

At Home Academy

Student Handbook
2023-2024

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Mission & Vision Statements

Mehlville School District Mission:

The mission of the Mehlville School District is to ensure that all students reach their potential by preparing them to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens through a dynamic curriculum, student-centered instruction, a safe and nurturing environment and community collaboration. ([Policy AD](#))

At Home Academy Mission: **Connect. Engage. Achieve.**

Vision: *The At Home Academy virtual program strives to forge strong, positive connections with and between our students so they can achieve independence and build confidence while gaining academic knowledge.*

District / School Contact Information

Mehlville School District

3120 Lemay Ferry Rd.

St. Louis, MO 63125

314-467-5000

<https://www.mehlilleschooldistrict.com/home>

At Home Academy Virtual School

3120 Lemay Ferry Rd

St. Louis, MO 63125

314-467-7850

<https://mehlvilleathome.mehlilleschooldistrict.com/>

School Office: Ms. Mary Beier, 314-467-7850

Counselor: Ms. Deana McKelvie, 314-467-7850

Attendance Line: 314-467-7810

Welcome to At Home Academy!

Hello At Home Academy families,


The 2020-2021 school year was an interesting time for all of us, but out of all the chaos, a new opportunity was born for our students: Mehlville At Home Academy. Launched in 2020-2021, what we now call “At Home Academy” is a program that allows our students to learn virtually. Though the At Home Academy program may have begun as a Covid response, we had been in the planning stages for this program for several years. Students who join At Home Academy have the same curriculum as our on-campus students. Our teachers are Mehlville School District teachers. The difference is that our students connect to their classrooms and their teachers daily virtually rather than in a physical school building.

Because we have all our own teachers and specialists, our schedule will not fluctuate nearly much: we'll have shortened days when our seated peers have shortened days - following the Mehlville School District's calendar for attendance days. All grade levels will have the same start and end times. And we will all have asynchronous days, generally one day per month, held on the dates highlighted in yellow on the At Home Academy calendar and identified as “Student Half Day”. Several of those dates will be used for supply pickups and / or community gatherings which are optional in-person opportunities for our students to meet up with their teacher or their classmates for an organized activity.

We are so grateful you have decided to learn with us! We look forward to working with our students and their learning coaches as we continue to grow and evolve this wonderful opportunity.

Dr. Christy Mathews, Director of Virtual Learning

At Home Academy Calendar

2023-2024 At Home School Calendar															
															
1st SEMESTER IMPORTANT DATES															
Aug 1 At Home office reopens: 7:30-3:45															
Aug 7-11 New Teacher Orientation															
Aug 17 PD - 1/2 Building; 1/2 Day District															
Aug 18 District Professional Development Day															
Aug 18 Meet the Teacher / Open House / Supply Pickup															
Aug 22 First Day of School															
Sep 4 No School - Labor Day															
Sep 13 Asynchronous Learning Day															
Oct 11 Q2 Supply Pickup/ Asynchronous Learning Day															
Oct 16-17 Parent - Teacher Conferences - 4 hrs															
Oct 19 Half Day, Parent/Teacher Conferences															
Oct 20 No School - Conference Comp Day/Fall Break															
Oct 21 End of 1st Quarter															
Nov 7 No School - Election Day - 1/2 PD, 1/2 Workday															
Nov 22-24 No School - Thanksgiving															
Dec 13 Asynchronous Learning Day															
Dec 21-Jan 2 No School - Winter Break															
Jan 3 No School - 1/2 PD, 1/2 Teacher Workday															
Jan 4 Classes Resume															
2nd SEMESTER IMPORTANT DATES															
Jan 15 No School - Martin Luther King Jr Day															
Jan 16 No School - Teacher Work Day															
Jan 24 S2 Supply Pickup / Asynchronous Learning Day															
Feb 19 No School - Presidents Day															
Feb 28 Asynchronous Learning Day															
Mar 15 End of 3rd Quarter															
Mar 18-22 No School - Spring Break															
Mar 27 Asynchronous Learning Day															
Apr 1 No School - District closed															
Apr 4 No School - 1/2 PD, 1/2 Workday															
Apr 10 No School - District closed															
Apr 24 Asynchronous Learning Day															
Apr 24 Community Day @ JB location															
May 27 No School - Memorial Day															
May 29 Kdg / 5th / 8th Grade Virtual Promotion															
Jefferson Barracks Location: 69 Randolph Rd, St. Louis, MO 63125															
Office Hours: 7:30 AM - 3:45 PM															
School Hours: 8:00-2:50															
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- Student schedules, attendance expectations, curriculum, and instructional minutes will be comparable to their in-person peers.

