

PRESTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Attendance Guidance 2020-2021 School Year

Typically, student attendance is based solely on a student's physical presence in a traditional classroom. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, school districts have been educating students through a variety of learning platforms. In these times, physical presence is often an insufficient measure of students attendance.

Modified Definition for Student Attendance

◆ Being present for learning opportunities:

- ◆ A student is present for learning when they demonstrate evidence of engagement with instructional content.

*A student is physically present in their classroom

*A student has consistent online interaction with teachers and peers.

In-Person Classroom Attendance

- ◆ A student is present in their assigned classroom, when they are physically present and able to participate in the learning opportunities provided by the teacher.
- ◆ Tardiness and missing part of the day will represent a tardy/half day absences.
- ◆ In-Person students will abide by existing Preston County Schools Attendance Policy.
- ◆ Any NON-COVID 19 absences still requires a parent or doctor note.
- ◆ Unexplained absences will be unexcused.

COVID-19 Absence Allowance

- ◆ A parent /guardian will immediately notify the school by phone at the onset of the circumstance.
- ◆ A student will be excused if they are:
 - *Quarantined for two (or more weeks) due to a positive COVID 19 test.
 - *Had close contact with someone who has tested positive.
 - * A family member has had contact with someone who has tested positive.
- ◆ For the absence to be considered excused, the student should continue to engage in learning lessons via the remote learning platform. *An exception is when the student is ill from COVID and needs time on the return to school to make up their work.*
- ◆ Any student absent due to a positive COVID test or has had close contact with someone who tested positive to COVID should contact the school regarding re-entry.

Virtual School/Remote Learning Days

- ◆ Take place outside of the physical school building and are presented by the student's teacher.
- ◆ A mix of real time and individual assignments.
- ◆ A child is present for virtual/remote learning if the student.
 1. Logs in and participates in provided learning opportunities.
 2. Completes assigned daily learning opportunities by the teacher.
- ◆ All students **MUST** participate in a weekly check-in conference with their Virtual School teacher or staff member.

⇒ If connectivity or technology issues prevent a student from being present for virtual/distance learning, the family must contact the school as quickly as possible to arrange corrective action and possible make-up assignments for the missed learning days.

