



Return to Learning: Remote Learning Parent/Student Handbook 2020-2021

Remote Learning

For the 2020-2021 school year, families in Auburn City Schools (ACS) have the option of Remote Learning. Pacing and academic rigor for Remote Learning will match face-to-face Traditional Learning as much as possible. Students will have the opportunity to return to Traditional Learning from Remote Learning in January 2021 or may stay in Remote Learning for the second semester. An Intent Survey will be sent to families in late fall.

Communication and Connection

Communication between schools and families is critical during Remote Learning. All students in Remote Learning are assigned a point of contact from Auburn City Schools to communicate, to monitor and to connect with students. These people should be contacted first should any questions or problems arise. School counselors and administrative staff are second and third points of contact. Initial points of contact for each grade band are the following:

- Grades K-5: Remote Classroom Teacher
- Grades 6 -7: Remote Homeroom Teacher
- Grades 8-12: ACS-assigned Facilitator/Mentor

Orientation

Students and parents must complete a virtual education orientation (*ACS Board Policy 7.14.2*). This document serves as the communication of basic orientation information. Schools will contact parents and families for school-specific information, including daily and weekly schedules.

Attendance

A student participating in the virtual education option will be considered as being in attendance if the student is successfully progressing in the virtual education coursework (*ACS Board Policy 7.14.4*).

Remote Learning Teachers

Auburn City Schools teachers will teach cohorts of Remote Learning Students in all grades K-7 as well as specific courses in grades 9-12. In ninth grade, all Geometry/Geometry Lab courses, Advanced English, Advanced World History and Advanced Biology will be taught by Auburn City Schools teachers. Students in grades 10-12 have already been contacted about hybrid opportunities for courses that are not available in a Remote Learning setting. Hybrid courses at Auburn High School will be taught by ACS teachers.

Remote Learning Curriculum, Grades K-7

Just as teachers do in Traditional Learning, teachers in Remote Learning may use a variety of curriculum resources to deliver effective instruction. Most of the resources used in a traditional setting have an online component that can be used and shared by teachers. These resources may include the following:

- *SchoolsPLP*, the digital curriculum purchased by the Alabama State Department of Education for grades K-7
- *Wonders*, the K-5 ELA curriculum used by ACS in Traditional Learning
- *Go Math*, the K-5 math curriculum used by ACS in Traditional Learning
- *StemScopes*, the K-5 science curriculum used by ACS in Traditional Learning
- *Envision*, the 6-7 math curriculum used by ACS in Traditional Learning
- ACS board-approved textbook resources for core academic subjects in grades 6-7

Remote Learning Curriculum, Grades 8-12

Ninth grade students enrolled in Geometry/Geometry Lab, Advanced English, Advanced World History, and Advanced Biology will be taught using curriculum resources used in Traditional Learning. The AJHS teachers of these courses may use content from other sources as needed.

On July 30th, 2020, Auburn City Schools was notified that ACCESS would not be able to accommodate the Remote Learners for grades 8-12. Auburn City Schools will now use EdGenuity as the online curriculum and instruction provider for Remote Learning courses in grades 8-12 except for those courses listed above for ninth grade and hybrid courses in grades 10-12. Like ACCESS, EdGenuity delivers a robust and supportive student experience based on Alabama standards with content taught by Alabama-certified teachers. Student schedules will remain the same as much as feasible in the transition from ACCESS to EdGenuity.

Daily/Weekly Schedule

A key to success in Remote Learning is following the routine of a daily and weekly schedule. Students with ACS Remote Teachers will have opportunities for both synchronous (live with a teacher) and asynchronous (video or student-paced) learning throughout the week. Breaks during the day will be scheduled as well, but the expectation is that students are actively engaged in learning throughout the typical school day and school week. Remote Classroom Teachers will communicate specific schedules to students and families.

Students in courses using EdGenuity will be engaged in primarily self-paced learning. However, parents and students are encouraged to develop a schedule for success so that students do not fall behind in learning.

Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders in Remote Learning are critical. The most successful outcomes for learning will be achieved when all stakeholders are equally invested.

- Teachers and Facilitators/Mentors will monitor learning and communicate to students and families.
- Students will complete all Remote Learning work and assignments.
- Parents will reach out and request support of Remote Learning Teachers or Facilitators/Mentors as needed.
- Teachers and families will provide encouragement and support to students.

Grades

Individual student performance will be monitored pursuant to the school system's traditional academic credit requirements and grade scale (*ACS Board Policy 7.14.3*). Students will complete assignments throughout the semester and be given appropriate feedback. Parents and students in grades 3-12 can see grade progress in either iNow or EdGenuity throughout the quarter/semester. Summative feedback/quarterly or semester grades will be provided through the means below:

- Grades K-2: ACS Kindergarten Checklist, the ACS First Grade Checklist, and the ACS Second Grade Checklist
- Grades 3-7: Parent iNow Portal
- Grades 8-12: Parent iNow Portal

Make-Up Work

In order to maintain pacing, assignments will be given a deadline. Students and families should communicate openly and clearly with teachers about missed assignments or missed deadlines. Students are entitled to make up any work missed under certain circumstances, including illness. Remote Learning Teachers will allow a reasonable amount of time for the student to make up his/her work. Stay in communication with teachers!

Learning Management Systems

Remote Learning teachers will primarily use one of two learning management systems to deliver content and to communicate with students—Schoology or EdGenuity. All students K-12 are provided a student email address inside Office 365 that can be used to communicate with ACS staff. Some schools may also use SeeSaw as a learning management system for communication of learning.

State Assessments

Students in Remote Learning are required to complete all required state assessments. Most of the required assessments can be completed in a remote setting. However, the school system reserves the right to require students utilizing the virtual education option to participate in state testing and accountability requirements on campus at a date and time selected by the school system. (*ACS Board Policy 7.14.3*). Students and families will be notified in a timely manner about state assessments, their modes of completion and location requirements, if any.

Accommodations

Students who have an active IEP or 504 will receive accommodations as stated in their most recent IEP/504 plan. An Alternative Learning Plan may be created for students with an IEP. EL students as well as students who qualify for Venture Pull-Out will be provided support in learning throughout the year.

Extracurricular Activities

Students must meet the same extracurricular activity eligibility requirements as students enrolled in the Traditional Learning program, including, but not limited to, any applicable Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) requirements. Student residency for purposes of participating in extracurricular activities will be determined in accordance with applicable state law and AHSAA guidelines (*ACS Board Policy 7.14.6*). EdGenuity courses do meet NCAA eligibility requirements.

Conduct in Virtual Interactions

Expectations for learning within a virtual setting are similar to expectations in a Traditional setting. Students should log in promptly for live interactions. Students should use school-appropriate language in writing and speaking. Students should attend virtual meetings prepared for the lesson or activity with books, paper, writing utensils or other materials. Students should be properly attired and mentally present for live interactions. Teachers will provide procedures for age-appropriate conduct.

Technology

Remote learning requires the use of technology to deliver instruction, to monitor learning and to communicate with students and families. We ask for patience from families and students and will give patience to families and students as we collectively navigate Remote Learning in a technology environment. For technology-related issues, contact the teacher or facilitator first. A [technology help desk](#) is also available so that students and families can reach out to ACS staff.

Parent and Student Resources

A [Parent and Student Resource Page](#) is available for families to use throughout the semester. These resources explain how to use various platforms used in Remote Learning.