



## **Community Report on Norland Elementary School**

***A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment***

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Norland Elementary School serves PreK through Fifth Grade in the Norland neighborhood of Miami Gardens. It enrolls approximately 587 students with a student-teacher ratio of about sixteen to one. Academic performance is modest, with about 41 percent proficiency in math and 38 percent proficiency in reading. From a traditional or faith based perspective the school receives a **rating of 3 out of 10**, reflecting below-average outcomes and district identity policies that may not align with all family values.

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#### School Contact Information

School Name

Norland Elementary School

Address

19340 NW 8th Court

Miami FL 33169

Grades

PreK to Fifth Grade

District

Miami Dade County Public Schools

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#### 1. Student Demographics and Support Services

- The student body is majority-minority, with a high percentage of African American and Hispanic students
- A significant share of students qualify for free or reduced price lunch

Support services include ESOL instruction, special education, small group tutoring in reading and math, counseling, and Title I-funded support focused on academic recovery

#### 2. Academic Standing and Programs

- Math proficiency is around 41 percent and reading proficiency near 38 percent
- The school offers Gifted and Talented programming and occasional enrichment activities
- Teachers employ data-driven instruction and small group support, but academic performance remains below district standards

#### 3. Facilities and Learning Environment

The school campus includes standard classrooms, a media center, and supervised

outdoor areas. Safety and security protocols guide arrival and dismissal routines. The school hosts family engagement events such as reading and STEM nights

4. Values and Policy Environment

District policy protects gender identity and sexual orientation as categories under non-discrimination guidelines. Staff are expected to address students by chosen names and pronouns starting in PreK with no parent opt-out option. No formal LGBTQ curriculum is taught at the elementary level, though inclusive language may appear during counseling or in general school communication. Families may wish to discuss how these policies are applied in classrooms

5. Bathroom Policy and Privacy

Restrooms are gender segregated with separate facilities for boys and girls. Common areas and corridors are supervised by staff. There are no gender-neutral or shared restroom facilities. Parents may request a visit to confirm arrangements

6. Recent Issues of Note

There are no publicly documented incidents of safety or discipline issues. Detailed data on chronic absenteeism is not available, so no attendance rates are reported here

7. Religious Practices

No credible information was found indicating opposition to religious practices or ideology. Students may participate in personal faith expression during non-instructional time without restriction

8. Parent Engagement and Communication

Parents are invited to participate in advisory council meetings, reading nights, and volunteer opportunities. Information is shared through newsletters and messaging platforms. Families generally report positive interactions with staff, though some note variable responsiveness

9. Parent Concerns and Suggested Actions

Families with traditional or faith based perspectives may wish to consider:

- How pronoun and identity policies are introduced in early grades
- Support available for students performing below grade level
- Notification procedures following academic or behavioral concerns
- Opportunities to participate in decision making or volunteer roles

Recommended next steps for parents:

- Visit the school early in the year and meet school administrators
- Attend literacy or academic events to observe the school environment
- Request the parent handbook to review policies on identity, attendance, and discipline
- Monitor academic progress and communicate regularly with teachers

Final Rating: 3 out of 10

Policy Environment 2

District identity and pronoun protocols apply from PreK with no opt-out allowed

School Practice 4

Some support services exist but academic performance remains below expectations

Classroom Exposure 4

Inclusive messaging may appear informally; no structured identity curriculum in early grades

Community Culture 5

Staff facilitate family engagement; academic consistency and communication vary

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Final Summary for Parents

Norland Elementary serves a diverse student body with modest academic outcomes compared to district benchmarks. The school enforces district identity policies beginning in early grades and maintains traditional restroom configurations. No evidence of religious restrictions was found. Parents seeking stronger academic performance and alignment with traditional values are encouraged to meet with leadership, observe classrooms, and assess whether the school environment meets their expectations.