



Newcomb Middle School's Frequently Asked Questions School Reopening

As we prepare to open school virtually on September 8th, 2020, please take a moment to review our frequently asked questions. Should you have additional questions, you may access [Newcomb's Student Handbook](#) or contact the main office at 609-893-8141 extension 1700.

What is expected of my child during remote learning?

From September 8-October 13, all students will be learning remotely. All students are expected to:

- Follow your daily schedule in Genesis.
- Students are expected to log into Genesis and mark themselves present by 9:15 am daily.
- Log in to Google Classroom daily for each class period.
- Participate in lessons, attend Google Meets, and complete assignments and assessments.
- Communicate regularly with teachers for clarification and assistance.

How will my child access the classes that are listed in his/her schedule?

- All students require a Chromebook. If you have not yet picked up a Chromebook, please contact the main office at Newcomb Middle School.
- All students have been invited to access the Newcomb Students & Staff Google Classroom. They will need to log into their school email to accept this invitation. If your child is having trouble, please contact the main office at Newcomb Middle School.
- As we prepare for instruction, your child will also need to access the Newcomb Students & Staff Google Classroom to access their specific teacher's Google

Classrooms. Please see the Google Classroom Links section. Students are encouraged to look at their individual schedule and find the links and codes that align with their specific teachers and class periods.

What will instruction look like during remote learning?

- At the beginning of each period, teachers will conduct a live Google Meet with students.
- During this Google Meet, teachers will conduct a check-in with students and review the expectations for the day and/or the lesson.
- Teachers will include a pre-recorded video providing a mini-lesson and/or direct instruction for all new learning/instruction. Pre-recorded videos will be shared with students in their assigned class period's Google Classroom.
- Teachers will create independent practice assignments/activities to students. This will allow the teacher to provide specific feedback to students.
- Teachers will assess students as needed to measure student progress and understanding.
- Teachers may meet with small groups via Google Meet to provide support.
- Should a student have additional questions, they are encouraged to email their teachers to ask questions or ask for help.

Last school year my child had the flexibility to turn in assignments past the due date assigned by the teacher with no grading penalty. Will this still be the expectation?

No. Last school year there was limited time to properly plan what instruction would look like during the pandemic, and as a school, we provided flexibility for submission of work. This school year both students and teachers have time to prepare for what instruction will look like.

- Teachers will assign due dates for all assignments.
- Students will have 48 hours (or by the assigned due date) to complete/make-up any assignments. Students will receive full credit for assignments turned in by the due date. Should a teacher need to give a student additional time to make changes based on feedback or improve their grade, the teacher would need to work this out with the individual student and assign a due date for the next class meeting. This will prevent students from falling behind and will keep students on the same timeline to receive support from their teachers.
- Students are encouraged to use their Google Classroom calendar to help keep them organized and informed of due dates.

Last school year attendance was based on students turning in their assignments to their teacher? How will attendance be determined this year?

- Students or parents will be required to login to Genesis Portal each day by 9:15 a.m. and mark themselves present. If the student is not marked present by 9:15

a.m., they will be marked absent and an automated phone call will be sent out to families indicating that they are absent. Students and parents will have an opportunity to update the attendance in Genesis no later than 8:00 p.m. of that school day.

- Teachers will complete daily class attendance that is different from school attendance. Class attendance will be determined by students logging into Google Classroom and on Google Meet sessions for each course that a student is scheduled for. Students are expected to follow their daily schedule in Genesis and log in to Google Classroom daily for each class period. **Click this Link to access a “HOW TO” video for [Entering Daily Attendance](#).**

We understand that all students will start school remotely until October 13. What will instruction look like when students are able to come back to school in October?

Students who chose the full remote option will remain in full remote and follow the same model used September 8-October 13. Students who chose the hybrid option will be placed in either the Green Group (Last name beginning with A-L) or the Gold Group (Last name beginning with M-Z.) Students will follow their same schedule with the same teachers they have been assigned to in September and will receive live instruction at Newcomb Middle School every other day.

