

Getting Started:

At Home Learning (AHL) will begin on August 31. Your child can expect an email to be sent to their Red Deer Catholic email account inviting them to join their class. Our staff will be working hard to establish connections with students online and set up learning activities. The first week will be dedicated to building relationships online so please don't be surprised if the work load seems less.

School hours are from 9:00 - 3:30 each day so note that communication in the evening may not be responded to until the next day. We will also continue to observe holidays and weekends.

Schedule:

Class work will be rolled out on a week-by-week basis, with due dates for assignments on Fridays. New information for the upcoming week will be posted each Monday morning. Instruction will be rolled out a bit at a time as to not overwhelm students, keep workload manageable and allow teachers to adapt their instructional strategies to meet student learning needs.

Expectations & Roles:

One of the biggest differences from a traditional classroom is that students don't get the benefit of always hearing the questions other students ask. To combat this, encourage your child(ren) to connect with their teacher via online tools (video chat, email, messenger) or traditional ways like a trusty phone call.

| Teachers: | Students: | Parents & Guardians: |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify clear learning objectives and assessment outcomes for lessons ● Use a variety of materials to convey key learner outcomes, create interactive lessons, and provide one on one and small group support virtually as required ● Specify task requirements and suggested length to complete ● provide multiple options for access each week | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure they understand learning objectives and play an active role asking questions (via email, video conference, phone call) if they do not ● Complete task and assignments with highest level of effort ● Monitor their learning to meet expectations and submit work on due dates ● Organize their time ● Work with parents and teacher to create and follow an online learning schedule | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organize a dedicated learning space ● Help their child create and follow an online learning schedule based on suggestions from their teacher ● Check tasks and learning objectives on Google classroom and via email communication ● Check Powerschool regularly to stay informed with student progress ● Expect their child to complete assignments on time with their highest level of effort |

Meeting Requirements:

The online learning as part of the AHL is designed to be primarily asynchronous (not live) to alleviate families having to juggle multiple schedules, technology and internet bandwidth. This means that for the bulk of time students can work at their own pace. Students will also be expected to participate in 3-4 synchronous learning activities per week. These live learning activities will range in length.

This means that for the bulk of time students can work at their own pace and don't need to be all logged in at the same time every day. Students can also seek help via email or phone call. Any instruction done via video will be recorded and posted for students to access via Google Classroom, so students can access it at any time and multiple times if necessary.

What is Synchronous Learning?

Synchronous learning is the kind of learning that happens in real time. This means that you, your classmates, and your teacher interact in a specific virtual place, through a specific online medium, at a specific time. In other words, it's not exactly anywhere, anyhow, anytime. Methods of synchronous online learning include video conferencing, teleconferencing, live chatting, and live-streaming lessons.

What is Asynchronous Learning?

Asynchronous learning happens on your schedule. While your teacher will provide learning activities and assignments for completion, and evaluation, you have the ability to access and satisfy these requirements within a flexible time frame. Methods of asynchronous online learning include self-guided lesson modules, streaming video content, virtual libraries, posted lecture notes, and exchanges across discussion boards or social media platforms.

Contacting Teachers:

Staff will have office hours each day where they will be available. This is a time students can connect with them via email, video chat or phone call in real time and receive a prompt response. Staff will communicate these hours to students via Google classroom. Outside of these hours, staff will focus on one on one support, developing online activities and lessons, providing formative feedback to students and virtual appointments for student support. Communication outside of online office hours will be responded to but it may take longer. If a student cannot connect via the online office hours on a given day, they can email their teacher to arrange for another time.

School Hours:

School hours are from 9:00 - 3:30 each day so note that communication in the evening may not be responded to until the next day. We will also continue to observe holidays and weekends.

Technology Requirements:

We are asking that students provide their own device as part of their school supplies for At Home Learning. Google classroom can be accessed from any internet ready device, however Chromebooks and computers work best rather than phones/tablets. If you are looking to purchase a device we recommend a chromebook. If your child does not have access to any technology, please contact your child's catchment school to request a device for your home.

Program of Studies:

- Kindergarten: Families will be provided weekly asynchronous learning activities to complete at home, based on key curricular outcomes.
- Grade 1- 5 Classes will include: Religion, Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education/Health.
- Middle School Classes will include: Religious Studies/Health, Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, Science, Physical Education and Career Technology Studies courses.

French Immersion instruction will be available for students pending student enrollment and availability of qualified teachers.

Reporting:

All parents will continue to have access to monitor their child's assignments and marks via PowerSchool.

Our team is committed to keeping the education of your child/children as our priority. While this may look different, we are confident we can continue to provide a level of instruction and engagement you have come to expect from Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools.