

PARENT SUPPORT FOR REMOTE LEARNING

Parents' Guide to Google Classroom

Colquitt County Schools is excited to be able to provide continuity of learning and enrichment through a remote digital learning program. We are aware of the challenges this may present and are here to provide as much support as possible. In addition to regularly communicating with you, please check our website for updated information and guidance so you may help your children at home. We understand that you are not teachers and have designed our lessons to help children learn under our guidance as well as independently. The following is offered to help you during this time.

- Set up routines. Talk through with your child what a day looks like and what is expected; being co-owner of a routine helps increase their buy-in on implementing it. Try to maintain normal routines as much as possible. Include time for snacks, brain breaks, and movement.
- Help them be prepared. Having all the necessary tools and materials and a physical space that work for them will help with the effectiveness of their routine. Set up their work area similar to their classroom setting. Help them get ready to do their work, and if there is a live online session, help login in advance so there is less last-minute stress. Walk through instructions with them. Help them set up checklists of what is needed and calendars of meetings and due dates.
- Monitor communications from your children's teachers. These may come through email, their Google Classroom, or Remind. Some may come to parents and some to students, depending on their age and the nature of the message. You should have access to both.
- Set times to check in with your children. Check at the beginning of the day to see what's ahead and ensure they feel prepared. Ask them to share at regular intervals during the day. At the end of the day, check in to see what they worked on, what they turned in, and what's in store for the days ahead.
- Be flexible and resilient. What your child needs to make their day more successful may vary from day to day (ex. more or less frequent check-ins). Listen, discuss, and adapt. We're all in this together!
- Be aware of your child's emotional support needs. Learning, whether in person or remote, is just as much about the heart as the brain. Children need to feel safe and comfortable to learn, and they readily pick up on how adults are feeling. Model calm and establish a new normal. School counselors can help.
- Monitor how much time your child is spending online. Schools do not want students staring at computer screens all day. Teachers will share schedules and expectations with you. Once you are aware of this you can set limitations on non-school use of screentime.
- Set rules around and monitor online interactions. Students will often go online to remain connected with friends. Schools have rules about safe, respectful, and appropriate online conduct. Parents must also be aware of what children are doing on their computers beyond schoolwork, particularly over social media.