



2020-2021 Learning Models FAQ Document

1. What does Virtual Jumpstart entail?

Virtual Jumpstart will be in-person for students in grades PK-3 to become familiar with their devices, while students in grades 4-12 will be engaged in virtual learning from home during these two weeks. During this time teachers may incorporate the following activities: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) lessons, beginning of the year assessments, digital citizenship lessons, review of essential standards from the previous grade level and current instructional standards, etc.

| Grade Levels | Week of August 24 th | Week of August 31 st |
|--|---|---|
| K and 2 nd Grade and Pre-K Mon/Tues cohort | Monday, August 24, 2020 Tuesday, August 25, 2020 | Monday, August 31, 2020 Tuesday, September 1, 2020 |
| 1 st and 3 rd Grade and Pre-K Wed/Thurs cohort | Wednesday, August 26, 2020 Thursday, August 27, 2020 | Wednesday, September 2, 2020 Thursday, September 3, 2020 |

2. What are the learning models RCPS will provide for students for the 2020-21 school year?

Hybrid
(In-Person & Virtual, alternating days)
Híbrido (en persona y virtual, días alternos)

or

Full-time Virtual
Virtual a tiempo completo

3. What is the Hybrid Model?

The hybrid model provides opportunities for students to participate in face-to-face and online/independent learning. Students will participate in synchronous and asynchronous learning.

4. What are synchronous and asynchronous learning?

Students will be required to participate in online meetings/lessons on specific days and at certain times with their teachers (synchronous learning) and complete activities and assignments on their own time to meet assignment deadlines (asynchronous learning).

5. When will my student attend school on the hybrid schedule?

Students will be divided into two groups. They will participate in face-to-face instruction twice a week and online/independent learning three times a week. The schedule for each level is below:

| ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS | MIDDLE SCHOOLS | HIGH SCHOOLS |
|--|--|--|
| <p>STUDENT SCHEDULE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be divided into two groups by grade levels (Group 1 & 2) Group 1 (Grades K/2/4) will receive in-person instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays. They will engage in online/independent learning on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Group 2 (Grades 1/3/5) will receive in-person instruction on Wednesdays and Thursdays. They will engage in online/independent learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. Fridays will include but not be limited to the following activities/specialized supports: enrichment, remediation, office hours, social/emotional activities, tutorial support, student conference, etc. | <p>STUDENT SCHEDULE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be divided into two groups (Group 1 & 2) Group 1 will receive in-person instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays. They will engage in online/independent learning on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Group 2 will receive in-person instruction on Wednesdays and Thursdays. They will engage in online/independent learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. Fridays will include but not be limited to the following activities/specialized supports: enrichment, remediation, office hours, social/emotional activities, tutorial support, student conference, etc. | <p>STUDENT SCHEDULE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be divided into two groups (Group 1 & 2) Group 1 will receive in-person instruction on Mondays (A-Day) and Tuesdays (B-Day). They will engage in online/independent learning on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Group 2 will receive in-person instruction on Wednesdays and Thursdays. They will engage in online/independent learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. Fridays will include but not be limited to the following activities/specialized supports: enrichment, remediation, office hours, social/emotional activities, tutorial support, student conference, etc. |

Pre-K:

- Students will attend school face to face either Mon/Tues or Wed/Thurs
- Face to face days will be assigned and communicated to students and families.
- Scheduling priority will be given to students with siblings currently attending RCPS.
- Students without siblings attending RCPS will be assigned attendance days via randomly generated lottery.
- Fridays will be virtual and may include individual or group lessons with students based on assessment data.

6. What will hybrid online/independent learning look like?

Students will use platforms such as itsLearning and Microsoft Teams and various online resources. Teachers will provide online meetings/lessons on specific days and at certain times (synchronous learning). Students will complete activities and assignments on their own time to meet assignment deadlines (asynchronous learning). Teachers will record the live sessions for students who need to view the lesson at a different time. Teachers may post other recorded videos to support students as they are working independently during the day.