Notices

All Mehlville School District policies and procedures can be found by [following this link](#).

Notice of Nondiscrimination:

The Mehlville School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry or disability. Additionally, the district does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs or activities, including admission and employment. For more information, follow this link to [Mehlville District form AC-AF1](#).

Special Education:

The Mehlville School District provides special education and related services to children from ages 3-21. Learn more in Mehlville School District Policies [IGB](#) and [IGBA-2](#).

Notice regarding homeless, gifted, migratory and/or students learning English as a second language:

Missouri school districts are responsible for meeting the educational needs of an increasingly diverse student population by providing a wide range of resources and support to ensure that all students have the opportunity to succeed and be college prepared and career ready. The Mehlville School District has programs designed to help meet the unique educational needs of children working to learn the [English language](#), students who are [advanced learners](#), students with [disabilities](#), [homeless students](#), the children of [migratory workers](#), and [neglected](#) or delinquent students. For more information, contact Adam Smith, Executive Director of Student Services, at asmith@msdr9.org.

Concerns and complaints regarding federal programs:

[Follow this process](#) if there is a concern or complaint federal statutes and regulations under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are not being followed.

Notice of Assessment Program:

The Mehlville School District has a policy governing student participation in statewide assessments. For more information on the types of state assessments, [follow this link](#).

Public Information Program:

The district creates school accountability report cards for each building, in accordance to law. Notices of this, along with notices regarding other public information can be found [here](#). The link also contains information on the state children's health insurance program, MO HealthNet for Kids.

Creating a Learning Space

We recommend that learners have a designated space where they can work each day. This space could include several essential items:

- Desk or table with a comfortable chair
- Space for workbooks, notebooks, paper
- Teacher-provided materials
- Writing utensils
- School supplies (scissors, crayons or markers, glue, etc.)
- Chromebook, charger, and headphones

[*Supply List](#)



Getting Started

Prior to Day 1

- Attend the Meet the Teacher / Supply Pickup event and double check the [supply list](#) to ensure you have all materials ready for learning.
- Identify a quiet learning space where all materials can be organized and stored, ready to be used.
- Make sure your Chromebook is charged and ready to go.
- Post the daily schedule provided by your teacher(s) in a space where the student and their learning coach can access it.
- If needed, set timer reminders for return-to-learn times.

Day-to-Day

- Start every day by checking your email or Canvas Inbox (per teacher).
- Look at any recent feedback given from your teacher.
- Check the calendar for due dates each day and upcoming events.
- Complete learning tasks as assigned.
- Contact your teacher with any questions.

Additional Support

- Office Hours: Teachers host office hours for general questions from 7:50-8:00 and 2:50-3:10.
- Intervention Time: Teachers may assign individual students or small groups to meet for additional instruction from 12:00-12:30. Students who would like additional assistance may join the teacher's Google Meet during this time, as well, for additional support.

Establishing a Home Routine

It's important to establish a consistent routine At Home Academy.

Here's an example of what a student's day may look like:

7:00: Wake up and get dressed

7:15: Eat breakfast

7:45: Check to make sure you have all materials for today's learning.

8:00: Log into your first class

9:30: Brief Break #1: Strike a yoga pose, stretch, or have a quick snuggle with your furry friend.

11:05: Independent study--start working on your assignments. If you have any questions, plan to join your teacher's intervention time at 12:00.

11:35: Break time! Eat lunch and make time for recess (play outside, take a walk, enjoy yoga)

12:00: Join your assigned classroom Meet for Advisory / Intervention time.

2:05: Brief Break #2: Strike a yoga pose, stretch, or have a quick snuggle with a furry friend.

2:50: Check in with any teacher to ask a quick question.

3:10: Log off of classes for the day and organize your learning space for homework and for tomorrow's lessons. Be sure to make time for movement this afternoon.

After you've finished your homework, begin your home evening routine: play, eat dinner, watch TV--do what you normally do with your family after school.

