

## New School Year FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

### What is the difference between homeschooling and remote learning/instruction with Anson County Public Schools?

North Carolina law defines a home school as a non-public school consisting of the children of not more than two families or households, where the parents or legal guardians or members of either household determine the scope and sequence of the academic instruction, provide academic instruction, and determine additional sources of academic instruction. General Statute 115C-563(a) as amended changes the definition of a home school to allow parents to hire tutors, let their children participate in group settings where they receive instruction (co-ops, 4-H classroom instruction, etc.) and be instructed by an expert that is not a part of the household in the established homeschool (apprenticeships, a homeschool doctor teaching biology, etc.) This will allow homeschool parents more freedom to choose what is best for the education of their children. NC home schools are required to administer nationally standardized achievement test annually to each student.

Overall, there are two major differences between the two. Homeschooling is considered a non-public school and Anson County Public Schools remote instruction is defined as a public school. Additionally, in homeschooling, the parents act as full-time instructors; while, in remote instruction (also known as virtual or online learning), Anson County Public School teachers manage the student's studies virtually, create lesson plans or online within a structured curriculum.

### For students without laptops/computers, will the district provide those devices?

Anson County Public Schools will provide computers to students that do not have a home device. In addition, the district has an established support mechanism to help families troubleshoot device challenges.

- Technical Support Hotline - 704 694-4417 Ext. 1504
- Technical Support Email - [TechSupportStaff@anson.k12.nc.us](mailto:TechSupportStaff@anson.k12.nc.us)
- Google Screen Share - An application extension will be set up to allow families to screen share with district technology staff remotely to resolve technical issues.

### For students without internet connectivity, how will online learning take place?

Multiple strategies will be used to reach students without internet connectivity.

**• Strategy 1 - External Hard Drives and Google Chromebooks** Anson County Public Schools will utilize external hard drives. External hard drives are devices that connect to the outside of a computer through a port and serves as a portable storage solution for students. Students can access preloaded materials and teacher-made instructional videos. Students can also save completed work to the external hard drives for teacher review and feedback. Google Chromebooks for students without internet connectivity. Teachers will download content on External Drives and students can access learning materials and upload materials to the drive for feedback. Each student needing a computer will also receive a Google Chromebook to utilize the external hard drive and preloaded resources.

**• Strategy 2 - Hotspots and Google Chromebooks** Anson County Public Schools are working to secure mobile hotspots for students who do not have internet and live in areas that can support hotspot devices. Mobile hotspots provide wireless internet access. Students will also be given a Google Chromebook if they do not have a computer.

**• Strategy 3 - Wifi & Local Partners** Anson County Public Schools identified local partners that have Wifi. The names and locations of partners willing to provide this service are below.

\*In the event that devices are on backorder, we are prepared to begin the year with printed learning materials to support students.

### Will students have to wear uniforms if they return to in-person learning?

At the July 27, 2020, board of education meeting, the board voted to suspend/waive Section B in Policy 4316 Student Dress Code through December or until 2nd semester which begins on January 4, 2021.

\*\*\*[The Student Dress Code is presented on page 2.](#)

### What about school supplies? Is there a list?

Remote learning supply needs are similar to those that occur in traditional school years. Today's students are digital natives and are accustomed to using a blended approach of device and typical learning resources to complete assignments. Please see the list below to help make determinations regarding supplies that may prove beneficial for your child. Printers are not required but may be beneficial to students that prefer marking on text. \*\*\*[The 2020-2021 School Supply List is presented on page 1.](#)

### Will there be an open house for students before school starts?

All schools will offer a time for material distribution over the span of two days at each school; this will serve as "open house".

- **Elementary Schools**
  - August 12, from 10:00am-1:00pm and 3:00-7:00pm (last names A-K)
  - August 13, from 10:00am-1:00pm - 3:00-7:00pm (last names L-Z)
- **Anson Middle School**
  - August 12, from 10:00am-1:00pm and 3:00-7:00pm (last names A-K)
  - August 13, from 10:00am-1:00pm - 3:00-7:00pm (last names L-Z)
- **Anson High School/Anson Early College/Anson Academy**
  - August 12 (11th & 12th Grade Only), 10:00am-1:00pm and 3:00-7:00pm
  - August 13 (9th & 10th Grade Only), 10:00am-1:00pm and 3:00-7:00pm

### At open house where do parents go to register for a laptop? What do we do at the open house?

#### Do we stay in our car?

Schools will utilize drive through options for Open House. Principals will be communicating specific protocols for their schools. During this time, parents will complete a registration regarding connectivity and

device needs. Any student not provided a ChromeBook during the 2019-2020 school year will have the opportunity to receive an assigned device. School staff will collect data from families regarding internet connectivity so that the district can implement the appropriate service strategy for school re-entry.

