Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. **When does school start and how will my child’s day academic day look virtually?**

   Here is a timeline for the re-opening dates:
   - **September 8, 2020:** First day of school (Virtual only)
   - **October 19, 2020:** Face-to-face instruction begins – subject to change based on COVID-19 conditions across the city of Houston and guidance from local, state, and federal health officials.
   - **September 8 – January 29:** First semester of remote learning for students/parents who choose online-only instruction.

1a. **What is Synchronous Learning?**

   Synchronous Instruction is when the teacher delivers short increments of direct and small group instruction LIVE on Microsoft Team or in person.

1b. **What is Asynchronous Learning?**

   Asynchronous instruction is when the students complete learning at their own pace independently. All students will complete self-paced personalized activities via the HUB daily.

1c. **How can my child receive academic support?**

   Interventions will be scheduled by the teacher on as-needed basis by teachers based on student progress. Students can also seek instructional support from any teacher during office hours.
2. Will the school give my child a laptop to use for virtual instruction?

The last day to request technology was Saturday, August 22nd at 5:00 PM.

If you are still in need of technology please email our Wrap Around Specialist, Ms. Edwards at delisa.edwards@houstonisd.org to be put on our waiting list.
3. When can my child pick up the school laptop?

Due to district closures on August 26th -27th we have pushed tech distribution back one day. All students have been assigned a date and time according to grade and last name to ensure a safe laptop distribution.

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<tr>
<th>Tuesday, Sep. 1</th>
<th>Wednesday, Sep. 2</th>
<th>Thursday, Sep. 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th Grade Tech Pick up</td>
<td>7th Grade Tech Pick up</td>
<td>8th Grade Tech Pick up</td>
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<td>Location: Outside of the MPR (Back of School)</td>
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<td>Last Names</td>
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4. What if I already have a school issued iPad from last school year, can I get a laptop instead?

Yes, we are asking all students who currently have a school issued iPad to return it when you pick up a laptop.

5. What if my child already has a personal laptop at home and does not need one from the school, do we still need to check one out?

No.
6. Who are my child’s teachers?

Due to district closures on August 26th - 27th we have pushed schedule distribution back one day. The teachers’ names will be listed on your child’s student schedule. A copy of the student schedule & teacher contact information will be given curbside on the dates below:

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<tr>
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7. Will my child and I get to meet his/her teachers before the first day of school?

Yes, we will host a virtual meet the teacher on Thursday, September 3, 2020 from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

- 6th Grade Meet the Teacher will be held virtually on Microsoft Team from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- 7th Grade Meet the Teacher will be held virtually on Microsoft Team from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- 8th Grade Meet the Teacher will be held virtually on Microsoft Team from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

*All links to join virtual Meet the Teacher will be posted online by September 1, 2020.

8. What if I have questions after school starts, who do I ask?

We are here to help you. You can contact us with your questions by calling 713-226-4543 or you can email any of your child’s teachers or administrators using the Directory list on our school website.
9. Will there be a uniform policy enforced?
Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we understand that many families may be experiencing hardship, so we have decided to implement a dress code standard but not a policy when we reopen face to face on October 19, 2020.

10. Who is the school counselor?
Our school counselor is Ms. Dora Gonzalez. You can contact her via email at Dora.Gonzalez2@houstonisd.org

11. Who can I contact if I need resources or assistance within the community?
Our Wraparound Specialist is Ms. Delisa Edwards. You can contact her via email at Delisa.Edwards@houstonisd.org

12. I heard there was a parent course for Virtual Learning, where can I access it?
The transition to virtual learning can present various challenges for families. To ensure parents and guardians are better informed, this HISD course is designed to introduce virtual learning and guidance to support your student’s virtual learning experience. https://www.houstonisd.org/ParentCourse

13. What is Eagle Onboarding Week?
Tuesday, September 1st thru Sunday, September 6th we will host a series of sessions aimed at helping parents and students navigate virtual learning. Each session will be held from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM.

The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, September 1st Topic: How to access student email accounts of Microsoft Outlook & Microsoft Teams

Wednesday, September 2nd Topic: How to Navigate the HUB

Thursday, September 3rd: No meeting. Virtual Meet the Teacher.

Friday, September 4th Topic: Special Education Services & Virtual Magnet Requirements

Sunday, September 6th Topic: Preparing for the first day of school
14. When will after school sports and clubs begin?
We are following guidance from UIL and the HISD Athletics department. As we obtain more information, we will post it on our school website and school social media.

15. I missed the last parent meeting; can you share the information with me?
The PowerPoint from our Coffee with the Principal is posted on our school website.  
Step 1: Visit www.houstonisd.org/ruskschool  
Step 2: Under the school news section on the home page, select parent resources  
Step 3: Under the Virtual Parent Resources heading select Coffee with the Principal  
You can click and view it at any time.

16. How can I stay connected with the school, so I do not miss any announcements or updates?
We post school information and announcements on our school website at houston isd.org/ruskschool and our social media outlets. Please follow us:

Facebook: BCM Biotech Academy at Rusk
Facebook Parent Group: Eagles Parents of BCM Biotech at Rusk
Twitter: @BCMBiotechRusk