



ALABAMA COUNCIL ON HUMAN RELATIONS, INC.
Child Development Program
P.O. Box 3770 - 950 Shelton Mill Road
AUBURN, AL 36831-3770 Phone (334) 821-8336

ACHR Head Start and Early Head Start Virtual Teaching & Learning Plan During Quarantines 2020-21

Families: Following is the virtual learning plan to help families understand the guidelines to follow for times when class/es or centers are closed during quarantines.

When a closure of a classroom/s or center occurs, classroom teachers will begin virtual contact the next day to arrange virtual learning times with families, providing both teachers are not ill. Please respond to teacher contact ASAP so you can begin to work together.

If your child's teachers are sick, another staff person will contact the family to make arrangements for virtual learning.

Virtual Services For Head Start (HS) Preschoolers and Early Head Start (EHS) Infants/Toddlers

After a classroom/s or a center are closed due to a quarantine, the following services will begin:

- Classroom staff will contact family to arrange times of virtual services.
- Ongoing virtual teaching and learning around school readiness goals for children age 0-5 on agreed upon days/times.
- Teacher support for children's development and skill building.
- Developmentally appropriate activities.
- Ongoing child assessment (gathered from parent and during contacts between child and teacher). Please text or email the teacher at least 2 short videos per week of your child participating in learning activities to assist teachers with assessment. If unable, contact teacher for alternatives.

What will the virtual program during quarantines for Head Start preschoolers look like?

- Each Head Start (HS) child should continue to use the computer tablet and participate by playing the *Ignite by Hatch* learning games while in quarantine.
 - Learning software called *Ignite by Hatch*. **Each child should interact with the software 30-60 minutes per week. We suggest 15-20 minutes at a time.** Only the enrolled child is to use the Ignite software games, as they track the child's development/learning. The **tablet does not** require internet access. But the tablet needs to be synced with the internet every 7 days. If you do not have internet access at home, this can be accomplished by taking the tablet once every 7 days to any fast food restaurant that has free internet access or near any of our ACHR buildings. This will update your child's data. The teacher will use the information to help you assist your child in moving to the next level towards school readiness.
- **Families are to participate in Zoom or other virtual meetings with/for their child at least twice a week** and be available to periodically talk to your HS child's teacher/s using an agreed upon virtual method such as smart phone (e.g. FaceTime/Zoom), computer/tablet meeting (e.g. Zoom), or regular phone.
- **Families should participate in educational activities with their child on non-teacher contact days to extend their child's learning.** Activities such as reading to your child, playing games together, carrying out ideas from RAGS activity sheets found on Google Classroom, and repeating activities and songs previously presented by the teacher/s is helpful to your child's school readiness.

- **Families should observe their child as they do activities and during free play time** and share their observations about the child's learning, growth, and needs with the teacher.
- The *Google Classroom* app. Here you will access information such as lesson plans and links to learning/activity videos for your child. Google Classroom allows you to communicate with your child's teacher. You will be able to use *Google Classroom* from a smart phone if you do not have home internet access. If neither of these methods is available, parent can contact teacher to seek an alternative way to participate and communicate (e.g. FaceTime, Zoom, Skype).
- The *Zoom* app. Families should access Zoom through a tablet, computer, or smart phone to have virtual meetings so children can see and interact with their teacher and perhaps even some classmates. You can download the Zoom app to a smart phone if you do not have home internet service.

What will the virtual program look like for Early Head Start infants and toddlers?

- **Each child/family will be asked to participate in lesson plan activities with the teacher at least twice per week**, and to be available to periodically talk to your infant/toddler's teacher/s using an agreed upon virtual method such as smart phone (e.g. FaceTime/Zoom), computer/tablet meeting (e.g. Zoom), or regular phone.
- Each family will be asked to read to their infant/toddler daily, and participate in additional parent-child activities to reinforce child's development and learning during the week.
- **Families should participate in educational activities with their child on non-teacher contact days to extend their child's learning**. Activities such as reading to your child, playing games together, carrying out ideas from RAGS activity sheets found on Google Classroom, and repeating activities and songs previously presented by the teacher/s.
- **Families should observe their child as they do activities and during free play time** and share their observations about the child's learning, growth, and needs with the teacher.
- The *Google Classroom* app. Here you will access information such as lesson plans, and links to learning/activity videos for your infant/toddler. Google Classroom allows you to communicate with your child's teacher. You will be able to use *Google Classroom* from a smart phone if you do not have home internet access. If neither of these methods is available, parent can contact teacher to seek an alternative way to participate and communicate (e.g. FaceTime, Zoom, Skype).
- The *Zoom* app. Families should access Zoom through a tablet, computer, or smart phone to have virtual meetings so infants/toddlers can see and interact with their teacher and perhaps even some classmates. You can download the Zoom app to a smart phone if you do not have home internet service.
- **For older toddlers over 26 months**, who were deemed ready by their teacher, the family is to encourage the child to play the *Ignite by Hatch* learning games on the ACHR tablet with their child during quarantine.
 - **Each older toddler should interact with the software 30-60 minutes per week. We suggest 10-15 minutes at a time for toddlers.** Only the enrolled toddler is to use the Ignite software games, as they track the child's development/learning. The **tablet does not** require internet access. But the tablet needs to be **synced with the internet every 7 days**. If you do not have internet access at home, this can be accomplished by taking the tablet once every 7 days to any fast food restaurant that has free internet access or near any of our ACHR buildings. This will update your child's data. The teacher will use the information to help you assist your child in moving to the next level towards school readiness.
 - The *Google Classroom* app. The Google Classroom app will be used by families to access information such as lesson plans, RAGS educational activity sheets, and links to learning/activity videos for your child. Google Classroom allows you to communicate with your child's teacher. You will be able to use *Google Classroom* from a smart phone if you do not have home internet access.

- The *Zoom* app. This may allow teachers or family engagement staff and parents to have virtual meetings. It may also be used with children so they can see and interact with their teacher and perhaps even some classmates. You can download the Zoom app to a smart phone if you do not have home internet service.