



LOCS Elementary Dragon Virtual

Dragon Virtual 2021 – 2022

Dragon Virtual, LOCS's fully online educational offering, will continue for the 2021-2022 school year. LOCS administration has taken the time to review student, parent and staff feedback provided which will help us build upon the successes of this year as we prepare for next. The overwhelming response is that our current program does a great job of providing a quality, virtual option for our students and we will continue to provide a program that mirrors the 20-21 school year. Along with some small changes, we are excited to share the details of the Dragon Virtual program for the 2021-2022 school year below.

Elementary Dragon Virtual Characteristics

- **Instruction:** Core area content will be taught by LOCS staff in a live meeting format via Zoom. Students will meet, daily, with their teachers in core area content. Specials will be included in a live instructional format with LOCS staff, if possible. If a specials class is not available with LOCS staff, our 3rd party, partner Pearson Connexus, will provide the instruction with experienced, certified virtual teachers.
- **Curriculum:** The curriculum delivered in Dragon Virtual classes will closely parallel the corresponding in-person (traditional) core area courses. To accommodate learning in the virtual environment, lessons and activities will be adjusted appropriately. Specials will also parallel the LOCS curriculum maps and content, if taught by LOCS teachers. In the event we need support for specials from our 3rd party partner, curriculum will be provided through Pearson Connexus.
- **Core Course Structure:** Core area content classes will meet 5 times per week with live, virtual classroom sessions facilitated by their LOCS teacher. Students are expected to be in attendance and required to have their camera on while in attendance. Teachers will have the flexibility to use their virtual meeting time as necessary to best meet the needs of their students. Live meetings are not solely reserved for direct instruction and can incorporate a wide range of opportunities including group discussion, small group breakouts, homework review, assessments, project help, and more.
- **Daily Student Schedule:** Student schedules for elementary aged students will vary by grade and teacher but will closely resemble the Dragon Virtual or remote format utilized in the 2020-2021 school year.
- **Special Education:** Students with an IEP or 504 will have a plan to address their individual needs within the virtual environment. Adjustments to schedules and added supports will be determined by these teams.
- **Interventions:** Students who need additional support in reading and/or math will have the opportunity for support through the LOCS intervention program should the student qualify.
- **Extracurriculars:** Students are eligible to participate in all after-school opportunities at their neighborhood school.

Elementary Level Dragon Virtual 2021-2022 – Daily Student Schedule Sample:

*** Sample 2nd Grade Daily Schedule ***

8:30-8:50	Morning Meeting
8:50-9:50	Math
9:50-10:00	*BREAK*
10:00-10:45	Writing Workshop
10:45-10:55	*BREAK*
10:55-11:20	Phonics/Handwriting
11:20-12:10	**Lunch & Recess**
12:10-12:50	Specials
12:50-1:00	*BREAK*
1:00-2:00	Reading Workshop
2:00-2:10	*Break*
2:10-3:00	Science/Social Studies

*** Sample 5th Grade Daily Schedule ***

Time & Subject	
9:00-9:15 Morning Meeting	
9:15-9:30 Read Aloud	
9:30-10:30 Reading Workshop	
10:30-10:40 Brain Break	
10:40-11:30 Math	
11:30-11:50 Word Study- Small Group Work	
11:50-12:40 Lunch Recess	
12:40-1:05 Math	
1:05-1:20 Small Group work	
1:20-1:55 Special	
1:55—2:40 Writing	
2:40-2:50 Brain Break	
2:50-3:30 Science	

DV Student Sample Schedule – *The sample schedules that you see are just examples of what a student would encounter daily as an elementary DV student. Teachers have the flexibility to adjust their schedules to meet the needs of their unique groups of learners.*

Dragon Virtual Considerations

The Elementary Dragon Virtual program offers a unique learning arrangement that balances elements of both remote learning and traditional virtual learning. Students must realize that virtual programming has advantages as well as disadvantages, which often correspond to the student's learning characteristics and academic goals. Although Dragon Virtual is less rigid than traditional schooling, it does not provide the full freedom or independence of traditional virtual learning. Rather, it balances enhanced flexibility with ample student support. Since scheduled classroom meetings occur throughout the week, the program is designed to meet the needs of our developing elementary level learners and still empowers families to have some choice in their learning.

For students who have struggled in virtual learning during the remote learning phase, Dragon Virtual should not be considered a viable option. When making the decision, parents and students must consider both the structure of the program, as well as the characteristics of the learner.

It is also very important that potential younger DV students, grades K-3, have parental support at home to help with the day to requirements of virtual learning. Having an adult available to help and be active in the day to day learning experience is crucial to the success of our younger learners.

Requirements for a student to be successful in Dragon Virtual – Is this a good choice for me?

- **Self-motivated / Independent Learner:** Even though students have ongoing teacher support, individuals must have the capacity to understand expectations, submit work, and request assistance when needed.
- **Time Management / Discipline:** To maximize the potential for learning, students are expected to attend all live, virtual class sessions. Recordings of class sessions will be made available for students with unexpected absences, and to allow for needed review of crucial concepts. In addition to class meetings, students must manage their time and keep pace with the independent learning tasks.
- **Computer Literate:** Virtual learning is dependent on the ability to navigate the digital environment proficiently.
- **Willingness to actively participate:** A passive presence is an ineffective means of learning, regardless of the mode of delivery. In virtual learning, students will be required to have their camera on and expected to share thoughts orally, or by submitting responses by other means. Asking questions are crucial in a virtual environment because the instructor will often have challenges determining if all students are understanding a concept.
- **Self-reflection:** The delivery of feedback is more limited without face-to-face interaction. Self-assessment and reflection are important whenever detailed feedback is provided by the teacher.
- **Personal "Fit":** Dragon Virtual will offer a unique approach to learning. Our goal is to provide a learning environment that will be a better fit for some of our students. It is important that the program and your student fit mutually so that we can ensure a successful learning experience.