Grade 7 to 12

Temporary At-Home Learning Parent/Student Guide



The Government of Alberta has mandated all Grade 7 to 12 students be temporarily taught at home online from Nov. 30 to Dec. 18, 2020 and from Jan. 4 to 8, 2021. As a result, Rocky View Schools (RVS) is activating our <u>Scenario 3 Plan</u> for students in these grades. This Guide provides additional information to parents/students on what you can expect as well as how you will be supported throughout this temporary online learning period. Please direct any questions you have to your teacher – they are here to help!

Temporary At-Home Learning Overview

Every Monday, teachers will send parents and students a Weekly Learning Plan with specific tasks/activities and suggestions for physical literacy activities. Current student timetables will be followed as closely as possible.

Based on the feedback gathered in the spring of 2020, teachers will regularly provide instruction to students through live online sessions on Google Meet/Zoom. Online meetings can help students learn key concepts while maintaining important connections with teachers and classmates. For this reason, teachers will take attendance during all live sessions and students are expected to be available and actively participate. Tasks and activities will also be provided for students to work on outside of these live online sessions.

Accessibility of teachers is important to support student learning and to remain connected. Teachers will be available to students online, through email and/or by phone. Teachers will provide drop-in online support for all students for periods of time within regular school hours.

Students are responsible to actively engage in learning and diligently pursue their education and will be provided feedback on their learning throughout these four weeks. Formal assessments will be included in the Weekly Learning Plan and assignments will be assessed and graded as they would normally in school. Unlike the spring emergency at-home learning, marks/grades will fluctuate based on the student's demonstration of their learning. Marks and comments will be posted in RVS' PowerSchool Parent Portal.

Grades 7 to 9

Learning will focus on English/French Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies averaging 15 hours per week across those subject areas. This is the total amount of time including video sessions, activities/tasks, check-ins, practice, and assessments. Schools will also offer elective/option courses for up to two hours per week. If an existing option is not possible to facilitate online, schools may temporarily develop an option for a cohort. Teachers will, as close as possible, follow the school's timetable. Students will be required to participate in a minimum of two live online sessions per day. For example, the Humanities teacher may hold a live session in the morning and the Math/Science teacher may hold one in the afternoon for a total of two sessions.

Grades 10 to 12

Learning will continue with the student's regular schedule as close as possible. Existing electives/options will continue throughout the temporary online learning period. Students will average six hours of work per five-credit course per week and average three hours of work per three-credit course per week. This is the total amount of time including video sessions, activities/tasks, check-ins, practice and assessments. Students will be required to participate in a minimum of two live online sessions per week per course. These sessions are to be scheduled during the time-of-day students would normally have attended that class (e.g., Math 30-1 Zoom session held between 8:30 and 9:45 a.m. just like if they were face-to-face in school).

1

GRADE 7 TO 12 TEMPORARY AT-HOME LEARNING PARENT/STUDENT GUIDE

Supporting Students with Specialized or Exceptional Needs

RVS will maintain learning opportunities, supports and services through a variety of approaches online and in-person. Students with significant specialized or exceptional needs will continue to be intentionally included in the learning of the whole classroom with support from classroom teachers, learning support teams and divisional supports where appropriate.

Students who may require supports and services in-person at school are those identified with significant specialized or exceptional needs who have a current Individualized Program Plan (IPP), and where interruption to services would be detrimental to their success. This includes students currently enrolled in, or receiving supports from, our enhanced mental health team and students who are receiving supports for augmentative communication.

Divisional supports, such as occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, psychologists, physical therapists, will continue to provide specialized services to support IPP goals through a variety of means. This may include online and inperson at-school activities in collaboration with the school and family.

Additional Information

Technical Support

RVS will provide dedicated technical support for temporary online learners. The Student/Parent Support Hotline can be reached Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at studentsupport@rockyview.ab.ca or 403-945-4083.

Technology Loaner Devices

Schools have a limited number of devices to loan and will try to accommodate families in need. Please contact your teacher for more information.

Paper-Based Accommodations

Accommodations can be made for families that require their child's learning materials in a paper-based format. Families requiring paper-based accommodations should contact their teacher.

Access to the School

Access to the school building will be limited for students in Grades 7 to 12. If you need to come to your school during the temporary at-home learning period, please discuss with your teacher.