Be sure to rest up tonight! Tomorrow is another day of learning.

Successful Virtual Learner Profile



Time Management

Students need to be able to manage their time. They should think through a study schedule, set aside time for homework, set alarms for class meetings, and plan long range assignments. It is important that students log on consistently and complete their coursework on time to avoid falling behind.

Self Motivation

Without the presence of an in-person teacher, students need to have the discipline to log in daily, complete assignments, and communicate with teachers.

Communication Skills

In an online setting, communication is key. Students need to have appropriate, timely communication with both their teachers and their classmates.

Technology Skills

In order to be successful in an online setting, students need basic technology skills and a willingness to learn new ones.

Self Advocacy

All courses are live with an assigned instructor. Students needing additional help should message their teacher. If a student is unsure of how to complete an assignment or needs additional instruction, they must advocate for help.

Learning Coaches and Teachers Support Skill Development

Teachers and learning coaches work together to teach these skills to our virtual learners. Even if learners do not have these skills yet, they will develop them with the support of their learning coaches, their teachers, and their peers.

Student Support: Learning Coach

Establish a Routine

- Help your child create and maintain a routine.
- Monitor daily progress using the parent portal in SIS and the parent observer account in Canvas.
- Integrate daily and weekly check-ins with your child.

Support and Sustain

- Provide additional guidance and redirection (as needed)
- Encourage, motivate, and offer reassurance.
- Engage in frequent communication with your child's teachers

Assist with Content

- Reinforce the importance of doing well and participating regularly.
- Check for content mastery: quizzing, asking questions, etc.
- Encourage your student to have their camera on during live lessons and to actively participate in class activities.

Technical Support

- Make sure your student has a working device; contact MSDChromebookHelp@msdr9.org or Mrs. Beier in the main office (beierm@msdr9.org, 314-467-7850) with any questions.
- Make sure your student knows how to join classes and navigate Canvas.

Technology Resources

[Chromebook Care](#)

[Chromebook Troubleshooting](#)

*If you are having issues with your district Chromebook, please email msdchromebookhelp@msdr9.org or contact Mrs. Beier in the main office at beierm@msdr9.org or at 314-467-7850. .

[Google Meet Guide](#)

[Screencastify](#) (make sure you've added this extension to Chrome)

[Screencastify Tutorial](#)

Chromebook Procedures

Every student will be issued a Chromebook and a charger for educational purposes from their school district. Students should ensure that their Chromebook is safely stored and charging each night so they can connect with their class Google Meets each day.

Chromebooks must be **charged and ready for use each school day.**

NEVER store a Chromebook on the floor.

Chromebooks should **not be used next to liquids.**

Virtual Learner / Student Expectations

1. **Keep your Chromebook charged** throughout the day.
2. **Be logged into your computer and present in your Google Meet by 8:00 am.** Just like in person school, new content will be delivered daily. It is critical that you are present in your Google Meets just as you would be present at school.
3. **Be actively engaged in class and submit your work on time.** Your teachers use your performance on learning activities to help them create the best instruction they can for you. **Active engagement includes having your camera turned ON and participation in the activities.**
4. **Follow all At Home Academy expectations** throughout the school day.
5. **Ask for help when you need it.** If you are struggling, reach out to your teachers and counselors.

Digital Citizenship

Choose difficult passwords and **keep them private!**

NEVER take pictures of other people on the Meet.

Don't post, send, or forward **inappropriate content.**

Make sure you **cite all digital content** you use in class!

If you see something inappropriate or dangerous, TELL AN ADULT.

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

For your child to be successful, there are three crucial people who must work together: your child, your child's teachers, and you!

	Teacher	Student	Parent or Learning Coach
Instruction	Direct teaching in whole groups and small groups.	Attend meetings with teacher and complete assignments and tasks.	Ensure student attends designated meeting times for whole group and small group instruction.
Daily Schedule	Teacher will provide daily / weekly schedule.	Attend class meetings and work independently as needed.	Be available to help and redirect your child throughout the day.
Communication	Communicate with students via Canvas Inbox. Provide feedback on assignments. Make contact with parents via phone or email.	Check Inbox messages and class announcements. Read teacher feedback. Participate in class meetings.	Check student Inbox messages, announcements, and teacher feedback. Assist student in participating in class meetings.
Canvas / Google Meet	Host class meetings, small group and whole group instruction. Post announcements. Contact parents and students.	Log in each day to check announcements and attend classes. Complete and turn in assignments.	Check parent portal and observer account. Assist student with logging in. Ensure student attends regularly and completes assignments.

