

Elementary School

Expectations for Distance Learning

The elementary school utilizes two learning management systems (LMS). Students in grades pre-kindergarten through third grade use SeeSaw, while students in grade four use Google Classroom. Distance learning assignments will be posted on the LMS by classroom teachers as required by curriculum and needs of the students. In all cases, students will have at least one day to complete individual assignments. Exceptions are daily class work, quizzes, and tests which take place during the online class. Students requiring extra time for assignments may contact the teacher to discuss options for late work.

Students should participate in online learning throughout the school day as they would during a regular, on-campus school day. Assignment calendars and clear expectations for students and parents will be posted on the LMS and communicated to families each week. We encourage parents of younger students to facilitate their child's schoolwork.

Students should plan to dedicate a similar amount of time to their online coursework as they would during a typical on-campus school day. Students should submit work in a timely manner and communicate with the teacher if issues arise that result in late work or absences. Teachers will plan learning activities and assignments based on the time that they expect students to spend completing the work assigned. However, much of the work will take place collaboratively during class time or will be completed in the afternoons during small group exercises.

Distance learning days are school days; therefore, incomplete work, work not completed with effort or quality, and late work will be handled in the same way as assignments assigned on campus and following handbook guidelines. All distance learning work needs to be submitted according to the teacher's expectations outlined in their learning standards and classroom expectations.

Proactively communicate with your teachers and principal as questions and needs arise. Teachers will typically respond to questions and meet with students until 3:30 PM on weekdays. However, if a question is asked after that time, it is reasonable to not expect a response until the following work day.

Report technical problems as soon as possible to the SCS Tech support, techsupport@scs.edu.do. Also inform your teacher and the secondary office at that moment if you are missing a live online class due to technical problems in order to have the absence excused. Be proactive about solving any problems. Lack of access to the LMS or Zoom will not excuse distance learning expectations.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How is attendance being tracked?

Students will be marked absent if they do not attend their online class. When students are in live online classes, they should have their cameras on and are expected to participate. If a student experiences technical difficulties and is unable to turn on the camera, he/she should notify the teacher and participate in the lesson verbally or through the written chat. Students will be marked absent on Wednesday if they do not attend their specials classes.

May my child travel on school days since we are learning online?

Whatever class your child misses due to traveling or not having access to the Internet will still result in missed content and possibly cause them to get behind in their work. It is better to have the child in a stable working environment with Internet access while distance learning.

What are the afternoon office hours for teachers?

All elementary teachers are available 2:30-3:30 PM to answer questions. They will also be answering questions via email. Elementary teachers are also available on Wednesday by appointment for virtual meetings with parents and students. Students should reach out to teachers to schedule a time to meet if they would like help.

Do students have extra time to turn in work?

Students in elementary school may turn their work in and still receive credit. We highly encourage students to turn in work on time to develop good work habits and prepare them for middle school.

Can my child re-take tests?

Any re-takes are at the discretion of the teacher and need to be worked out with that individual teacher. There is no school policy for allowing students to have re-takes on assessments.

If my child has technology issues, will they lose points or be marked absent?

As long as parents contact the office letting us know of the issues involved with the absence, the absence will be marked as excused. Students will not be penalized for missing the class due to technology problems and would be expected to make up the work without penalty.

Can my child write papers on his/her smartphone?

No, it is best to have a computer/laptop or a tablet with a keyboard.

How many hours should students work during the day?

Students are expected to work full days even while in distance learning. They have online classes in the morning they should attend, and time in the afternoon to work in small groups, on homework, or to view asynchronous assignments. If students have opted to join clubs or extra-curricular activities, they may need to work on assignments in the evening just like they would if they were attending on campus.