7. What should we expect Friday instruction/activities to entail?

Fridays will include but not be limited to the following activities/specialized supports: enrichment, remediation, office hours, social/emotional activities, tutorial support, student conference, etc.

8. How will my student receive additional help if needed?

- a. This may need to look differently per grade band because timing is different for planning periods.
- b. Teachers may need to communicate their office hours in alignment/expectation with how much time needs to be allotted to provide supports

9. Will my student eat in the cafeteria?

No. Students will eat breakfast and lunch in the classrooms.

RCPS School Nutrition is developing a plan to provide meals to students choosing the virtual school option as well as for those students who are home during the hybrid option. Where applicable, these meals may require your normal school lunch charges. Parents may be asked to indicate an interest in receiving school meals while attending school at home.

10. If my student misses their assigned face-to-face day, can they make-up a day?

Students will only be able to attend their face-to-face classes, on their assigned day. If a student misses their assigned day make-up work will be provided by their instructor.

11. Will elementary still offer after-school care?

Yes, schools are working to develop their after-school program plans. Please contact your local school.

12. How will classrooms be set up to accommodate social distancing?

Student desks will be spaced to accommodate social distancing. Desks will face in the same direction. Students seated at the same table will be seated on the same side of the table.

13. What if I am not comfortable sending my student to school on campus?

RCPS is offering a *full-time virtual model* for students who wish to continue their education in a virtual classroom. *Please see information below regarding the virtual options RCPS will offer.*

Elementary:

- Parents must complete an online application via Infinite Campus for each student wishing to enroll in the school based full-time virtual school option.
- Attendance and grading policies will apply to students.
- Students will have the opportunity to return to the brick and mortar school at the end of a quarter. The parent will need to make the request for the instructional change during the designated change window.
- For additional information, see the 2020-2021 K-5 Elementary Virtual Option FAQ document for Parents.

Secondary:

- Parents may choose between two virtual instructional service models- *Full-time Virtual* and *Rockdale Virtual Campus*.
 - **Full-time Virtual** (Similar to classroom but all on-line)
 - Students receive 100% of instruction **virtually**.
 - Full-time Virtual schedule includes students receiving 100% of instruction virtually with their school-based teachers.
 - Full-time Virtual students will have two online Face-to-Face learning days through recordings, itsLearning platform or Teams. The other three days will be Independent Learning.
 - Unlimited Capacity
 - Full Course Offerings
 - Semester Commitment (with appeal option)
 - Full-time virtual will require an application to enroll.
 - **Rockdale Virtual Campus** (This is a separate virtual program)
 - Students will receive 100% of instruction **virtually** through Rockdale Virtual Campus.
 - Majority of instruction will be provided in an asynchronous setting with RVC teachers.
 - Students will receive extra help through teacher office hours and emails.
 - May have limited course offerings

- Students who apply for admission into Rockdale Virtual Campus will be selected through lottery due to limited capacity.
- RVC is a program. Selected students will remain enrolled at their home schools but will receive all instruction and grades from RVC.
- RVC is not NCAA approved, so student athletes will need to actively seek advice from their counselors prior to applying for enrollment.
- Space is limited and will require application to enroll. Students will be selected based on a lottery.

14. Will students enrolled in Full-time Virtual be able to participate in sports and/or school extracurricular activities?

Yes, schools will develop safety plans for participation in sports (if participation criteria is met) and/or extracurricular activities.

15. When will Open House take place?

| Level | Date | Online | In-Person * |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|---|
| High School | August 19, 2020 | Grades 9 - 12 | August 18 for 9 th Grade only (additional date TBD) |
| Middle School | August 19, 2020 | Grades 6 - 8 | |
| Elementary School | August 20, 2020 | Grades PK - 5 | |

**If health conditions allow*

16. Who will teach my child in the Full-time Virtual Model?

Students will be taught by RCPS teachers in all models.