

K-8 Online Learning Frequently Asked Questions

All About Me Assignment

I got the assignment instructions yesterday does it mean we need to submit it in two weeks?

The All About Me assignment should be completed by Monday, September 28. Teachers will let you know how to submit it to them.

Is the All About Me Assignment for this week and next week? i.e. does this mean that you'll be sending out these assignments every two weeks? The assignment is for the next two weeks, due on or before Monday, September 28. After that your teacher will send out Weekly Lesson Plans and a schedule of when classes will meet on Teams.

Is the All About Me Assignment for grade 6 students too? Yes, every grade is completing the assignment. Grade 6 students will complete the activities on the Grade 6-8 Choice Boards.

Do we choose between the PowerPoint template and Choice Board or do both? Everyone chooses from the Choice board—you can present the student's work in a ppt or any other way that works for your family eg. Photos, written work etc.

What is the deadline to finish the five activities on the first online assignment? The assignment is due Monday, September 28.

When I finish my homework where do I send it to? You will send it to your teacher, they will connect with you soon to let you know the process.

When school online start? School has started! The first assignment is the All About Me Assignment. Teachers will be reaching out the week of September 21 to set up Conference with each family and develop a Student Learning Plan.

Technology

We need a device, who do we contact? Please email Prab Samra psamra@sd40.bc.ca Please include your name, your child's name, grade, and home school.

Is it first come first serve for the Chromebooks or does district has enough? Our Technology Department is working hard to have enough devices to the families that need them.

Will the loan Chromebook come with a mouse? No, the Chromebook does not come with a mouse.

Do you need an outlook email address to access the assignments, etc? No, all students will receive a Microsoft Office 360 school account which will provide them with access to TEAMS and all assignments.

If I already have an existing My Education BC login and password, do I still need to reset? As long as it was with New Westminster School District your account will work, you may however need to update your password.

I'm trying to log into my Microsoft account on office.com, but the password that I have been using all along is wrong, am I expecting to receive another password this year? You will receive an email with the password to access Microsoft Office 360.

Can I use a MAC computer/ Can we use iPad? Yes, you will need to download Microsoft Office 360 and the TEAMS app following the District instructions sent to you – it will work on all Apple products.

Are you able to reactivate the "Lexia Core5 Reading" program for students to use? We are currently exploring resource options. More information will come from your teacher regarding which resources will be used in classes.

Will we get Epic Books online access? We are currently exploring resource options. More information will come from your teacher regarding which resources will be used in classes.

Could we use a tablet instead of a laptop? Yes, you can.

Who can I contact if I still do not receive the email? If we have any questions, is there any forum/email we can post those questions? Please contact OnlineLearningSupport@sd40.bc.ca

Will we be able to still chat with friends on MS Teams? MS Teams is your classroom, teachers will have you working in groups during school hours. You will need to use another platform to chat with friends outside of school hours.

Meet the Teacher

When will we be meeting with my child's teacher? Teachers will be reaching out over the next week to arrange a meeting time for the Student Learning Plan Conference.

Is there a meeting with the teacher and parent only or teacher-parent-student? This will be dependent on grade level, but we do encourage students to participate as much as possible.

Will there be an opportunity at a later time to have a face to face interaction with the teacher? Parents and guardians can connect with their teacher and arrange meetings as needed.

Can we request friends in the same class? Class lists have been created and students from the same school in the same grade have been grouped together as much as possible. We are not able to accommodate friend requests at this time.

Class Structure

How many hours per day will the kids be online? There will be a combination of some online lessons and some self-directed work. Students will **not be** online for 6 hours a day. Teachers will determine the appropriate amount of instruction and self-directed learning based on the grade level of their students.

Can I get a schedule? Schedules will be set by the teachers and sent out to you.

How many students will be assigned in one class? How large will the home classroom be? Students will be assigned to a class of approximately 28 students. The homeroom class will include all the students in all grades from a specific school.

Will video conferencing with class happen at different times each week? Or will it be set times that we can schedule around? There will be set times for synchronous lessons (video conferencing). Teachers will provide this information in their weekly plan.

