

Virtual Learning

Q: What will a typical school day look like?

A: The school day begins at 7:30 with students meeting in Microsoft Teams with their homeroom teacher for a morning meeting. Students will attend 15-20 minute live lessons on Microsoft Teams for each subject: Reading, Math, Writing, Science, Social Studies, and Specialists. Following each live lesson, students will work independently or meet with the teacher in a small group. Detailed daily schedules will be developed by teachers and shared with families before school starts.

Q: What programs will students use?

A: Students will complete lesson activities on HISD's online digital learning platform, the HUB. You can access the HUB at www.houstonisd.org/hub. Live lessons will be on the Microsoft Teams app. Teachers and students will also have access to HISD's digital resources including MyOn, Imagine Learning, and more.

Q: Will there be training for parents on virtual learning?

A: Yes. Visit <https://www.houstonisd.org/ParentCourse> to take the course.

Q: What if my student misses the live lesson?

A: Recordings of live lessons will be available on the HUB.

Q: Will students in grades 3-5 still have two teachers?

A: Yes. Students will start out with their homeroom teacher and switch halfway through the day.

Q: Do students have to wear their uniforms?

A: No, however, students should be dressed appropriately for school.

Attendance and Grading

Q: How will attendance be taken?

A: Students who engage in daily learning activities will count as "present" for the day. These include participating in HUB lessons and/or attending live lessons on Microsoft Teams. If students are unable to attend live lessons or participate on the HUB, they can

still be counted present if they submit assignments via email or participate in a phone conference with the teacher. Students who have not engaged in one of these learning activities by 2:30 will be marked "absent." Absences can be resolved if the student engages in daily learning assigned by their teacher by 11:59 PM that same day. Parents and students will receive absence notifications via School Messenger after 6:00 p.m. each day and will be reminded of the opportunity to resolve that day's absence.

Q: How will grading take place?

A: Students enrolled in remote instruction follow the same grading guidelines as in-person instruction. Grades will be taken during each grading cycle of the 2020-2021 school year. All cycle grades will be used in the calculation of the final average. Teachers will post grades weekly which can be accessed through the HISD Connect Parent Portal: <https://www.houstonisd.org/parentportal>.

Technology and Supplies

Q: How do we obtain technology for our students?

A: We will distribute technology to all students before school starts on September 8th. Details on when to pick up technology are coming soon.

Q: What if we need technical assistance?

A: First, contact your child's teacher. If they are unable to help you, they will refer you to either our campus specialist or the HISD Technology Service Desk at 713-892-7378 or servicedesk@houstonisd.org.

Q: What if our internet stops working?

A: We understand that internet connectivity can be tricky. Teachers will work with families who are struggling to connect to the internet.

Q: What types of technology are compatible with HISD learning platforms?

A: Chromebooks, PCs, iPads, tablets, and Macs.

Please note that all information is subject to change in order to adhere to District, State, and Health Department guidelines.

Updated: 8/17/20

Special Programs

Q: What will the Vanguard program look like for GT students?

A: Teachers will continue to differentiate for our GT students. Differentiation can be in the way a lesson is presented and/or in the student deliverable (ex: more in-depth analysis, project based, etc.)

Q: How will the Dual Language program be implemented?

A: Students will still receive instruction in both languages according to the Dual Language guidelines. Dual Language students will have access to additional resources to support language development.

Q: How will students that receive services through Special Education and Section 504?

A: Students receiving Special Education or Section 504 services will continue to receive support as outlined in their individualized plan.

Q: Will Vanguard or Dual Language students lose their space at Herod if they opt for virtual learning?

A: No. A student will not lose their magnet placement.

Social and Emotional Learning

Q: What is the school doing to meet the social and emotional needs of students?

A: Each day will begin with a homeroom Morning Meeting during which students will engage in social emotional lessons, discussions, and community building activities.

Q: How can students and families get to know each other virtually?

A: This is something that we are looking into. Teachers will incorporate activities where students may interact with each other but per district guidelines around social gatherings, we will be unable to host social gatherings.

Returning to Campus

Q: When will students return to classes on campus?

A: As of right now, students will be able to attend school in person starting on Monday, October 19. This may change according to district and state guidelines.

Q: What if I don't want to send my student to school on campus?

A: Virtual learning will be offered through the end of the year. Parents will have the option to opt out of face-to-face instruction entirely for the fall semester and school year. Parents choosing this option must attend a virtual class outlining expectations and sign an agreement committing to virtual learning for the semester.

Q: What safety protocols will be in place?

Safety protocols will include requiring all HISD employees and students to undergo entry screenings, wash hands regularly, and practice physical distancing. The district will provide enough hand soap, paper towels, tissues, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant to accommodate frequent cleaning of high-touch areas. Employees and students in **grades 2-5** will be required to wear a face mask.

Q: Will extended day and enrichment be offered?

A: The district has not made a decision yet. We will communicate more as soon as we can.

Q: Will parents be allowed to visit and volunteer at the school?

A: As of right now, no visitors will be allowed on campus during the school day.

Helpful Links

www.houstonisd.org/ParentCourse

www.houstonisd.org/reopening

www.houstonisd.org/healthalerts

www.houstonisd.org/HOME

www.houstonisd.org/digitalresources

www.houstonisd.org/parentportal

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