



# Remote Learning Intervention Considerations

As we prepare for the uncertain 2020-2021 school year, we recognize that all students will have been affected by the pandemic, some students more intensely than others. As you plan for the upcoming school year, being sensitive to this reality is part of preparing in addition to all the "normal" beginning-of-school routines of establishing relationships and getting to know your students, their learning styles and capabilities.

When students are in the classroom, you know how and when to intervene with them if there is a concern. For example, that concern may be due to frequent absences, a drop in the work quality, a change in class participation or attitude.

*...Teenagers crave structure, and without it, their mood and mental health can be impacted. "When you're in school and there's structure, you can say, 'Well, my teenager missed classes. He's not doing well. He slept in. The teachers are reporting issues'..There's something to judge it by, and now without structure, you don't even catch the issue." ([KNPR article](#))*

When there is a concern with a student in the classroom typically you schedule a private conversation with the student. However, given the likelihood that this school year will involve remote learning, the question arises on how you as an educator will intervene with a student in a remote learning situation if you have concerns?

What will be the best way to approach a student that you see in your virtual classroom when you are concerned? A lot will depend on your level of concern and your school's method for contacting students.

There are many questions to consider as you determine how best to reach out to a student you are concerned about.

- Would a call home or an email to a personal email be a good approach for a student who has not signed into class?
- Do you have a way to reach students at home and are you willing to take that step?
- Who within the school or district do you notify if a student has completely fallen off the radar?
- Is there a method to group message students on how to get assistance with work not completed?
- Can you develop a way to send encouragement to students?
- Is there a "light handed" approach to check in with your students to let them know you care and are there for them?

Nobody likes to have difficult conversations and they might be even tougher when you have not had a chance to connect face to face with a student. You might find it helpful to review our suggested [Intervention Language](#) and what it means to be a trusted adult.

These are difficult and somewhat uncharted times. With some advanced planning we can work towards doing our best so that no student is left alone to struggle and fail. Be sure to speak with your School Counselor, Social Worker or other Mental Health Professional to discuss concerns about individual students..

If you need to speak with someone immediately, please text LISTEN to 741-741 or call 1-800-273-8255.  
If this is an emergency, please call 911.