



POLK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Distance Learning Question and Answer Document for Parents

All parents and students wishing to participate in distance learning must have a completed application submitted to Polk School District by Friday, July 17 AND attend a mandatory orientation on Tuesday, July 21 at 5:30 at Polk County College and Career Academy-Cedartown High School Campus or Thursday, July 23 at 5:30 at Rockmart High School.

Q: If I enroll my child in distance learning, how will they receive instruction?

A: Pre-K students are not eligible for distance learning. If you do not want your child to come to school, your spot will be forfeited. If your student is an *elementary student in grades K-1*, he or she will receive paper packets to complete assignments. If your student is an *elementary student in grades 2-5*, he or she will be using the following educational platforms: Study Island, Reading A-Z, Moby Max, IXL, and Fast ForWord. If your student is a *middle/high school student*, he or she will be using Odysseyware as the primary platform for learning. Additional resources will be provided through Study Island, IXL, Moby Max and USA Test Prep.

Q: Will students electing to participate in distance learning be issued a device?

A: No, students will need to provide their own reliable device. In the event of a district-wide shut down, devices will be provided to students in grades 2-12.

Q: If my student elects distance learning, will my home need to have internet access?

A: Yes, reliable internet access will be required.

Q: How much time will students be required to be online when participating in distance learning?

A: The expectation will be that students are logged in and actively working a minimum of five hours daily.

Q: How will student grades be calculated?

A: Grades will be calculated per the Polk School District grading policy based upon assignments completed and progress made in the online platform.

Q: Will students have access to teachers when participating in distance learning?

A: Teachers monitoring distance learning will have daily office hours during which students can contact them for assistance. They will also touch base with students on a weekly basis to monitor progress.



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Q: How will IEP services be provided for students with disabilities participating in distance learning?

A: The IEP team will meet to review the IEP and discuss the services and supports needed to assist students in special, including related services. Special Education Teachers for Inclusion classes will work collaboratively with general education teachers to update online classrooms to include accommodations needed for differentiation as required in the student's IEP. Special Education teachers assigned to distance learning will schedule virtual class sessions for students who receive support through inclusion and small group instruction. Class sessions will focus on supporting online coursework for 2-12 and packets for K-1. In addition, virtual classroom instruction will be scheduled to address individual goals and objectives. The number of sessions your child will need to log in will be determined as a team during the IEP meeting. Students on modified curriculum will be using the Unique Curriculum platform for instruction. Special education teachers assigned to distance learning will work with families to determine appropriate platforms for supporting students weekly as they access Unique Curriculum.

Q: What if a student falls behind or does not meet their weekly progress/expectations?

A: Students that fall behind in their courses will be required to attend a meeting at their respective school with a parent/guardian to develop an instructional plan to address areas of concern.

Q: What if I elect to participate in distance learning and determine I want to return to school?

A: Students that enroll in distance learning will have a ten-day grace period during which they can elect to return to a traditional school setting. After the ten-day period, students will be required to complete the semester via distance learning.

Q: Will my student be able to participate in Advanced Placement (AP) courses via distance learning?

A: Students desiring to take AP courses virtually will be enrolled in Georgia Virtual School. Students will utilize Georgia Virtual School's learning platform for instruction and assignments.

Q: Will my student be able to participate in Honors courses via distance learning?

A: No, at this time, Honors courses will only be offered at our schools in the face-to-face format.

Q: Will my student be able to participate in Dual Enrollment via distance learning?

A: Dual enrollment courses offered on Cedartown and Rockmart High School campuses will be offered in the face-to-face format. However, online courses are available through our post-secondary partners. Students will need to contact Meagan Carter, mcarter@polk.k12.ga.us, at Cedartown High School and Kim Wilson, kwilson@polk.k12.ga.us, at Rockmart High School to



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discuss availability. This should be done as soon as possible to meet deadlines established by the colleges.

Q: Will distance learning students be able to participate in extra-curricular activities?

A: Students that are electing distance learning based on medical reasons are encouraged not to participate in extra-curricular activities for health and safety precautions.

Q: Will distance learning students be able to participate in co-curricular activities such as band, chorus, drama, CNA, FFA, SkillsUSA, FBLA, and Yearbook?

A: Students that are electing distance learning will not be able to participate in co-curricular activities because these activities require the face-to-face instructional component that can only be provided in the classroom setting. The platforms used for distance learning do not provide the necessary content required for co-curricular activities/programs including hands-on/project-based experiences.

Q: Will distance learning students be able to participate in sports?

A: Students that are electing distance learning based on medical reasons are encouraged not to participate in sports for health and safety precautions.

*If you have any additional questions regarding distance learning,
please send them to questions@polk.k12.ga.us.*