



LOWER SCHOOL

We are seeing unprecedented closures that are impacting the way we work, the way we learn, and the way we live. Although a global pandemic can be uncharted waters, we are here as a community and family to stay *connected* and take this journey together.

Cincinnati Country Day School is a leader in differentiated and innovative instruction and will embrace this opportunity to maintain our high-quality education through remote learning. Although the path is uncertain, the vision is clear. We will be successful knowing we have committed teachers who are at the ready to teach differently and stay connected from afar. We have parents who are committed, intelligent, and compassionate. We feel your support and appreciation every day - it is what keeps us going. Last, but certainly not least, we have the children, they are unequivocally the best version of humanity in moments like these. We need to look to them to put things in perspective, remember what is essential, and find joy in moments of uncertainty.

The Lower School Remote Learning Plan is representative of the types of learning your child would do on a typical school day. We are committed to staying true to our philosophy and not wavering from our belief that young children benefit from limited screen time and large doses of unstructured play. It does not go unnoticed that a significant burden now falls on the parents of young children. Establishing healthy routines and expectations from the start will be much easier than breaking bad habits. If you stay the course, your children will acclimate to a new norm within a few days.

Please take the time to review the Lower School Remote Learning Plan and feel free to contact me for support, questions, or guidance.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Jensen, Head of Lower School

LOWER SCHOOL REMOTE LEARNING PLAN:

Lower School Administration will be available Monday – Friday from 7:30 am – 4 pm via phone and email. Communication, including updates, suggestions, and resources, will occur primarily through Seesaw and parent email accounts. On occasion, students and families may be asked to join a group meeting or facetime session for additional touchpoints. As we navigate remote learning, we will continually explore the best approaches to ensure our students’ growth socially, emotionally, and academically and adjust the plan accordingly. What works for one family may not work for another. The Lower School Teachers will continue to differentiate as needed to best serve their students.

THE DAILY SCHEDULE:

Teachers will communicate the daily expectations and timeline directly with parents. The following is what you can anticipate for instructional/work times:

- Asynchronous (any time) learning opportunities
 - EC and ECI: 20 minutes
 - Pre-primary (Pre-K I, Pre-K II, MI, and MII): 30 minutes - 1 hour
 - K/MK, 1st and 2nd grade: 1 - 2 hours
 - 3rd and 4th grade: 2 hours
- Synchronous (real-time) opportunities to support students’ socio-emotional well-being
- Virtual learning opportunities guided by developmentally appropriate practice guidelines
- Enrichment learning opportunities shared by the grade-level teacher and/or specials teacher on the following days:
 - Monday - Art
 - Tuesday – Movement/Physical Education
 - Wednesday - Music
 - Thursday - Modern Language (K-4), Outdoor Education (Pre-primary)
 - Friday – Library (K-4), STEM (Pre-primary)

THE DAILY EXPECTATIONS

As a parent, you will have an important role in facilitating, modeling, and creating a positive learning environment. The following are what will be your child’s responsibilities for his/her learning:

Pre-primary students will:

- Engage in activities as described by their teacher.
- Participate in unstructured and unplugged play.
- Engage in synchronous opportunities offered by their teacher.

Kindergarten/MK students will:

- Engage in activities as described by their teacher.

- Complete assignments as outlined by their teacher.
- Participate in unstructured and unplugged play.
- Engage in synchronous opportunities offered by their teacher.

First – Fourth grade students will:

- Identify a comfortable and quiet space to study/learn.
- Dedicate an appropriate time each day to learning as guided by their teacher(s).
- Check relevant online platforms for information on courses, assignments, and resources.
- Attend the regular synchronous opportunities offered by their teacher(s).
- Engage in all learning posted with academic honesty.
- Submit all assignments according to the timeline and/or due dates.
- Ensure your own social and emotional balance by keeping healthy habits.

QUESTIONS REGARDING REMOTE LEARNING:

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS ACCOMMODATIONS AND WORKS WITH SUPPORT SERVICES?

If your child works with our Support Services, they will:

- Send a check-in email during the week, reinforcing expectations and inquiring how they can help support learning.
- Share recommendations for other supports to help with remote learning.

WHAT IF MY CHILD IS WORRIED AND CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK OF SOCIALIZATION?

Our School Psychologist will be working to:

- Create/suggest developmentally appropriate activities and messages regarding self-regulation, anxiety, isolation, health and wellbeing, and/or wellness strategies that students can practice.
- Respond to the counseling needs of students, as needed.

HOW SHOULD I BEST COMMUNICATE WITH TEACHERS?

- Teachers will be accessible via Seesaw and email Monday – Friday from 7:45 am - 3:45 pm.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT MY CHILD’S LEARNING?

- Provide an environment conducive to learning (access to learning materials, technology if needed, and safe and quiet space during daytime).
- Engage in conversations on posted materials and assignments.
- Monitor time spent engaging in online and offline learning
- Encourage attendance, as much as possible, to the synchronous engagements offered by their teacher.
- Support emotional balance by providing ample room and time for reflection, physical activity, conversation, and play.

WHO CAN ADDRESS QUESTIONS ABOUT ACTIVITIES OR ASSIGNMENTS?

Contact the teacher or specials teacher, via Seesaw or email.

WHO CAN ADDRESS QUESTIONS ABOUT TECHNOLOGY?

- Seesaw: Laura Rue - ruel@countryday.net
- Technology: Amy Thonnerieux - thonneria@countryday.net

WHO CAN ADDRESS GENERAL QUESTIONS?

- Jen Jensen – jensenj@countryday.net
- Tina Moulin – moulint@countryday.net
- Laura Richter – richterl@countryday.net