For the hybrid model, when my student is not receiving live instruction but is home every other day, what are they expected to do? Students will engage in an independent learning day from home. During their independent learning day students are expected to:

- Log in to the Genesis Portal by 9:15 a.m. and mark themselves present.
- Follow their daily schedule in Genesis.
- Log in to Google Classroom for each class period to complete their “check-in.”
- Review recorded videos as assigned or as needed as a reference resource.
- Complete assigned practice/assignments and assessments.
- Students are expected to complete 80 minutes of additional practice for ELA using IXL and 80 minutes of additional practice for Math using ALEKS per week.
- If your child needs further assistance or clarification, they are encouraged to contact their teacher.

If my child is on full remote learning, can they still participate in extracurricular activities/athletics? Yes, parents should contact the school for more information about extracurricular activities and or sports as we do not have an anticipated start date for these activities. Updates will be communicated to you as we receive them.

My child is scheduled to be in school today, and although he does not have a fever, he does not feel well. Should I send him to school? Families must keep them home

and monitor for COVID-19 symptoms. If your child is feeling up to it, they should follow the classwork remotely, and mark themselves present in Genesis. If they are unable to participate in remote learning they should mark themselves absent in Genesis and denote the reason that they are absent. Students should communicate with their classroom teacher in Google Classroom or via email.

Our family attended a once in a lifetime event and traveled to a state that is currently on the travel advisory 14-day quarantine list. What should my child do?

Quarantine and monitor for COVID-19 symptoms for 14 days. Students may learn remotely while quarantining and communicate this by contacting their school counselor. Students would be placed on the Full Remote cohort during the quarantine time frame.

Will my child have additional time to complete assignments if their Chromebook malfunctions or we have internet connectivity issues? Students are required to communicate this information with their classroom teacher and school counselor. Classroom teachers will work with students to ensure that they are provided time to complete assignments if there are connectivity issues.

What does my child do if they have Chromebook issues? How will it be repaired? Who do we call or contact? Students who are having issues with their Chromebook are required to notify their classroom teachers and submit a technology request by visiting the site <http://tech.pemb.org/home/>. In the upper right-hand corner, students should click 'submit ticket' and follow the instructions. Click this link: [Submitting a Technology Ticket for Chromebook issues](#)

Will lunch/breakfast be served? Where? How? How often? Unlike March to August, the district must follow the National School Lunch Program when schools reopen, which requires paid status students to pay for meals. Students in the Free and Reduced Meal Program will receive free meals, and paid students are encouraged to sign up for electronic payments through MySchoolBucks, and the district will waive associated program fees for this year. We encourage families to complete the Free and Reduced Lunch application. Please click the link below for updates to the plan. <https://www.pemberton.k12.nj.us/Page/1305>

How will I meet my child's teacher? Will there be an open house or back to school night? A Virtual Back To School Meeting will be held where classroom teachers will send the Google Meet code to families to take part in a virtual session. The Back To School event will be communicated to parents.

Who should I contact if my child is struggling in a class or I have a concern with a particular class? Parents should begin any communication with their child's classroom teacher. We believe that building a positive relationship with families is integral to the success of our school. Teachers will work to support students as it

relates to concerns. School counselors should be the next level of support for parents as it relates to concerns with a class, and that information will be shared with the appropriate building administrator.

What happens if there is a snow day or an emergency closing on a remote day or while my child is in remote learning? Depending on the type of emergency closing, there is the possibility that as a school we will be able to continue instruction remotely during school closure. The information would be shared by the school district as it relates to emergency school closings.

If my child is on a fully remote schedule will they receive textbooks and materials for the course? If so, how will that occur? The majority of our courses utilize online textbooks/digital curriculum that can be accessed through the use of our school-issued Chromebooks and class specific Google Classrooms.

Who do I call if I have additional questions that aren't covered on this FAQ?

Please contact the school if you have any questions @ 609-893-8141 ext. 1700. The building will be open Monday - Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.