Academic Integrity

Using someone else's work and claiming it as your own, even if it is unintentional, is plagiarism. It is important that students cite sources and use quotation marks appropriately to avoid plagiarism. At Home Academy has a specific plagiarism policy and list of consequences. These same consequences can be invoked for cheating and/or forging/falsifying documents.

- **1st offense:** Student will be allowed to redo assignment for full credit and a formal warning will be issued.
- **Subsequent offense:** Student will receive a zero for the assignment or have a grade reduction.

In addition to the consequences specified here, school officials will document violations in the student's discipline file pursuant to Board policy. For students participating in At Home Academy from another district, Information will be shared with that district's leadership.

Attendance and Reporting Absences

Be Present to Learn

Students learn best when they are present, prepared, and engaged with their teacher and the learning material. For students with excessive absences (10 or more) or other attendance concerns, virtual learning may not be the right academic environment for their best opportunities for success. Formal attendance letters for students with multiple absences will be sent home at least quarterly. *At Home Academy administration reserves the right to conference with parents regarding a new placement for the new semester or the new school year.* **Disenrollment appeal process:** Should a student be disenrolled from the At Home Academy due to low attendance or participation, parents may submit information they deem relevant to the provider's decisions regarding consistent engagement within 10 business days. The program director will review all information and will issue a final decision within five business days after parents have requested the review and provided all relevant information for consideration.

Reporting an Absence

If your student will be absent, leave a message on our Attendance Line at 314-467-7810 or contact Ms. Beier in the At Home Academy office at beierm@msdr9.org. Please do this prior to 10:00 AM. If a parent or guardian does not call to verify a student's absence, the absence is marked as unexcused. Frequent unexcused absences could result in a referral to Children's Division or St. Louis County Family Court ([Policy JED](#) and [Regulation JED-R1](#)) and/ or disenrollment from At Home Academy. .

Student absences should be reported on a daily basis as if you were in a traditional school setting. Documentation for excused absences such as doctor's visits must be submitted to Ms. Beier in the At Home Academy office at beierm@msdr9.org. Absences will be reviewed based on reasonable causes, (i.e., serious/prolonged illness, severe/prolonged injury, family emergency, etc.) and provided documentation.

Excessively absent students, those who miss 10 or more days, will be at risk of being recommended not to continue in the At Home Academy program. It is the responsibility of the student and their learning coach to follow-up on any missed work

Course Participation and Completion

While we want all students to complete and be successful in their coursework, it is essential to define what course completion means:

- In grades 6-8 course completion means the student earned a grade in the course at the end of the semester. This grade could be a passing or failing grade.
- In grades, K-5 course completion means the student earned a complete in the course and not an incomplete or identified to repeat the course.

Students are expected to attend all live class sessions, whole group and small group. Additionally, students should sync their district-issued Google account and have their cameras turned on during class. For those concerned with backgrounds, use of the Google Meet background filter or blurring tool is acceptable.

Attending class sessions is equal to attending school. Students are expected to attend all sessions unless notified by their teacher that their attendance is not required.

Course progress, completion, and grades will be reported to the state at the end of each month. Per Missouri House Bill HB1552, “if a student fails to complete the instructional activities after receiving a notification and after reasonable intervention strategies have been implemented, the student shall be subject to certain consequences which may include disenrollment from the school. Prior to any disenrollment, the parent or guardian shall have the opportunity to present any information that the parent deems relevant, and such information shall be considered prior to any final decision. If a full-time virtual school disenrolls a student, the school shall immediately provide written notification to such student’s school district of residence. The student’s school district of residence shall then provide to the parents or guardian of the student a written list of available educational options and promptly enroll the student in the selected option. Any student disenrolled from a full-time virtual school shall be prohibited from re-enrolling in the same virtual school for the remainder of the school year.” **See ***Attendance and Reporting Absences*** for more information.