What will be the duration and frequency of the online class? There will be a combination of some online lessons and some self-directed work. Teachers will provide this information in their weekly plan.

Will there be any group work? Any opportunity for the children to connect with each other in group works? Depending on grade level, teachers will assign individual and group work.

Re: class list grouping if we were in the French program of choice at Herbert Spencer will we be grouped with Herbert Spencer students or with our usual catchment school? You will be grouped with students from Herbert Spencer.

Would students have sessions with the librarians like they had in-school? Our online program has a librarian supporting teachers with resources and team around literacy and library skills.

How do electives work? They will be covered in a project-based way.

Learning and SEL Supports

How will you support students with special needs? Teachers will collaborate with the homeschool Learning Support Teacher to provide adaptations as outlined in their Individual Education Plan.

Will programs like speech therapy be offered for students who were receiving speech therapy at their brick and mortar school last year? Yes, we are working with district support teachers and staff to continue services.

To engage in social connections, especially for the kindergartners, will there be any opportunity for kids to interact with other kids outside of the actual teaching sessions? The Kindergarten teachers will support social interactions by working with smaller groups during online sessions.

Some online sessions will be academic, and some will be focused on teaching social skills. Parents may also choose to organize other social connections outside of the school day.

Do you have any plan for the ELL students? We are working with the home school ELL teachers and district support teachers to continue services.

School Supplies

Can you provide school supplies? Teachers will provide a list of recommended school supplies to you.

We bought school supplies from our home school, what do we do now with those supplies? These will be items that the online teachers will also require, you will be able to use them.

Do you recommend a white board or a chalkboard? A whiteboard or chalkboard are not necessary.

Assessment

How are you assessing the performance of the students and grading them for the online learning? Teachers will follow the Ministry of Education and School District assessment and reporting procedures.

Is there any deadline for the work? What if we miss the deadline? Teachers will provide deadlines for work and have a procedure for those who miss deadlines.

Is the progress reported every month? Formal reporting will occur each term, at the same time as the homeschool report cards. Teachers will also regularly communicate learning through feedback on assignments and activities.

Misc

My daughter now is going to school, but in future if I plan to enrol her online can I do that? At this time, registration in our online program is closed. Should spaces become available later in the year, we may open up registration again.

If the situation around COVID improves in future. Will there be an opportunity to join back the homeschool for this year? Please refer to the Online Learning K-8 Transfer Process letter that emailed out Wednesday, September 23.

I am planning to send my kids to school if I see things are going well with in class situation, should I let the principle know that? Please refer to the Online Learning K-8 Transfer Process letter that emailed out Wednesday, September 23.

If Covid improves can we go back in class? And if it gets worse can we go back to online? Please refer to the Online Learning K-8 Transfer Process letter that emailed out Wednesday, September 23.

How much does this program mirror what is happening in classroom. I ask because this was to be temporary for my son with re-entry at the end of October. The Online Program follows the same BC Curriculum as our in-class programs. Different teachers may teach different concepts at different times throughout the year, so there may not be a direct alignment. Students who wish to transfer back will have an opportunity to apply for a transfer at the end of Term. Again, this is dependent on space at their home school.

Would we expect larger class sizes if Covid doesn't improve? At this time, we have met our capacity in our online school. Our registration process is now closed.

Some school districts have a (4th) option to move from online to classroom setting. Would we also get this option too? Families who may wish to return to in-class may apply to transfer at the end of Term 1. This is dependent on space at their home school.

Will there be a PAC in online school? Since our Online Program is connected to all of our regular schools, we encourage parents to join the PAC at their home school.

Will there be any interactions with our home brick and mortar school, i.e. school pictures? We hope to be able to provide updates and information from the home school to our students online through their homeroom. At this time, we have not determined if or how we will provide school pictures, given that our Online students are not able to physically attend at a school site.

For the 2021-2022 school year students get to return to their original schools correct? Yes

Is the school still going to end in June since school is starting so late? Yes, school will end in June.

Do we need to fill out the emergency forms and such from our home schools waiting in School Cash? Yes, this is how we will get updated contact information.