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Schools will collect this data during Open House and begin distributing additional equipment in the coming days.

### Will there be parent/teacher conferences?

Teachers will be contacting students and families weekly as we work together to ensure feedback regarding how the educational progress is ongoing. We will also still hold conferences, however, this design will be created based upon state guidelines and the entry plan model adopted at the time of scheduled conferences.

### I am afraid I won't be able to help my child with their work.

Teachers will provide office hours, return emails, and contact families to support students with understanding and completing assignments. Feedback on assignments will also be provided on a routine basis. Students are most successful when a structured learning environment and routine are established. Parents are not expected to be their child's teacher, rather they are partners in the educational journey.

### What about families that don't have childcare?

The district reached out to the Anson County Partnership for Children for a current listing of licensed childcare facilities to share with families.

\*\*\*[A list of ACS daycare providers is presented at the end of this article.](#)

### Students with disabilities (IEP/504 Plans); how will remote learning work for them?

Schools must provide FAPE "consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services to these students". [OSEP Supplemental Fact Sheet-March 21, 2020] "However, federal disability law provides flexibility in determining how to meet the needs of students with disabilities. The determination of how FAPE is to be provided may need to be different in this time of unprecedented national emergency". [OSEP Supplemental Fact Sheet, March 21, 2020] The provision of FAPE may "include, as appropriate, special education and related services provided through distance instruction delivered virtually, online or telephonically."

Special Education teachers and related service providers will review each student's IEP including accommodations and modifications for appropriateness on remote learning days. If it is determined the IEP and related services need to be adjusted, the IEP team will decide how to best meet the students' needs on remote learning days on an individual basis.

### What will the school day (schedule) look like for my child?

• Elementary Instruction K-5 - Students will receive direct instruction from 9:00 to 11:00 daily. Indirect instruction will take place from 12:00 - 2:00.

• Secondary Instruction 6-13 - Students will receive indirect instruction from 9:00 to 12:00 daily. Direct instruction will take place from 12:00 - 3:00.

#### Description of Instructional Methods

• Direct Instruction - Students will receive live streamed, video resources, and guided support for learning. Students unable to work at this time will have access to recorded material.

• Indirect Instruction - Students will engage with instructional activities and assignments. Teachers will provide feedback to guide learning.

### Will students receive meals during remote instruction?

Yes! Meals will be available for all students in Anson County Schools during remote learning from August 17 until October 16. Specific details on how those meals will be distributed will be shared as soon as we receive final guidance from the state.

### What about drivers education (behind the wheel and the classroom part)?

Behind the wheel instruction started back up about a week or so ago for our students that completed the classroom portion of the class. We had a small back-log of children, but instructors should be complete with these children by the time school comes back in session on August 17th, if schedules permit.

The classroom portion of Driver Education starting back is a bit more challenging and complex. We are attempting to gain approval to use an online module, like Union County, during this time of need. The Department of Public Instruction is also creating a virtual classroom for Driver's Education, however this will not be completed before January 2021. Another scenario that is being considered is we try to load recorded classroom sessions into canvas, similar to what the schools are doing to start this school year. We do have a large back-log of children that fall into grouping

that are ready for the classroom portion. We will continue updating families as information becomes available.

### So how do children of parents who work during the day get one-on-one instruction since everything is during daytime working hours? Our kids will be at a disadvantage if they aren't given the opportunity to talk with the teachers during instruction time too. Would this be indirect?

Teachers will be conducting live broadcasts and instructional support to students during Direct Instruction. Teachers will load recorded broadcast and resources so that this can be utilized at any time outside of the instructional block to best accommodate parents. Teachers will be giving support during Indirect Instruction and give feedback for assignments. Families can access this feedback outside of the indirect instruction hours if needed. It is best for students to be engaged during the instructional day, but we have made provisions to meet families unique needs. Teachers will be contacting students and families for 1:1 support and to answer questions. Some of this will occur outside of the instructional day. Teachers will also address questions and support needs within 24 hours.

