



Hampton City Schools
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Parents/Guardians of HCS Secondary Students (6-12)
Regarding the Concurrent Hybrid Model

This document provides parents/guardians of students in grades 6-12 with an overview of what instruction will look like in Phase 2 for both in-person and virtual learners. General Questions, Technology Questions, Safety Protocols for In-Person Learning, Attendance Information, and Sample Schedules are covered in this FAQ. Click on a hyperlinked question below to forward directly to the response or scroll through the document to view questions and answers.

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General Questions

What is concurrent hybrid learning?

The term **hybrid** refers to students completing work in-person and online, while the term **concurrent** entails students who are learning in-person at the same time that other students in the class are learning by using an online meeting platform (Zoom). Teachers have been encouraged to begin speaking with students about this learning model and how it impacts both in-person and virtual learners.

What does this learning model actually look like for both virtual learners and in-person learners?

This [1 minute video](#) provides a brief overview of how secondary teachers will use the technology HCS has purchased to interact with both sets of learners (in-person and virtual) at the same time. There is a camera in the classroom that sits atop a device that swivels so that a teacher can move around the classroom. There are multiple microphones around the classroom that are able to pick up the teacher's voice as well as the voices of in-person learners. This technology, when used with student Chromebooks, allows for teachers to simultaneously work with in-person learners and virtual learners, and for both sets of learners to engage with one another.

How long will each class run in Phase 2? Will times be the same for in-person and virtual learners?

At the high school level, schools will run a traditional bell schedule in Phase 2, where classes will be 90 minutes in length. Both sets of learners (in-person and virtual) will have 90 minute classes. Please see the sample schedules below for additional information.

At the middle school level, schools will run a traditional bell schedule in Phase 2, where classes will be 90 minutes in length. In-person learners will have 90 minute classes, **while virtual learners will have 60 minute classes.** Teacher training will address the fact that virtual learners' time in each class will be shorter. This decision was made to limit the amount of screen time for students in these grade levels. Similar to Phase 1, there will be an expectation for virtual learners to complete some asynchronous work (working independently) during the school day.

My middle school child will be a virtual learner in Phase 2. Since his/her classes will be 60 minutes instead of 90 minutes, will he/she still follow the same 90 minute school schedule?

Yes. Virtual learners should plan around the 90 minute instructional blocks for scheduling purposes, and set these times aside each day. Teachers will communicate in advance with virtual learners to share at what point or points during the 90 minute block of instruction they will need to be engaged online. As noted above, virtual learners will not be online for more than 60 minutes during a given lesson.

What days of the week will my child attend school?

One of the benefits of this instructional model is that it allows the school division to increase the amount of instructional time for all secondary students. In this model, all students in grades 6-12 will attend school Mondays-Thursdays (either in-person or via Zoom). (Schools will share specific start and end times with families.) HCS secondary schools have an "A" day and a "B" day. In this model, Mondays and Wednesdays will always be "A" days and Tuesdays and Thursdays will always be "B" days. Fridays will be set aside for teacher planning, counseling, and invite only for student remediation via Zoom.

Can we decide to change from in-person to virtual and vice versa once students return during Phase 2?

For families desiring to switch from virtual to in-person learning for Phase 2, parents/guardians can make this adjustment in PowerSchool by logging in to do so on or before January 15, 2021. Parents/guardians can also call their child's school to make this request. Should parents/guardians call after January 15, the administration may decide to honor the request pending space availability. For families desiring to switch from in-person learning to virtual during Phase 2, please contact your child's teachers as all of these requests will be honored.

How will teachers keep my virtual learner engaged?

Each curriculum department has provided the best practice structure to vary and to differentiate instruction for both in-person and virtual learners in the concurrent hybrid model. Teachers are to follow the instructional models presented by their respective curriculum department and use division-created instructional resources to support teaching and learning.

Technology Questions

Will in-person learners need headsets/earbuds in this model?

No. In-person learners will not need headsets/earbuds in this model.

How will in-person learners and virtual learners collaborate in this concurrent hybrid model?

Teachers are being trained on best practices to include instruction for both in-person and virtual instruction.

What technology support is available to support my child?

The [Digital Learning and Chromebook Zone](#) has several resources, tips, and videos to support your child with technology. You can find it on the Hampton City Schools' homepage.

What happens if my child's Chromebook is not working or does not have a charge (for in-person learning)?

We recommend a nightly routine of charging the Chromebook at home so it will remain charged during instruction. If your child's Chromebook is not working, they will need to let the teacher know and follow procedures for a quick fix or exchange in the library. Parents/guardians can also continue to utilize the tech support hotline at (757) 850-6875. Additionally, the division has purchased extra charging stations for secondary teachers so that in-person learners can charge their Chromebooks during the school day if needed.

