

Distance Learning Guide

CONSISTENCY IS KEY

Students thrive with consistent, predictable routines and clear expectations. We also know for parents, having a predictable schedule will enhance the ability to support their student's day. When building our schedule for distance learning, we did so with this as a guiding principle.

Every schedule will have consistent start times for each class and login to Zoom. We will also provide consistent times for your student to log into Zoom classes. This is important to building a routine.

INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH

Hamlin Robinson School utilizes a structured literacy approach adapted for virtual platforms. Similarly, all of our instructional practices are guided by the knowledge of how our students best process information and learn new skills.

Direct instruction from a teacher, live engagement with their classroom, and real-time responses from peers and teachers are crucial for student success. Therefore, most lessons are built around live (synchronous), real-time instruction on Zoom.

LESSON LENGTH + SCREEN TIME

When viewing student schedules, please keep in mind the intention is to establish consistent start times. The end time and total length for each lesson can be flexible.

Teachers determine instructional time versus independent/off-screen work by accounting for age level, pacing, specific content, lesson structure, and learning objectives.

DISTANCE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

As a parent to a young learner, we understand the eagerness to collaborate and help your student get the most from their school day. We count on and enjoy this partnership. Please feel free to reach out to your student's teacher for suggestions on how to support your student's learning. We ask parents and siblings to refrain from interrupting or interjecting during lessons to encourage independent learning opportunities for each student with their teacher's guidance.

We ask parents, if possible, to create a designated work space for their student. Our students do best with a predictable routine that can be maintained and organized. Hamlin Robinson School will provide an "at home kit" of reference materials and resources to support students during Slingerland and math lessons.

GUIDANCE FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

Parents may be wondering how to support student success for distance learning. With the understanding each household operates distinctively, these are suggestions to consider in preparation for the upcoming year:

Comfortable headphones will help reduce environmental distractions while students are engaging in class via Zoom.

A chair to sit upright and a flat surface for a device will help students be comfortable when engaging in lessons.

A consistent, designated, well-lit space to work will support the cognitive shift from "home" to "classroom".

Visual aids: HRS will be supplying each student with a "take-home kit" filled with visual aids to support them in Slingerland writing and math. Keep these handy at the work space. If wall space is available, use it to post materials for easy reference.

Organization of supplies: Organization of materials will help students engage more effectively during remote learning days. Each item should have a "home", or place.

Devices: If you do not have access to a device (computer, laptop, tablet, etc.) for your student to sign on to Zoom and other learning platforms, please let us know by contacting **Jessica Ruger**.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend and participate in classes, both in-person and online. Progress reports will reflect participation in assignments and classes, whether delivered in-person or virtually. Student expectations for participating in online instruction will include the following:

- Arrive to class before/at the start time
- Show their face in the frame without a virtual background
- Sit up in a chair at a table or desk
- Display their first name and last name initial as their Zoom name
- Avoid allowing siblings, parents, or pets to join or distract class
- Attend fully dressed in school-appropriate attire
- Avoid toys, mobile devices, food, and other distractions for the duration of the class
- Have all materials ready at their desk
- Keep muted, unless the teacher has unmuted the class or asked for individual participation
- Ask questions or contribute comments by raising hand and waiting for the teacher



GRADES 1-8 INSTRUCTIONAL PLATFORM

Zoom serves organizations of all industries and sizes because the platform can flexibly scale. Zoom provides the ability to connect synchronously with students over video, audio, screen sharing, poll, and text chat. It also provides the ability for students to work in groups, in breakout rooms, or with personal meeting rooms to meet with peers. Live instruction will be via Zoom.

ACCESSING ZOOM LINKS

In addition to a consistent and predictable schedule, easy access to Zoom links throughout the day will set everyone up for success and will encourage your student to navigate their day as independently as possible.

Each student's specific schedule and class-specific Zoom links will be easily accessible in one place through the Parent Portal. See example below. Clicking on the 'Virtual Meeting' icon will link your student directly to their class.

The screenshot displays a user interface for a Parent Portal. At the top, there are navigation tabs: "Student Overview", "Daily Schedule", "Recent Updates", and "Assignments". Below these is a date selector showing "Tuesday, Sep 8" and "Tuesday". There are also buttons for "Student Schedule" and "School Schedule". The main content area is a list of classes for the day:

| Time | Class Name | Teacher/Block | Virtual Meeting |
|----------|-------------------------|--|-----------------|
| 8:30 am | Multi-Sensory Writing 4 | Ms. Nelson, Ms. Patz • Block 1-LS | Virtual Meeting |
| 10:00 am | Level 4 Reading | Ms. Nelson, Ms. Patz • Block 2-LS • 205 | Virtual Meeting |
| 11:30 am | Lunch-LS | Lunch-LS | |
| 12:00 pm | Level 4 Mathematics | Ms. Nelson, Ms. Patz • Block 3-LS • 205 | Virtual Meeting |
| 1:00 pm | Level 4 Music | Mr. Fox • Block 4a-LS | Virtual Meeting |
| 2:00 pm | Level 4 Science | Ms. Nelson, Ms. Patz • Block 4b - LS • 205 | Virtual Meeting |

DISTANCE LEARNING PLATFORMS



VERACROSS

All relevant school information is posted on the Parent Portal. Veracross leads the industry in providing community portals that fully integrate data and content so parents, students, and faculty can get all the information and tools they need in one place. Communication is a component of almost every aspect of Veracross.



SEESAW | GRADES 1-3 LEARNING PLATFORM

Seesaw creates a powerful learning loop between students, teachers, and families. Students use built-in annotations tools in Seesaw's digital portfolio. Teachers understand student thinking and progress - enabling them to teach better. SeeSaw helps identify strengths and areas for growth in real time.



MICROSOFT TEAMS | GRADES 4+ LEARNING PLATFORM

Using Teams, students, teachers, and staff can seamlessly work together, create content, and share resources all from a single, easy-to-learn and simple to use platform. As a platform for issuing and returning classroom assignments, Teams not only streamlines teaching workflow, but also makes it possible to create a space for more robust collaboration between students.

All live instruction will be via Zoom.

QUESTIONS?

Attendance

Front Office: frontdesk@hamlinrobinson.org and classroom teacher/advisor

Classes or Assignments

Classroom Teacher

Technology

techsupport@hamlinrobinson.org

Accessing Parent Portal

Charlotte Gjedsted, Technology Director: cgjedsted@hamlinrobinson.org