

HSLDA MEMBERSHIP

You may be interested to know that New Hope is a **discount group with Home School Legal Defense Association.** As such, we can offer our families a savings on their membership fee. If you wish to join HSLDA from their website (www.hslda.org) *or* if you are renewing your membership and wish to do so through New Hope, simply refer to our **Discount Group Number, 299680.**

New Hope TUTORIALS

Application for Enrollment, 2010-2011 (please fill out one for each student)

Please fill out one enrollment application FOR EACH STUDENT.

Once you have submitted this enrollment form, New Hope will contact you to arrange for a Family Interview (the student *and* the parents should plan to attend). The purpose of this interview is, first, to assess the readiness of the student for our tutorials and second, to determine which tutorials will best meet your needs. **This Family Interview is mandatory for all families and students applying to New Hope for the first time.** Prior to this interview, students interested in enrolling in our literature/writing tutorials will be asked to read a particular short story or article and to respond to it in writing. This will enable our tutors to more accurately assess the student's readiness for these tutorials.

If a student is accepted at New Hope, parents will be expected to sign up for one of our **New Parent Nights** during the course of the summer. **Attendance at one of these nights is required for all parents of new students. Dates appear on the Registration Form.**

Name of Parent(s): _____

Name of Student: _____

Address: _____

Address (continued): _____

Home Phone/Cell phone _____

Parents' email: _____

Present schooling situation: _____

Student's Date of Birth: _____ Fall 2010 age of student: _____

Fall 2010 approximate grade level: _____ **(MS applicants must be 11 by 8/1/2010.)**

Church/town currently attending: _____

Enrollment 2010-2011

1/30/2010

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Please respond in writing to all of the following (there are a total of six questions):
****PLEASE RESPOND ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER TO ALLOW AMPLE SPACE FOR YOUR ANSWERS.**

1. Are you currently home schooling this student? If so, please answer questions A through C below. If not, please answer questions D through F.
 - A. How long have you homeschooled this student?
 - B. How would you describe your homeschooling experience? We at New Hope are very familiar with the homeschooling experience, so please feel free to share the positives as well as any negatives!
 - C. Please describe how your role of parent-as-teacher has worked with this student.
 - D. Why are you choosing to homeschool this child?
 - E. How do you envision your role as parent-teacher?
 - F. Do you have any family members or friends who are homeschooling?

2. How do you envision New Hope supporting your homeschool experience and helping you as a family? In other words, what needs do you have that you believe New Hope can meet?

3. What particular concerns do you have for your child or for your homeschooling experience in general?

4. New Hope and its tutors want every student to have a successful academic year at New Hope. Those students with learning disabilities often face unique challenges in an educational setting. While New Hope has been able to work successfully with some students with mild learning disabilities, our tutors do not have the training or expertise to work with more serious needs.

If your child has been diagnosed with a learning disability or has any learning “challenges” that you are aware of, you must schedule a meeting with the Director *prior to* the Family Interview in order to determine if New Hope is a good fit for your child. If your child has been formally tested at any time, we also request that you share with us any written evaluation or report from that testing.

5. At times, our children may have needs that require the counsel of a trained professional. We trust that parents will let us know when these needs are or have been serious in nature (i.e. have required significant professional intervention over an extended period of time) and/or when those needs may be evident while your child is under New Hope supervision. You may share that information with us here in writing or in a private and confidential conversation with our Director.

___ I would like to speak privately with the Director.

6. While we welcome the application of any student, we want families to be fully aware that New Hope is a decidedly Christian organization. Please read both the following paragraph *and* our Statement of Faith, the Nicene Creed (next page), carefully to be sure you are comfortable with what we consider to be the foundation of New Hope.

If you have any concerns or questions about this aspect of our organization, please share those with us here. We will also have the opportunity to discuss this aspect of New Hope with you at your Family Interview but would ask that you share your thoughts now.

