



## **New Hampshire Department of Education**

**Every Student Deserves Access to a Recovering Bright Futures Program  
That Supports The Whole Child Disrupted by the Coronavirus Pandemic  
Through Learning Pods**

Welcome to Recovering Bright Futures. This Q & A document will take you on a concise journey of this unique, individualized instructional model and describe how this program works. Learning Pods may be new to many, but throughout the pandemic and across the country, they have served thousands of students in a small-group, multi-age and trauma sensitive learning environments.

Just what some students need as their learning moves forward!

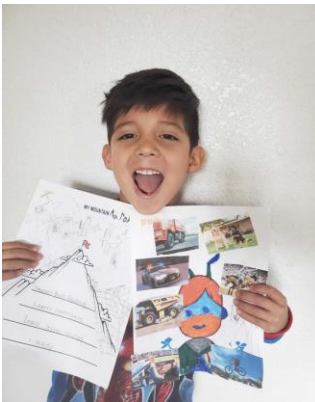
[Let's begin.](#)

**Q: What is a Learning Pod, and how will this program help to Recover Bright Futures for New Hampshire learners?**

**A:** Recovering Bright Futures is a program that partners with New Hampshire public school districts and families to inspire students to love learning through its unique instructional model. Learning Pods, that are facilitated by Prenda, utilize a proven mastery and project-based learning model to give students more agency and autonomy in their learning. Prenda Learning Pods cater to 5-10 students per learning pod to ensure children have the time to conquer their day, collaborate and create.

**Q: What grades are supported by the Recovering Bright Futures Program?**

**A:** Kindergarten - 8th-grade students grouping K-2nd grade, 3-5th grade, and 6-8th grade.



*Pictures photographed before COVID-19: Actual Prenda students during the Create and Goal Setting part of their day.*

**Q: What type of student is best for this program?**

**A:** Students who thrive with more individualized attention and in small-group settings, especially those who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic and need additional support to thrive in the traditional classroom. These students may be identified by the district, teachers, or by the parents themselves.

**Q: Who is Prenda?**

**A:** Prenda is a national leader in providing families with access to Learning Pod opportunities. Founded in 2018 with its headquarters in Mesa, Arizona, Prenda serves thousands of students through its 430 Learning Pods designed to support students' mental, social and educational development in states across the country.

**Q: Where will learning take place for Learning Pod students?**

**A:** Their normal school building, if the district has room to accommodate the students. Alternative locations will be used if there is not space in the traditional school facility. Alternative spaces may include a local non-profit like the Boys and Girls Club, the town library, a child care facility, or other suitable location.

An “empowered learner”:  
sets goals,  
holds themselves accountable,  
persists in the face of obstacles,  
collaborates with others, and  
develops their unique gifts as they make their  
dent in the universe.



**Q: What makes the Learning Pod culture and learning environment unique?**

**A:** In addition to students mastering English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science; students learn core values to support their personal development and social skills. Prenda Learning pods practice the following daily values:

*Start with Heart = caring about people and passion for learning.*

*Dare Greatly = courageously tackling the big goals ahead*

*Figure it Out =utilizing problem-solving skills to foster growth*

*Foundation of Trust =considering trust in every interaction*

*Learning > Comfort = stepping out of comfort zones to achieve more*

**Q: What is the typical school day of a Learning Pod student?**

**A:** Students are guided through the Learning Model by a certified Prenda guide.

### Prenda Learning Model

<i>Conquer</i>	-	<i>Collaborate</i>	-	<i>Create</i>
<p>Students work through core academic subjects with the support of a guide using cutting-edge learning tools that adapt to student performance and require that students master material before they move on.</p>		<p>A structured group activity to achieve a higher level of understanding than any one person could achieve alone. Examples: discussion, debate, collaborative research, math application puzzles, science experiments.</p>		<p>Students work in pairs or small groups to build cross-curricular projects. We provide prompts that invite learning in STEM, history, research, writing, presenting, performing, art, mindset, and healthy habits.</p>

**Q: Who leads students' day-to-day learning activities?**

**A:** Certified Prenda Guides who go through specific training and are supported by a New Hampshire Certified Teacher, with oversight by a Regional Administrator.

#### Parent to Guide Testimonial:

*“Prenda has given my son new excitement for learning. I see amazing growth in him. The guides truly care and help to create an environment that invites learning and growth.”*— M.B., mom.

**Q: What are the parent and guardian responsibilities in partnership with their Learning Pod?**

**A:** Guides, parents, and students meet to make curriculum decisions, support the student in setting reasonable but ambitious goals based on individualized student data, review progress, and address student accommodations and adaptations.

**Q: Do parents get to choose their child's guide, and what is the process?**

**A:** Yes. Parents often have someone in their community who would be an excellent guide for their children, so they ask them to lead a Learning Pod. The local District may have a qualified teacher who can serve as a guide. Parents and guides are encouraged to meet to make sure the Learning Pod will be a good fit.

**Q: Who are the technology partners supporting individualized and adaptive learning paths?**

**A:** **Lexia** (decoding, grammar, reading comprehension, spelling), **NoRedInk** (grammar and writing),

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**Lightsail** (reading comprehension), **Khan Academy** (math), **Zearn** (math), **Dreambox** (math), and our very own **Treasure Hunt Reading**.