### How fast will the teachers be responding when the children and parents have a question?

Teachers will respond to parents within 24 hours Monday through Friday. The district will use a variety of communication platforms to ensure engagement with families occurs regardless of technology barriers. Teachers have been provided with directions for installing a Voice Over IP telephone application so that they can communicate with parents over the phone. Email is also an option along with messaging capabilities that are housed within Google Classroom for K-5 students and Canvas for 6-13 students.

### What about EOG's and Finals?

The state is currently planning to administer EOGs this school year. Additionally, the state is seeking some flexibility on how and when the EOGs will be administered. NC Final Exams are no longer a state required assessment. The 2019-2020 school year was the final year for the administration of the NC Final Exams.

### What about the SAT?

Because students register to take the SAT individually, the school system is seeking guidance about being able to offer the SAT on our high school site as in previous years. More updates will be shared as we receive guidance.

### Do students have to use chrome books or can it be another brand of computer or personal device?

Personal devices can be used with the Chrome browser as a requirement and web camera as a recommendation.

Anson County Public Wifi	
<b>Ansonville / Burnsville</b>	
Ansonville Elementary	9104 US-52, Wadesboro
Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center	13349 NC-742, Polkton
<b>Lilesville</b>	
Lilesville Elementary	121 Camden St, Lilesville
Lilesville Baptist Church	118 Camden St, Lilesville
<b>Morven</b>	
Morven Elementary	6715 US-52, Morven
HOLLA	229 Main St, Morven
<b>Peachland - Polkton</b>	
Peachland-Polkton Elementary	9633 Highway 74 West, Peachland
Anson County Early College	680 US- 74, Polkton
SPCC	680 US- 74, Polkton
Peachland Baptist Church	79 Clinton Ave, Peachland
Peachland Methodist Church	19 Allen St, Peachland
<b>Wadesboro</b>	
Anson Academy	118 E Ashe St, Wadesboro
Anson High School	96 Anson High School Rd, Wadesboro
Anson Middle School	832 US-52, Wadesboro
Wadesboro Elementary	321 Camden Rd, Wadesboro
Wadesboro Primary	1542 US-52, Wadesboro
Wadesboro Town Hall	124 East Wade St. Wadesboro
Hampton B Allen Library	120 S Greene St, Wadesboro
Anson County Partnership for Children	117 S Greene St, Wadesboro
Lockhart- Taylor Center Wadesboro	514 N Washington St, Wadesboro
Ebenezer Baptist Church	612 Salisbury street, Wadesboro
Harvest Ministries	1134 E Caswell St, Wadesboro
McDonalds	1114 E Caswell St, Wadesboro
Taco Bell	201 Walton Dr, Wadesboro
Burger King	1049 E Caswell St, Wadesboro
KFC	212 N Washington St, Wadesboro
Oak Hill Apartments community	1355 N Green St, Wadesboro

ACS Daycare Providers	
All My Children, Wadesboro	704-694-2128
Anson Children's Center, Polkton	704-272-7076
Back 2 Basics Child Care, Morven	704-695-4451
Borden's Day Care, Morven	704-851-9913
Butterfly Explosion, Peachland	704-272-7797
C's & T's Child Care, Wadesboro	704-694-3180
Central Center, Wadesboro	704-694-2120
Day of Joy Child Care, Morven	704-851-3213
Fair's Child Care Center, Morven	704-851-3211
Janice Smith's Childcare, Wadesboro	704-694-2562
Kim's Day Care, Wadesboro	704-695-5287
Loving Care Day Care, Morven	704-994-9027
Morven Head Start Center, Morven	704-851-9306
New Parkers Grove, Wadesboro	704-465-2188
Open Doors Center, Wadesboro	704-694-4292
Shirley Smith Childcare, Wadesboro	704-270-4015
Strong's Hearts of Love, Morven	704-851-9855
Susie's Day Care, Wadesboro	704-694-5453
Teresa Pratt Tiny Steps, Morven	704-851-3013
Tina Maye's Day Care, Wadesboro	704-695-1148
W & W #3, Wadesboro	704-694-7572
We Care Childcare, Wadesboro	704-694-9327