Safety Protocols for In-Person Learning

For those students participating in in-person learning, will masks be required?

Yes. Masks will be required to be worn throughout the school day with the exception of when students are eating or when they are permitted to take off their masks during outdoor PE or JROTC PT (while maintaining 10ft of physical distancing). Schools will provide additional details regarding procedures related to breakfast and lunch, as well as expectations for the wearing of masks. To view a video on face covering expectations, click [here](#).

How many people will be allowed in a classroom at one time?

This varies based on classroom size. All student desks will be placed at least 3 feet apart with 6 feet representing optimal spacing. Please ask your child's teacher regarding a response to this question.

What is the protocol for cleaning desk shields in between my child's classes?

At the end of each class, the teacher will spray the desk shields with disinfectant and students will wipe their own shield off with a paper towel. Teachers will set aside time for this protocol. Disposable gloves will be available for those who would like to use them.

What if there is a case of COVID or a suspected case of COVID in our school? How will that be handled?

The school nurse will use the developed protocols and work with the administration to determine the best course of action based upon the specific situation. [Click here](#) to view our Healthy and Safe Return-to-School Communication Guidance for COVID-19 Positive Cases.

Where can I find detailed information about the HCS expectations for health and safety?

Reference the [Quick Links](#) section of the Phase 2 Return to School Plan. Multiple one-page resources and links to the HCS YouTube Playlist regarding safety and mitigation measures have been provided.

Attendance Information

If my child must quarantine due to COVID, are they able to join the virtual learners during their quarantine?

Yes.

If my child is too sick to even attend virtually because of COVID, what will happen?

Procedures similar to other long-term illnesses will be used.

Will my child have a substitute if their teacher needs to be absent?

Yes. Instruction will continue if a teacher will be absent for the lesson. Teachers will post self-paced work in the Google Classroom for both in-person and virtual learners to complete. A substitute will be available for the in-person learners. Virtual learners will complete the posted work asynchronously. Virtual learners will not be required to attend class virtually when a short-term substitute is present in the classroom.

Sample Schedules

What should I expect my middle school child's schedule to look like?

The middle school schedule in Phase 2 entails a return to the traditional school schedule where students will take four of their classes on Day 1 (Mondays & Wednesdays) and the remaining four of their classes on Day 2 (Tuesdays & Thursdays). For students who will remain in a 100% virtual setting, they will "Zoom into classrooms" during instruction. Fridays will be set aside for remediation, office hours, and counseling.

Please note that while instructional blocks will mirror a traditional school day for these grades with 90-minute classes, *students participating virtually* may not spend greater than a total of 60 minutes per class online engaged in work for that particular class on a given day during the actual block of instruction. Teachers have been instructed to be cognizant of assigned work and accompanying deadlines.

Sample Student Schedule (Grade 8)					
Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 - 10:30	English	English	English	English	Office Hours/ Remediation
10:35 - 12:05	Algebra I	Algebra I	Algebra I	Algebra I	Office Hours/ Remediation
12:10 - 1:40	Civics	Physical Science	Civics	Physical Science	Office Hours/ Remediation
1:45 - 2:15	LUNCH				
2:20 - 3:50	Elective	PE/Health	Elective	PE/Health	Office Hours/ Remediation

My child is in high school. What will this schedule look like for both in-person learners and 100% virtual learners?

Both groups of students will attend school Monday through Thursday on a normal schedule. An overview of the schedule has been provided below. The in-person learners will report to campus to attend class, while the virtual learners will “Zoom into” the classroom. Fridays will be set aside for office hours, counseling, and remediation for select students. A detailed sample tenth grade student schedule has been provided below.

Sample Student Schedule (Grade 10, Single Block Mathematics)					
Times	Monday (A Day)	Tuesday (B Day)	Wednesday (A Day)	Thursday (B Day)	Friday
8:20 - 9:50	Chemistry	English 10	Chemistry	English 10	Office Hours/ Remediation
9:55 - 11:25	Spanish III	Geometry	Spanish III	Geometry	Office Hours/ Remediation
11:30 - 12:00	LUNCH				
12:05 - 1:35	PE/Health	Music	PE/Health	Music	Office Hours/ Remediation
1:40 - 3:10	US History	Personal Finance	US History	Personal Finance	Office Hours/ Remediation

***Mathematics:** Students with double-block mathematics on their A Day and B Day schedules will attend mathematics daily, whereas students with single-block mathematics on their schedules will attend mathematics every other day as pictured above.

