



Yazoo County School District

Virtual Learning Frequently Asked Questions

What does a typical virtual learning school day look like for my child? Virtual learning cannot fully replicate the experience of face-to-face teaching and learning, but virtual learning is designed to provide students with the content to meet the same state standards as on-campus learning. While virtual learning classes will not be a live stream or recording of on-campus classes at your child's school due to privacy concerns, the curriculum will include asynchronous instruction overseen by a licensed teacher and provided through a variety of possible means which may include re-recorded instructional video lessons, external links to provide additional resources, screen recordings to provide instructions, downloadable assignments to be submitted through Canvas, and/or other activities.

Yazoo County instructional staff will be available to assist virtual learning students with weekly independent assignments posted in an online Learning Management System (Canvas). Student interaction with teachers will occur through a platform such as Zoom, Google Meets, or Conferencing.

Will my child's schedule be similar to that as if they were in the building? Students must participate in 240 minutes of instruction/activities daily, as required by the Mississippi Department of Education. The direct instruction/communication with Yazoo County teachers will only occur during teacher office hours during school hours on school days which would include Monday – Friday.

Sample Distance Learning Day for Elementary Students (Kindergarten – 5th Grade)

A. Time – An equivalent of 240 minutes of instruction will be offered. This could include recorded teaching from the classroom teacher, instructional videos, screen recording (using Studio), tasks, downloadable assignments, and/or activities. The mode of instruction will vary by school, grade level and/or course.

B. Procedures and learning expectations – Academic procedures and expectations will mirror the traditional classroom as much as possible.

C. English/Language Arts – The Canvas platform will house lessons including new instruction and review of standards and learning targets, independent practice (can be offline), pre-recorded instructional videos and some virtual small group and/or one on one instruction to meet the needs of students. Teachers may use external links to provide additional supplemental resources.

D. Math - The Canvas platform will house lessons including new instruction and review of standards and learning targets, independent practice (can be offline), pre-recorded instructional videos and some virtual small group and/or one on one instruction to meet the needs of students. Teachers may embed external links in Canvas to help provide additional supplemental resources for students.

E. Science and Social Studies – The Canvas platform will house lessons including new instruction and review of standards and learning targets, independent practice (can be offline), pre-recorded instructional videos and some virtual small group and/or one on one instruction to meet the needs of students. Teachers may embed external links in Canvas to help provide additional supplemental resources for students. Science and social studies topics will be incorporated in English/language arts as much as possible.

F. Physical Education - The Canvas platform will house lessons that will include independent practice (can be offline), pre-recorded instructional videos to to meet the needs of students. Teachers may embed external links in Canvas to help provide additional supplemental resources for students.

G. Assessment – An assessment can be entered in Canvas for use to determine students’ needs at the beginning of the year. Additionally, formative checks and summative assessments used in the traditional school model will be adapted to allow for online access. Students may also be required to take district and state assessments periodically throughout the year.

H. Teacher Check-ins – All students will be provided feedback and guidance through Canvas. Teachers will be available during set office hours multiple times throughout the week to answer questions and/or video conference with students. Parents and/or students may reach out to teachers with questions and requests for help at any time.

Sample Distance Learning School Day for Secondary Students (6th – 12th Grade)

A. Time – An equivalent of 240 minutes of instruction will be offered. This could include recorded teaching from the classroom teacher, instructional videos, screen recording (using Studio) tasks, downloadable assignments, and/or activities. The mode of instruction will vary by school, grade level and/or course.

B. Procedures and Learning Expectations – Academic procedures and expectations will mirror the traditional classroom as much as possible.

C. All Secondary Courses – The Canvas platform will house instructional lessons including a review of previous material and learning targets, direct instruction, and independent practice (can be offline). Direct instruction could consist of pre-recorded instructional videos, and some virtual small group and/or one on one instruction to meet the needs of students. Instruction may also include narrated PowerPoints, guided practice, or independent reading of content or textbooks. Teachers may embed external links in Canvas to help provide additional supplemental resources for students.

D. Assessment – Students can be provided multiple opportunities to showcase their learning through formal and informal assessments in Canvas. Students may also be required to take district and state assessments periodically throughout the year.

H. Teacher Check-ins – All students will be provided feedback and guidance through Canvas. Teachers will be available during set office hours multiple times throughout the week to answer questions and/or video conference with students. Parents and/or students may reach out to teachers with questions and requests for help at any time.

Will my student be assigned to a teacher? Yes, all students will be assigned to a teacher for each core class and the majority of elective classes. Certain high school elective classes could be completed through Edgenuity if the class is not offered by the school with a Yazoo County teacher available.

How much time will a student be expected to spend on schoolwork? Will the schedule/routine be the same every day? Mississippi Department of Education guidelines call for 4 hours of daily instruction/learning for a total of 20 hours per week. However, the actual amount of time a student will spend on schoolwork each day may vary somewhat based on the student's work/study habits and time management skills.

Will instructional supports for technological devices be provided to students enrolled in virtual learning? Technological devices such as Chromebooks will be available to each student enrolled in virtual learning. The Technology Department will gladly assist with any technology challenges.

Will students involved in virtual learning have to attend the school site to complete their assessments? From time to time, students enrolled in virtual learning may be required to be in person for school and state testing or other activities designated by the school or District leadership. Safety precautions will be in place, such as limiting the number of students in a room, in order to social distance. Safety protocols outlined in the District and school level reentry guidelines will be followed during the COVID-19 pandemic.