



North Thurston Public Schools Ignite Family Academy Statement of Understanding



Enrollment

Students will be accepted on a space available basis.

Time Commitments

As a public school program, we have two major requirements regarding time:

- We are required to develop a written student learning plan (WSLP) that includes estimated weekly hours of learning. The WSLP is a fluid document that should be flexible and adjusted regularly to reflect your child's current learning.
- Students and families must make weekly contact with our staff and hold a monthly progress review with a teacher advisor.
 - Weekly contact is a requirement by the state to ensure the family partnership program is maintaining contact with families and claiming funding for actively enrolled students.
 - Monthly progress reviews are an opportunity for the families to share what they have been working on, discuss ideas with their teacher advisor and receive support, if needed. The review is a chance for us to make adjustments to the WSLP.

Neither the weekly check-ins nor the monthly progress reviews are times where we question, judge or look for checkboxes to be filled. Rather, it is a time to reflect, share and honor the hard work you are doing, and make any adjustments to the plan as needed/wanted. We prefer that most of these occur in person, but other arrangements can be made if/when necessary.

On-Site Commitments

This program is intended to be supplementary to home-based instruction, therefore the majority of time should be focused on your off-site learning. Your family will get to pick what courses to enroll in and therefore determine your schedule. We expect 1-4 classes for the youngest students and 1-6 for mid-level students to maintain the family's desired balance for home-based instruction. Our hope is that families won't feel that they need to be on campus any more than they want to, while also maintaining an open, accessible campus community.

A parent, adult guardian, or designee must be on-site with each student *under the age of 11* during their Ignite classes. We realize this is not always possible for families. Please contact the school if you need to have someone other than the parent or guardian be on site. We will work with families on a case-by-case basis.

Assessments

State law requires that all students are assessed, even those who are receiving home-based instruction (please see [RCW 28A.200.010](#)). There are several options for assessment. We can assist with this.

Students enrolled in IFA for more than 80 hours per month during any given month are required to take the state assessment (SBAC).

Student Handbook

The Student Handbook contains essential information tied to program rules, requirements, and the Written Student Learning Plan. This document must be reviewed and understood by all students and parents/guardians. Access to the revised, updated handbook for the current school year will be provided to all families prior to the first day of school and will be available for download from the school website throughout the school year.

Statement of Nondiscrimination/Equal Educational Opportunities

North Thurston Public Schools shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age veteran or military status, sexual orientation gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory or mental or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. District programs shall be free from sexual harassment or other harassment based on any status protected under this policy

Home-Based Instruction vs. Alternative Learning Experience (ALE)

In accordance with the Alternative Learning Experience Implementation Standards, reference WAC 392-550, prior to enrollment parent(s) or guardian shall be provided with documentation attesting to the understanding of the difference between Home-Based Instruction and Alternative Learning Experience (ALE). Provided on this form are summary and narrative descriptions of the difference between Home-Based Instruction and an ALE. Please read these descriptions and contact us with any questions.

Home-Based Instruction

- Is provided by the parent or guardian as authorized under RCW 28A.200 and 28A.225.010.
- Students are not enrolled in public education.
- Students are not subject to the rules and regulations governing public schools, including course, graduation and assessment requirements.
- The public school is under no obligation to provide instruction or instructional materials, or otherwise supervise the student’s education.

Alternative Learning Experience at Ignite Family Academy

- Is authorized under WAC 392-550.
- Students are enrolled in public education either full-time or part-time.
- Students are subject to the rules and regulations governing public school students including course, graduation, and assessment requirements for all portions of the ALE.
- Learning Experiences are:
 - Supervised, monitored, assessed, and evaluated by certificated staff.
 - Provided via a written student learning plan.
 - Provided in whole or part outside the regular classroom.

Part-time Enrollment of Students Receiving Home-Based Instruction

Students receiving home-based instruction may enroll in public school programs, including ALE programs on a part-time basis and retain their home-based instruction status. In the case of part-time enrollment in ALE, the student will need to comply with the requirements of the ALE written student learning plan (WSLP), but not be required to participate in state assessments (if enrolled 80 hours or less per month per the WSLP) or meet state graduation requirements.

I have read the descriptions of home-based instruction and alternative learning experience provided and I understand the difference between home-based instruction and the alternative learning experience program in which my child is enrolling. By signing below, I verify that I have read and agreed to the Ignite Family Academy Pre-Acceptance statements listed above.

Student Name (Printed): _____ Date: _____

Parent Name (Printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____