

WCS Online Program for Elementary Students

We know that considering an online learning environment for your child may not be something you have considered previously and may be overwhelming. This page will help you examine the various elements of the program for your child. Once parents have completed the Google Form questionnaire sent by your school principal the week of July 6th, we will walk this journey together as we plan your child's education for this fall.

Below are some topics to consider when evaluating this online option.

Teachers

WCS Online teachers will be a blend of school-specific teachers and teachers from other WCS schools. Once a family finalizes their choice for WCS Online for the fall semester, schedules will be updated and posted in Skyward prior to the start of the school year. In addition, teachers will contact families prior to the start of school.

Students

Online classes offer an alternative to traditional classes and can be beneficial for students for various reasons. However, not all students find online classes to be the best fit for them. In addition, the younger the student, the more support is needed from parents at home. Students who are the most successful in online classes are good with time management, have self-discipline, have support from home, and are willing to reach out to the teacher when they need help. Additionally, having basic technology awareness (examples include but are not limited to: logging into ClassLink, utilizing Google Classroom, using video conferencing tools such as camera, microphone, and accessing online applications) will be beneficial to WCS Online students.

Parents

Know that parents play a great role in successful online learning. Depending on the age of the child, some students will be able to work independently through online modules and assigned work, while others will need more support. Below are some tips to help your child find success in this new learning environment.

- **Grades** - Check grades and progress regularly through Skyward.
- **Communication** - Communication with your child's teacher(s) will be similar to how you communicate with teachers in your school building. Our Online teachers will have a WCS email address and will be available to communicate with you on issues that arise with your child. In addition to your school's communication, you will receive regular WCS Online newsletters to highlight needed communication for your student and family while participating in the online program.

- **Support**– Even though the delivery method is different in an online environment, the intended outcome of student success is the same. Treat this environment as you would a traditional classroom environment. When your child is struggling, the teacher, school principal, online director and both school and online support staffs are there to help you. Contact information will be shared upon final enrollment.
- **Learning Environment** - We encourage parents to become familiar with the various online platforms and applications within your child’s account. This is the best way to stay updated on classroom work, progress, and achievement.

Orientation

Each family participating in WCS Online will have the opportunity to attend a virtual open house at the start of the school year. The open house will be divided by grade bands and Zoom links will be sent to parents/students via email after confirming registration for WCS Online.

Additionally, WCS Online will host a getting started session for each student and his/her parents with your child’s teacher. This short training will serve as an introduction for the use student parent email, Google platform, Zoom and ClassLink applications by your child’s teacher(s).

Technology & Resources

WCS Online students will receive WCS Chromebooks that will be distributed for their use prior to the first day of school. The district has WiFi solutions for families who need support for the WCS Online Program. There is not a need to have additional technology at home, such as a printer or scanners, for this program. All materials will be distributed and returned digitally. Printed workbooks will be distributed through the home school and will be distributed at the same time as Chromebooks.

All students will actively use a wide variety of technology applications to access WCS Online instruction and materials. The instructional technology that will be consistently used will include student/parent email, Google Platform (Google classroom, Google Drive), the video conferencing platform Zoom and other resources made available through WCS ClassLink. The parent and student involvement with each of these applications will vary based on age appropriateness.

Enrollment, Grading, and Attendance

Students enrolled in the WCS Online Program are considered WCS students and will remain enrolled in their typically attended school with allowed participation in after school activities.

Once enrolled in WCS Online, daily participation is required. Daily attendance is noted through student participation in the online platform or application (examples include but aren’t limited to Zoom, Google classroom, EDPuzzle) in scheduled virtual meetings with the instructor(s). Student attendance will be required for online programming every day. Students will earn

grades which will become part of their permanent academic record. All grading guidelines for WCS Online classes mirror the traditional courses taught in our school buildings (as outlined the WCS Program Planning Guide – link). All WCS Board policies are followed related to progress reports and report cards. School grades will post from WCS Online to the child’s traditional school.

Course Offerings

WCS Online will be a blend of direct and non-direct instruction with their Online teacher. The students will have instruction in Math, English, Social Studies, Science and Related Arts. All curriculum will follow the WCS Scope and Sequence which aligns with the TN State Standards.

Special Education

Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP’s) interested in having their schedule reviewed for the online learning program should follow the same procedural requirements as described above. Additionally, an IEP meeting will be scheduled for the IEP team to discuss what services can be provided and how the services will be provided for the student. IEP services will be provided following the IEP to the maximum extent possible.

Every attempt will be made at the elementary level for students to follow a schedule similar to their peers in the school building. Services will be determined by the IEP team to accommodate the specific learning needs of each student.

SAMPLE Schedule - Grades 3-5

The student schedule will be one Zoom session with continuous instruction. Students are moved to the “waiting room” when they are engaged in virtual or independent learning

8:45-9:00	Morning Meeting
9:00-10:30	Reading (Blend of Video Conferencing, Virtual, and Independent)
10:30-12:00	Math (Blend of Video Conferencing, Virtual, and Independent)
12:00-1:00	Lunch and Recess (Independent)
1:00-1:30	Intervention (Blend of Video Conferencing, Virtual, and Independent - will differ based on student need)

1:30- 2:15	Science/ Social Studies (Blend of Video Conferencing, Virtual, and Independent)
2:15-2:45	Related Arts (Blend of Video Conferencing, Virtual, and/or Independent)
2:45- 3:15	Independent Reading (Independent)
3:15-3:45	Purposeful Practice (Independent)

SAMPLE Schedule – Grades K-2

The student schedule will be one Zoom session with continuous instruction.

8:45-9:00 a.m.	Morning Meeting
9:00-9:30	Foundational Skills (Video Conferencing)
9:30- 10:15	Literacy (Video Conferencing)
10:15-11:00	Math (Video Conferencing)
11:00-11:30	Intervention (Blend of Video Conferencing, Virtual, and/or Independent) – will differ based on student need)
11:30-12:30	Lunch and Recess (Independent)
12:30-3:45	Small Group Instruction & Purposeful Practice (Planned, scheduled and communicated Friday prior)