Community Days and Other Outings

At Home Academy may sponsor optional in person outings for students and families that enhance the curriculum/learning activities. While attendance is not required, these are wonderful opportunities for our students and families to build positive relationships with peers and teachers. It is our hope that the teachers and parents will work together for a successful outcome. Parents are responsible for the transportation and supervision of their children at these events. Teachers will be present to facilitate but will not be supervising.

Outings could be scheduled in various locations throughout the St. Louis area. Every effort is made to maximize outing locations throughout the year.

At Home Academy parents, or guardians, and students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all optional outings. Parents and guardians are responsible for supervision of their children at all times.

Dress Code: At Home Academy expects student dress and grooming to be neat, clean, and appropriate for school so that each students may share in promoting a positive, healthy, and safe atmosphere. Clothing should be functional, safe, and reflect the attitude of the student toward his or her primary job - *learning*. No procedure will impose dress and grooming rules based on gender in violation of Title IX. For more information, view [Policy JFCA](#).

Conferences / Meetings with Teachers

While Parent Teacher are scheduled in October and again in March, parents are encouraged to contact their student's teacher at any time to discuss their child's progress. Informal conferences are encouraged; however, arrangements need to be made between the parent and teacher for a mutually suitable time.

Counseling

A certified school counselor, Ms. McKelvie, is on staff for the benefit of students, parents, and teachers. The counselor will talk with students at the request of students, parents, or teachers. Families with academic/school issues, as well as concerns about personal well-being, can contact the counselor. Ms. McKelvie may be reached at 314-467-7850.

Crisis Planning

We believe student safety is our most important task. However, since our learners are in their homes, it is important for families to develop and review crisis procedures that work in your home and for your family.

Here are links to articles that may help you review procedures specific to your home with your child:

- **CDC:** [Staying Safe in a Tornado](#)
- **Red Cross:** [Tornado Safety](#): Learn how to stay safe during a tornado, and how to improve your home's ability to withstand tornadoes
- **National Weather Service:** [Tornado Safety Rules](#)

Families are encouraged to discuss plans for other events including, but not limited to, fire, earthquake, medical situations, intruders, personal safety, and sharing information with strangers.

Should tornado sirens alert urging people to seek shelter immediately, students and staff should leave their Chromebooks and head to safety. If our Mehlville School District community goes under a Tornado Warning, classes will be suspended for the duration of the warning to ensure all students and staff have the ability to find shelter. Once a Tornado Warning expires, if we are still inside the school day (8:00-2:50), classes will resume.

District and State Assessments

All MOCAP (virtual education) students are required to participate in state and local academic testing.

State Testing

- **GLA / MAP:** All students in grades three through eight in Missouri will take the MAP test in communication arts and math. Students in grades five and eight will also take the MAP test in science.
- **EOC:** End-of-Course assessments are taken when a student has received instruction on the course-level expectations for an assessment, regardless of grade level (but typically in high school). EOC tests are required for the courses of Algebra I, Biology, English II, and Government.
- **WIDA ACCESS** (MODESE English language proficiency assessment): "The ACCESS for ELLs® is a federally and state-required annual assessment and participation is a component of Every Student Succeeds Act(ESSA)accountability." [DESE](#)
- The local school is responsible for administering the assessments. Students are expected to participate in MAP testing according to the testing schedule of their local school. [DESE](#)

District Benchmarking

- **iReady** (K-5), **IXL** (Math, 6-8), **STAR** (ELA, 6-8) benchmarks are administered three times a year - in August, January, and May. These diagnostic assessments help students demonstrate their growth over the course of the school year.
- **NSGRA** (K-5): Administered in the spring in a one-on-one setting with each child's teacher, the NSGRA uses short stories and questions to determine a student's level of reading fluency and comprehension. The final score is reported on the 4th quarter report card.
- **Panorama** SEL survey: completed twice a year, in September and in February / March. Panorama assessments help staff to see each child's strengths and weaknesses emotionally for learning. The survey gives input regarding the child's growth in self-management, social awareness, growth mindset, self-efficacy, grit, emotional regulation, sense of belonging, and engagement in school.

Electronic Communications

The Board of Education prohibits the use of audio, visual, or other recording devices at meetings unless approved within a reasonable time period prior to the scheduled meeting ([Policy KKB](#)).

