

# BACK TO SCHOOL

Reminders for Supporting Students In-Person and At-Home

## RELATIONSHIPS

### The Vital Importance of Relationship

The key to promoting positive behavior and greater academic and social success is to build a strong sense of relationship and community. Here are some ways to build upon the relationships you have already established:

- Include a check in routine that encourages connections between in person and at home students.
- Include opportunities for students to make and share personal connections everyday
- Give students extra opportunities to learn about you and their classmates through intentional discussions and routines.



## Day-to-Day Logistics

- What is my plan for teaching, rehearsing, and reinforcing behavior?
- How will I manage our class time to make sure all students receive the instruction and support they need? What model of blended learning fits my classroom best?
- How can I leverage asynchronous learning activities so that we can spend more time on supporting struggling learners and rigorous tasks?
- What routines will I need to put into place to promote social distancing and mask wearing?
- How can I involve my students in creating rules and expectations for our classroom community?
- How am I addressing the social and emotional needs of my students while still providing structure?
- Where can I infuse flexibility into my daily classroom structure that will help in the event of our school going back to remote for a short period of time?

## Tech Tips

Key Word: Consistency

With all the unknowns, we can count on needing to be flexible with students' choice of in-person or at home learning. Students have become accustomed to completing assignments and activities using digital platforms, so keeping those active as a central hub will provide consistency for all students. For students choosing in person classes, their in school work should still be housed digitally in case of illness or transportation issues. This will ensure that all students have access to the core materials and hopefully alleviate some stress on the part of the teacher.

# Expectations, Routines and Procedures

## Rules vs Expectations

**Rules-** Rules set boundaries so that students know what they absolutely cannot do and what behaviors will not be acceptable at school. These are absolutes and tend to be rigid in nature.

- What school rules will students need to learn or be reminded of?
- What new rules need to be introduced to ensure COVID safety

**Expectations-** Expectations tell students what they are expected to do in a given setting or activity. These are flexible limits that can change depending on the space, location, and/or time of day.

- How should students work at their desks?
- What is an appropriate noise level for independent, small group, and whole group work?
- What is expected from students in the halls, lunch spaces, and other school locations?

Frequent behavior specific praise and clear, non emotional feedback will be vital in helping students learn and internalize expectations, rules, routines, and procedures. Consider what you can leverage as positive reinforcement to help solidify these aspects of classroom life.

## Routines and Procedures

A routine can be thought of as a schedule or a plan for your class period that rarely changes from day to day. A procedure is *how* students complete classroom routines. Often times we assume that students know how to do the things we ask of them. As students return, they will need to be taught how you expect them to act in both the physical and continuing digital spaces.

Here are some routines and procedures to consider:

### Behavioral

- Entering the classroom
- Helping their peers
- How to act during discussions/collaboration times, etc.
- Leaving the classroom
- Walking from class to class

### Instructional

- Transitions between whole group, individual, small group work/time.
- Completing and turning in work during in-person learning
- How to ask for teacher assistance depending on their location (at home vs in person)
- Brain Breaks

### Health and Safety

- handling supplies
- Cleaning their work area
- What to do if they are feeling sick

# Communication

Clear and concise communication to students and their caregivers is essential during this time of transition. Here are some reflection questions when thinking about communication routines:

- How and what do you need to communicate with parents of students coming back? Staying at home?
- How are you building communication between students at school and at home? What strategies can you incorporate to help this communication?
- How will you communicate any new expectations/rules that come with in-person learning for both students at school and those at home?
- How will you communicate with students about their behavior? Do you have a system of response and positive reinforcement?





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# PD Opportunities and Resources

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[Overview PD Flyer with Dates](#)

Google Classroom Code:  
onqcftl

## Contact Us

Questions? Need help? Contact your TLN team!  
We are here to support you!

### **Behavior Support Specialists:**

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