

Parent Information- Adjustments to Learning

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the Corpus Christi staff, I want to thank you for your support and understanding as we continue our shift to remote learning. With this in mind, the school offers the following information in support of adjusting learning expectations and supporting our learners as best as we are able given the circumstances.



Technology will never replace your child's teacher as you are now learning at home. Distance learning, for now, is our new reality for teaching and learning as a result of Covid 19.

There will be some fundamental differences as we close out this school year, however your children continue learning and progress should be a priority for parents, government and divisions. It just looks different with modified expectations due to the circumstances we face.

Fundamental Components of Learning	Prior	Current
Choosing Learning Outcomes	Teachers were to teach and assess all outcomes in the Alberta Program of Studies for each grade level	- Focus on foundational knowledge, skills and processes - Teaching outcomes that must be taught and assessed that prepare students for next grade and ensure future success - Teachers cannot cover all the content without students present in the classrooms - Focus more on transferrable skills that need to be used now, next year and beyond

Fundamental Components of Learning	Prior	Current
Learning Activities	- More classroom based - Designed to cover many	Activities need to be designed for independence for parts

	more outcomes • More opportunities for teacher directed • Focus on more content • Set timetable • Can spend more time on activities and lessons	throughout the day • Less outcomes covered but more focus on fundamental and key skills and knowledge • Narrow in on critical thinking and problem-solving skills • Flexible timetable • Lessons and activities need to be time efficient not time consuming
Important Skills for now and future  COMPETENCIES Competencies are combinations of attitudes, skills and knowledge that students develop and apply for successful learning, living and working. - CRITICAL THINKING - PROBLEM SOLVING - MANAGING INFORMATION - CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION - COMMUNICATION - COLLABORATION - CULTURAL AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP - PERSONAL GROWTH AND WELL-BEING	• Tests, quizzes, larger projects, broad-based assignments • Activities longer in duration • Teachers in direct contact with student to view skills, knowledge, understanding • Lesson and task engaging	• Less busy work, more quality assignments • Student explaining their thinking, more showing of their work • Activities in short manageable chunks with check-ins • Lesson and task engaging

The difference between formative and summative assessment



Formative assessment's goal is to monitor student's learning to provide ongoing feedback that can be used by instructors to improve their teaching and by students to improve their learning.



Summative assessment's goal is to evaluate student's learning at the end of an instructional unit by comparing it against some standard or benchmark.



Evaluation during
the learning process



Monitor the learning
process

The purpose is to
improve student's
learning



Evaluations include
little content areas



Evaluation after the
course completion



Assign grades

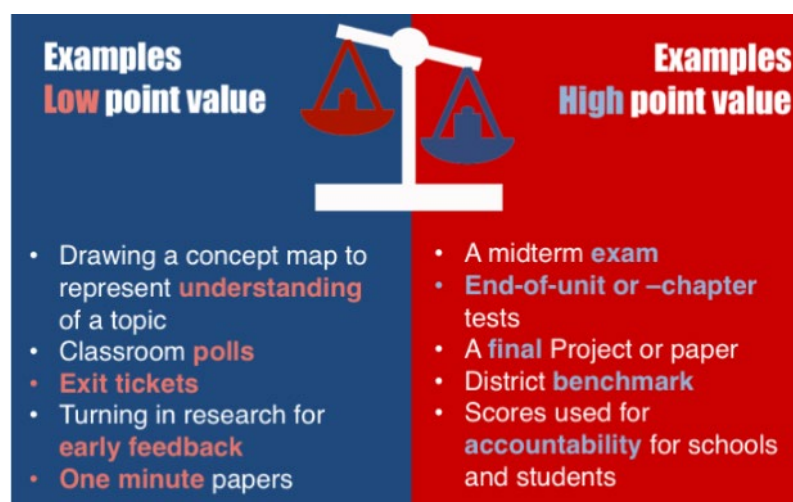
The purpose is to
evaluate student's
achievements



Evaluations include
complete chapters
or content areas



Fundamental Components of Learning	Prior	Current
Assessment	• Balance of summative and formative (see above) • Focus on feedback and scores • Feedback through Power Teacher Pro and assessments sent home	• More emphasis on formative • Fewer assessment but higher quality • Focus on feedback • Feedback through Virtual lessons, Google Classrooms and Power Teacher Pro



Helpful Tips for Parents on Distance Learning

1

Routine is important.

- Routine is comforting for children and teens. In uncertain times, it helps them know and understand what to expect.
- A clear schedule and space for learning will help define your child's day.
- Minimizing distractions will be important. Noise canceling headphones, apps that limit access to games or social media, or separating children with a physical or visual barrier (even a cardboard separation between kids can work!) can all assist you in creating a calm learning environment.

2

Communication is key.

- Check your school's website for learning information.
- Learn how your child's teacher would like to communicate with you. Sign up for updates as communicated by your child's teacher, on platforms such as Google Classroom or Microsoft Teams.
- Share any concerns through private communications with the school, such as phone calls or emails.
- If your child requires specialized supports, please contact your child's teacher to discuss his/her learning needs.

3

Be positive.

- While you are not responsible for teaching the content of the lesson, you can assist teachers in ensuring that learning remains a priority at home.
- Your enthusiasm for learning will set the tone for your child as to how he/she responds to remote opportunities.
- Don't become overwhelmed! Many online companies and social media posts are flooding parents' newsfeeds with "at home" learning opportunities. While you can explore these if you wish, the only necessary activities are the ones your school and teachers provide.
- You can reinforce learning by playing games, watching movies, or reading books together. Engaging in family activities also increases feelings of connection and togetherness.

4

Your family's well-being is important.

- Time for family prayer and reflection encourages spiritual connection and comfort.
- It is ok to limit screen time.
- It is important to provide opportunities for play.
- Talk to your child about this change in their routine and seek out social connection with families or friends in ways other than face-to-face contact.
- Reach out to community supports or school staff if you feel overwhelmed. Many schools have social workers, psychologists, or other support staff who can assist you during this time. Contact your administrator to see if these supports are available through your school.



Important Foundations for all students

If you want your children to love reading, read good books to them daily!

It is important for our children to read daily. It is equally important that we, as parents, read to our children regularly! Bedtime is the perfect opportunity to read aloud to our children because it provides consistency in routine. But really, any time is a good time to read aloud.



What are the benefits of reading aloud?

- Young children develop **book sense** (direction of print, recognition that letters represent sounds and that written words hold meaning).
- Children are exposed to a wide range of **vocabulary**.
- Children **hear a model** of effective, fluent reading.
- Children learn the **structure of story**.
- Listening to read-alouds provide children with an opportunity to use their **imagination, visualize**, and experience places and events they might not otherwise!
- Books spark **conversation**.
- Children realize that reading can be **interesting, engaging, and fun** motivating them to read more on their own.
- Reading aloud helps us **build relationships** and **connect** with our children.

Tips for Reading Aloud:

- Read the title, author, and illustrator, and look at the cover. Ask your child to **make predictions** about the book based on what they see.
- Read with **expression**, change your **tone of voice**, and the **pace** of your reading.
- Encourage your child to **look closely** at the pictures.
- Take the time to **talk about the pictures**.
- **Ask questions** and **talk** about the book before, during, or after reading! Did the book or characters remind your children of something they have experienced?
- **Reread** books: children love to hear their favourites again and again!
- **Don't stop** reading aloud to your child just because they are readers themselves! Children of ALL ages should be read to.
- Reading aloud should not be a teaching session. Simply read together and **enjoy the time** with your child! The learning will happen incidentally.