New Hope as a Christ-Centered Organization

The Nicene Creed was chosen as New Hope's Statement of Faith because it sets forth the core beliefs of the Christian faith, and it is that faith that defines the fundamental character, or ethos, of New Hope. Precisely how the faith expressed in the Nicene Creed is worked out in the tutorials of New Hope is at the discretion of the tutors. These core beliefs provide the foundation upon which responses to contemporary issues are formed. The sacredness of human life, the stewardship of creation, and the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman are examples of convictions held by tutors at New Hope which flow from the foundational beliefs of the Nicene Creed. The tutors can be expected to share their faith convictions when such issues arise, and will do so within the context of respectful and gracious dialogue. The conversation and behavior of students should also be consistent with this ethos of New Hope, being charitable toward others and respectful of the beliefs set forth in this creed.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR RESPONSES TO:

New Hope Tutorials, Inc.
P.O. Box 1133
Middleton, MA 01949

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call New Hope's Director, Joan Smith, at 978-750-3633.

NEW HOPE'S STATEMENT OF FAITH

Recognizing the diversity of Christian expression and traditions, New Hope Tutorials, Inc. is intentionally ecumenical and strives to recognize and promote areas of agreement for all Christians. To ensure that the Christ revealed in Scripture is the foundation of our educational philosophy, that His Kingdom remains the ground of our proclamation and our faith, and to affirm the common heritage of all Christian traditions, New Hope has chosen to adopt as its Statement of Faith the Nicene Creed. Distinctive doctrines beyond the scope of this creed fall within the realm of parental and pastoral guidance and will not be promoted by New Hope or its tutors. New Hope requires that all its tutors, administrators and board members affirm their belief in this statement of biblical faith and see Christ as the foundation for all teaching and the single criterion for Truth. New Hope does *not* require registering families to adhere to the statements of faith embodied in this Creed; however, such families should be aware that tutors will teach from a decidedly Christian perspective and are encouraged to share their faith with their students.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. In one Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Parent Contract

I have made every reasonable effort to fully understand the goals, expectations and requirements of my child's tutorials--including reading course descriptions and meeting and/or talking with the tutor(s) and administration—and take full responsibility for the choice of this tutorial for my child.

I understand that students are expected to attend every tutorial unless they are sick or there is a family emergency. New Hope will make every reasonable effort to make up tutorials missed due to inclement weather, funerals at the church, or tutor sickness as outlined in the Makeup Policy in the *Parent and Student Handbook* (on New Hope's website) but is not responsible for making up student absences.

I fully understand the extent of my financial commitment to New Hope, i.e. that unless I drop a tutorial before the publicized deadline of August 1, I will remain financially responsible for the entire year's tuition for that tutorial.

I realize that, by registering my child, I am delegating to the tutor(s) and the administration of New Hope a portion of my parental responsibility for my child's education. Thus, I acknowledge the right of each tutor and/or the administration to establish guidelines or parameters for the following:

- assignments;
- discipline during tutorials and while on New Hope property;
- methodology;
- evaluation of student's work as well as of their attitude and behavior within the tutorial.

I have read the *Parent and Student Handbook* (available on our website) and agree to abide by all of its policies.

I realize that the success of New Hope Tutorials depends upon a partnership between parents, tutors and administrators, and I will support New Hope and the tutors by:

- attending Parent Orientation, Parent-Tutor Night, and other opportunities for instruction or dialogue with New Hope's director, tutors or Board of Directors;
- donating five or more hours of my time to New Hope over the course of the year;
- holding my child accountable for his/her compliance with the Student Contract with the understanding that repeated or blatant failure of a student to abide by the spirit or letter of the Student Contract may result in temporary or permanent dismissal from New Hope;
- assuring that my child arrives at New Hope no later than 15 minutes prior to the tutorial;
- recognizing the tutors' and director's responsibility to contact me if they have concerns about my child's academic performance, behavior, attitude,

etc., and my responsibility to work with New Hope to address those concerns.