Staff members may communicate electronically with students for educational purposes only between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Staff members are discouraged from communicating electronically with students for reasons other than educational purposes ([Policy GBH](#)).

Emergency School Closings

Though we are a virtual program, At Home Academy is still tied to a school district. In the event that there is a school closure for the Mehlville School District, we will follow that closure. Should an Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Day be issued, we will shorten our virtual learning day to match the in-person schedule.

When severe weather necessitates the closing of school, the Superintendent strives to make the decision by 5:30 A.M. School closings will be broadcast through Parent Square, on the district website (www.mehlilleschooldistrict.com) and on most major radio and television stations. If school is closed, all other school-related activities are canceled for that day.

If the district has to send home students due to inclement weather during the school day, families will be notified through a Parent Square broadcast, the district website, and on most television and radio stations. Please contact the Wohlwend office at 314-467-6500 immediately if your child will be going home from school differently than normal.

Enrollment Process

At Home Academy is an approved MOCAP provider. Enrollment is open to any student who is a resident of Missouri, regardless of where they live. Families wishing to enroll in the At Home Academy virtual program must follow the [enrollment process outlined on the district website](#). Whether they live within the Mehlville School District boundaries, students are enrolled as Mehlville School District residents for the purpose of education. The enrollment process for At Home Academy's virtual school is the same as for any other school in the district, except that families provide proof of Missouri residency, rather than proof of local district residency.

Exceptional Learners: Special Education

In an effort to follow a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and to provide FAPE, in partnership with Special School District, At Home Academy will provide accommodations/modifications, adaptations, and assistive technology supports for students with disabilities accordance with a student's IEP. Following the IEP process under IDEA, IEPs will be held and reviewed at appropriate intervals to ensure goals are appropriate for the virtual classroom and that adequate progress is being made. In the event that the student is no longer making adequate progress, the At Home Academy-represented IEP team will convene to determine whether the virtual environment is still an appropriate placement for FAPE.

If you have questions regarding the implementation of IEP accommodations/modifications, curriculum or course adaptations, assistive technology needs, or provisions under FAPE, please contact your child's case manager and teacher.

Exceptional Learners: Multilingual Learners

At Home Academy will provide accommodations, adaptations, and assistive technology supports for students with English language (ELD) needs according to individualized plans developed by students' resident school district and reviewed by our case manager. The EL team may convene to determine whether changes need to be made based on a change in learning environment.

If you have questions regarding the implementation of EL Plan accommodations, curriculum or course adaptations, or assistive technology needs, please contact your child's case manager or Dr. Christy Mathews, Director of Virtual Learning.

Exceptional Learners: Section 504 and Health Plan Supports

At Home Academy will provide accommodations, adaptations, and assistive technology supports for students according to their 504 Plan or Health Plan. The 504 team may convene to determine whether changes need to be made based on a change in learning environment.

If you have questions regarding the implementation of 504 Plan or Health Plan accommodations, curriculum or course adaptations, or assistive technology needs, please contact our counselor, Ms. Deana McKelvie. For those in our partner school districts, please contact your resident school district with any questions or needs for new supports.

Performance Expectations & Monitoring

For our students to have the most successful virtual learning experience, students will be expected to

- Attend all class meetings
- Participate with their camera on and an appropriate background
- Maintain a charged, working Chromebook
- Communicate with teachers and parents
- Demonstrate success to maintain their place in At Home Academy

We want the best experience for our At Home Academy students. For our teachers to have the most access to their students and to most effectively help them, they need to be able to monitor students' body language and their online work. Keeping their cameras on their faces and using a synced Chromebook allows for the use of GoGuardian, a program that facilitates 1:1 conversations between the teacher and student, and provides opportunities for the teacher to redirect the student.

Process for student and parent concerns:

1. All concerns and issues should first be directed to the student's teacher via phone or email.
 2. If the concern is not resolved through the teacher, guardians are advised to contact Dr. Christy Mathews, the Director of Virtual Learning at cmathews@msdr9.org or at 314-467-7845.
- ★ If you need assistance of a language interpreter, please contact your child's ELD case manager, the main office (314-467-7850), or Dr. Mathews.

Standards Based Learning

Report cards will be sent home approximately two weeks after the end of each quarter. View the district calendar for learning quarter end dates.

All classes for grades K-8 will utilize [Standards Based Learning](#).