**Q: How do students stay organized using the on-line learning tools?**

**A:** Students have access to Prenda's proprietary software, **PrendaWorld**. Working closely with their guide, students manage their learning tools, set goals, and hold themselves accountable.

**Q: Do Learning Pod students learn the same curriculum other students are learning in the classroom?**

**A:** Students learn using an individualized path aligned to state standards. This mastery-based approach positions the student for academic success. The learning is aligned to the state academic standards so that students can stay on track with their peers.

**Q: Are Learning Pod learning programs aligned with state educational standards?**

**A:** Yes. Learning programs are aligned with New Hampshire Academic Standards adapted to the individual student.

**Q: How will student performance data be reported to the school district?**

**A:** Prenda will provide quarterly updates on student performance criteria directly to a district site coordinator (i.e., a point-of-contact between the district and Prenda). Students participating in a Learning Pod will be required to participate in the Statewide assessment, NH SAS.

**Q: Are letter grades given for subjects, and how do students measure progress?**

**A:** Districts may use the quarterly data, which could include iReady benchmarks, progress in learning tools and other data to assign grades and report cards as determined by the district. The students measure progress by setting personal learning goals during the Conquer part of their day. This learning model is mastery-based and encourages students to move on when they are ready.

**Q: How do guides support students when they face a learning challenge?**

**A:** Through a three-step process where they 1) try to solve the problem independently, 2) ask peers for help, and 3) work through the knowledge-finding process with their guide.



**Q: What if a student starts in a Learning Pod and is ready to transition back to their regular class setting?**

**A:** Students can return to their regular class setting at any time.

**Q: How does Prenda support students from underprivileged homes and environments?**

**A:** Prenda takes a strategic, multi-faceted approach through its Equitable Alliances (EA) Team. The EA team helps parents and guides find additional resources to help serve students who have experienced trauma, with more socio-emotional support and finding helping support for an extended day, food, and transportation, where those resources are available. Learning Pods are hyper-localized, sometimes even eliminating the need for transportation. Guides obtain tools to provide emotional support and safe learning environments.

**Q: How satisfied are *students* with Prenda’s Learning Model, Core Values, and Culture?**

**A:** In weekly “Student Happiness” surveys, on average, 82-87% of Prenda students select “Happy” or “Very Happy.”

**Q: How satisfied are *parents and guardians* with Prenda’s Learning Model Core Values and Culture?**

**A:** Parents regularly take a “Parent Happiness” survey. On average, 92% of our parents indicate “Happy” or “Very Happy” in this survey.

**Q: Who can apply for the Recovering Bright Futures Grant Program?**

**A:** Any New Hampshire public school is eligible to access a Learning Pod through the Recovering Bright Futures Program. Students from multiple school districts may be combined at one Learning Pod. Parents and guardians will enroll students by visiting the Prenda website, [prendaschool.com](http://prendaschool.com).

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**Q: If a district receives a grant to create a District Learning Pod, can they deny any of their students from participating?**

**A:** If a district chooses to create a District Learning Pod, it must serve any interested district students as availability allows. No district is forced to apply for a grant and create a District Learning Pod.

If a parent does not have access to a District Learning Pod and would still like their child to participate, a Community Learning Pod option is available. Parents can complete an application on-line or contact the Department of Education ([LearningPods@doe.nh.gov](mailto:LearningPods@doe.nh.gov)) or Prenda for more information on this option.

**Q: Is there a cap for the number of students who can participate in the Recovering Bright Futures Program?**

**A:** The only limitation is funding availability. The State will attempt to fund as many students needing this option as possible. Once accepted into the program, unless a student exits early, they have this option for the entire 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic school years.

**Q: What happens when a district decides to enroll a student with District Learning Pod?**

**A:** Once a district is notified that a student will be participating in a District Learning Pod, the district will provide Prenda the necessary documentation, including but not limited to IEPs and 504 plans, as well as the state student ID number (SSID). Prenda requires a minimum of one week to complete an internal enrollment process for the student.

**Q: What happens when a family decides to enroll a student in a Community Learning Pod?**

**A:** Students enrolling in a Community Learning Pod will be required to complete an intent to Home Educate and follow New Hampshire [RSA 193-A](#). Information about this option is available from the Department of Education [here](#).

**Q: How will this impact the school district's accountability metrics?**

**A:** Students participating in a Learning Pod will be required to participate in the Statewide assessment, NH SAS. This includes students both in District Learning Pods and Community Learning Pods.

**Q: How does student attendance work?**

**A:** Attendance for District Learning Pods will follow District practices. Community Learning Pods will develop a localized learning pod specific attendance approach.

**Q: How is the tuition for the Learning Pod paid?**

**A:** The Department of Education through federal COVID-19 recovery grants will fund a student's tuition directly to Prenda for up to 2 years, contingent on the student's eligibility and grant funding. The district does not have to be involved in that aspect of the administration. There is no cost to the parents or the school district.

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**Additional questions? Contact**

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For more information about Prenda in New Hampshire please visit

<https://prendaschool.com/new-hampshire>