



PARENT GUIDE TO ONLINE LEARNING



DURHAM
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHAT IS CANVAS?

Canvas is our district's learning management system. Canvas is where students will see their assignments, collaborate with peers and teachers, and receive feedback. All DPS students will interact with Canvas as part of their instructional day. When your student logs in, they will see their classes. Canvas is a powerful tool, so taking time to learn it and adapt to it will be a worthwhile investment. You can begin by finding the instructions to login and create a parent account at canvas.dpsnc.net.

TECHNOLOGY HELP

To obtain technology support, use the [IT Helpdesk Site](#) or the IT Helpdesk phone number: 919-560-3837. Some technology questions can be addressed with a simple email or call to your child's teacher, but IT is available. Remember that all students must abide by [Technology Responsible Use Policy 3225](#) during their engagement in online learning.

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL

The DPS PowerSchool Parent Portal is a great resource to update your contact information, fill out forms, stay connected to your school, and check your student's grades (grades 6-12 only).

Whether you already have access to PowerSchool or need to gain access, [please click here to learn how.](#)

DEVICES

Each student will need a device to actively participate in remote learning. A computer with the following basic specifications should be sufficient for your child to access online distance learning:

- 250 GB hard drive or higher
- 4 GB RAM or higher 2.0 GHz Intel or AMD processor
- Windows 10 or MAC OS 10.10 or later
- Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Firefox 48 or later
- Anti-virus program (updated regularly)
- Computer microphone and speakers
- Web Camera
- High-speed Wi-Fi connection obtained either at home (preferred for the best study setting) or via an outside source, such as the community pod, etc.

If you do not have access to a device, schools are currently deploying Chromebooks. Please check with your child's school to find out when you can pick up your device. During device deployment, you will have the opportunity to log into your device and begin to explore Canvas.

STUDENT LEARNING RESOURCES

In addition to Canvas, there are a lot of great educational resources available to students to support learning beyond the school building. The [Parent Guide to Access Student Learning Resources](#) addresses how your child can access them.

FAMILY ACADEMY

This year, Family Academy will offer a series of virtual classes that support remote online learning for DPS families. These classes help families with understanding new curriculum adoptions, digital learning tools and resources, video conferencing, Canvas, and so much more! [Take a look at all course offerings here.](#)