Standards-based grading is a research-based system designed to inform student progress towards mastering specific learning standards.

Standards-based grading identifies what students know and can do, as opposed to simply averaging grades over the course of the grading term, which can mask what a student has learned, or not learned, in a specific subject.

Teachers will use a 3 point scale:

- *A score of 3 (Meeting Expectations of the Standard): the student can independently and consistently demonstrate mastery of the standard.
- *A score of 2 (Approaching Expectations): the student is inconsistent or needs support to meet the standard.
- *A score of 1 (Beginning to Learn): the student shows limited evidence of understanding the standard and needs a lot of additional instruction/support.
- *A score of IE (Insufficient Evidence to determine mastery): the student has not completed enough work to demonstrate any level of mastery.
- *A blank box indicates that a standard has not yet been assessed in class.

Standards Based Learning (cont'd)

Standards Based Learning is a process where teachers will work with students to determine their current level of understanding, provide specific feedback, teach students to set goals and reflect on their work and even redo many assignments to help students through their learning journey.

Sexual Health Instruction

The district offers instruction in human sexuality and will provide instruction regarding sexual abuse as required by law. This link contains [Policy IGAEB](#), which deals with sexual health instruction.

Student Records

Families have privacy rights under the Family and Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). A list of these rights can be found in [Policy JO-1](#) and [Procedure JO-AP1](#).

Trauma Informed School Initiative

Missouri Senate Bill 638 established the Trauma-Informed School Initiative. This initiative seeks to provide a trauma-informed approach for understanding and responding to the symptoms of chronic interpersonal trauma and traumatic stress. For more information, [click here](#).

Technology Requirements

Any student enrolled in the Mehlville School District will be issued a Chromebook through the district. Families are responsible for obtaining a Chromebook or computer and maintaining high speed internet.

For information on possible broadband internet discounts, visit the [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) page on the FCC site.

Chromebooks should be in proper working order, including a fully functional camera which should be turned on during class meetings, and a microphone which should be able to toggle on and off..

Problems with your Chromebook?

Mehlville students needing Help Desk support should contact MSDChromebookHelp@msdr9.org with any questions related to their device.

Exceptional Learners: Gifted and Talented Students

It is the goal of At Home Academy to provide a quality education and to ensure appropriate learning opportunities that will foster maximum mental, physical, and emotional development of each student. Some children demonstrate or show a potential for demonstrating a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to other children of similar age, experience, or environment. These children may perform at a very high level in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area, showing an unusually high capacity for leadership, or excel in a particular academic field.

With guidance from the student's resident school district, At Home Academy is able to provide extension activities, accommodations, adaptations, and assistive technology supports for students identified as gifted according to their Gifted Plan. The student's resident school district is responsible for the development of Gifted Plans, conducting evaluations, and providing services.

Please contact your resident school district for any questions or need for supports. If you have questions regarding the implementation of your student's Gifted Plan please contact PERSON.

Child Abuse Reporting & Hotline Access

What Should You Do When You Suspect Abuse or Neglect

Investigators need specific information to be able to respond to a complaint of abuse or neglect. Try to have the following information:

- The name of the child
- The name of the parent(s)
- The name of the alleged abuser
- Where the child can be located

You will also be asked:

- What are the worrying behaviors that you are calling about today?
- What happened to the child/children as a result of the worrying behaviors?
- What are you most worried about will happen to the child/children if nothing in the family changes?
- What actions have been taken other than making this call?
- Is there anything going on in or around that family that would make this situation more difficult to handle?
- What are the best aspects of the adult's care for the child/children?
- What needs to happen differently for you to be confident the children are safe enough?
- On a scale of 0-10 where 10 means the child is completely safe right now and 0 means that if no action is taken, the child could be seriously hurt or injured in the next 24 hours, where would you rate this family?

The Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline Unit utilizes Signs of Safety when screening calls. To learn more about Signs of Safety, please visit <https://www.signsofsafety.net/>.

Let's Stop Child Abuse – It's Okay to tell!

Please report child abuse or neglect! Contact the child abuse and neglect hotline at 1.800.392.3738 or use the [Missouri Department of Social Services website](#).

This information is provided in accordance with Missouri [Section 160.975](#) “ All schools to post child abuse hotline number, signage, contents – rulemaking authority.”