I understand that New Hope is as a parent-based organization, i.e. one that partners with parents in achieving the academic goals they have for their children, and as such assumes that students will be under the care and authority of their parents throughout the academic year. If at any time my child removes him/herself from under my care and authority, New Hope reserves the right to reevaluate my child's status as a student and may ultimately terminate that status.

I understand that New Hope is an interdenominational Christian organization that "strives to recognize and promote areas of agreement for all Christians" (taken from New Hope's Statement of Faith) and that, therefore, all at New Hope are expected to treat with kindness and dignity everyone in our community regardless of their faith or worship tradition. In addition, I understand that New Hope tutors are committed to interpreting and evaluating all subjects in light of Scripture and that the tutors, all of whom are committed Christians, are encouraged to share their faith in the classroom.

Parent signature(s)-- both parents must sign if this is a two-parent household.

Date

Student Contract

I recognize that it is my responsibility to be informed about the tutorials for which I am registering which includes reading the relevant course descriptions (available on New Hope's website) and understanding the course content and requirements.

I am making a commitment to attend tutorials for the entire year. In the event that I face difficulties, academic or otherwise, I will make them known to my tutor or the director of New Hope with the understanding that we will work together to resolve any concerns. If I am unable to attend a tutorial due to sickness or other situation beyond my control, I will inform my tutor as soon as possible that I will be absent. Immediately following an absence, I will contact my tutor to hear what I missed and to get assignments for the next tutorial.

I understand that as a student at New Hope, I am a scholar, a status that brings with it both rights and responsibilities.

- I will show respect for the tutor and my peers and will not in any way use my attitude, behavior, speech, or dress to offend them or to infringe on either the tutor's responsibility to teach or another student's right to learn. I have the right to expect others to return this level of respect.
- I will afford respect to my tutor(s) by taking it upon myself to be a proactive student. To that end, I will come to the tutorial prepared to be an active participant, will submit all assigned work on time, ask questions during and after tutorials, etc. In short, I will take personal ownership of my learning experience.
- I will respect the learning process, consistently giving my best effort and pursuing excellence both within the tutorial and when I am working on my own.
- I will conduct myself with the highest academic integrity and will encourage others to do the same. I will not cheat or misrepresent another person's work as my own (plagiarism). I understand that intentional disregard for this standard of academic integrity can result in temporary or permanent dismissal from New Hope.

I have taken it upon myself to be informed of the policies of New Hope Tutorials. I have read the *Parent and Student Handbook* (available on New Hope's website) and agree to abide by any and all of its guidelines, including but not limited to "Student Presence," "Late/incomplete assignments and lack of preparation," "Student absences," "Student attire," and "Student use of iPods and other entertainment technology."

I will show respect for New Hope as an organization and will comply with its zero tolerance policy for illegal drugs or alcohol. I understand that either possession of said drugs or attending tutorials while under their influence will result in my immediate and permanent dismissal from New Hope.

I understand that New Hope is a parent-based organization, i.e. one that partners with parents in achieving the academic goals they have for their children. As such, New Hope assumes that students will be under the care and authority of their parents throughout the academic year. If at any time I remove myself from under the care and authority of my parents, New Hope reserves the right to reevaluate my status as a student and may ultimately terminate that status.

I will show respect for New Hope as an interdenominational Christian organization that “strives to recognize and promote areas of agreement for all Christians” (taken from New Hope’s Statement of Faith) by treating with kindness and dignity any students or tutors whose faith or traditions differ from my own. In addition, I understand that New Hope tutors are committed to interpreting and evaluating all subjects in light of Scripture and are encouraged to share their faith in the classroom. If I personally do not hold to a Biblical or Christian worldview, I understand that I may express my opinions and ask questions in a respectful and thoughtful manner with the expectation of receiving a respectful and thoughtful response.

Finally, I understand that by signing this contract, I am agreeing to abide by all of the statements within this contract as well as all of the policies outlined in the *Parent and Student Handbook*, to the best of my ability; and that repeated or blatant failure to abide by the spirit or letter of either the Student Contract or the Handbook may result in temporary or permanent dismissal from New Hope.

Student signature

Date