



2020-2021 Student Participation Guidelines

Dear Parents/Guardians,

For the 2020-2021 school year, the Kentucky Department of Education and Hopkins County Schools will be tracking student participation instead of student attendance. Compulsory education is still required, therefore parents/guardians are still responsible for making sure their students engage in daily instruction whether in person in the school building or learning remotely from home. Contact your school or the Department of Pupil Personnel at (270) 825-6000 if you have questions about any of the following information.

DAILY PARTICIPATION DEFINED

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, “daily participation” is...

- the measure of the interactions between teachers and students.
- a measure of a student’s engagement in the instructional process.

TYPES OF DAILY PARTICIPATION

Students Who are Learning Remotely

Daily participation for students learning remotely may be in real time during the school day, or at times outside of normal school hours, and include at least one of the following:

1. One-on-one video communication or phone calls between teacher and student (or teacher and parent with smaller children or students with special needs);
2. Group video communication or phone calls between the teacher and a whole class or between a teacher and smaller groups of students within a class;
3. Student time logged into a learning management software system completing assignments.

*Messaging with teachers through digital platforms such as DoJo and Remind are acceptable modes of daily communication.

*Students who work ahead of schedule may receive daily participation marks for each day of the week.

Students Who are Learning In Person

Students who are attending in-person will be considered “participating” by their presence at school and in the classroom.



MISSING A DAY OF INSTRUCTION

If a student misses a day of instruction, the student should return to school with one of the following valid excuses (as outlined in the Hopkins County Schools Code of Conduct) if learning in person or submit to the teacher if learning remotely:

- The student’s illness, doctor’s appointment, or dental work (doctor’s statement required); the doctor’s signature must be legible. The doctor’s excuse must specify the number of days the child is excused for and the time and day the child was seen.
- Severe illness in the student’s immediate family as approved by administration.
- Family emergencies requiring immediate attention as approved by administration.
- Religious holidays and practices approved in advance by administration.
- Summons for the student to appear in court.
- Funeral in the immediate family of the student.
- School functions—students attending or participating in activities that have been authorized as part of the instructional program shall be considered present at school.
- Other valid reasons outlined in Policy 09.123 and substantiated with parental notes. Such absences will not exceed five (5) days per school year, with the exception of military training/leave.
- College/University Visits: Juniors and Seniors should refer to school policy.
- Other valid reasons as determined by administration.

STUDENTS IN QUARANTINE

The local health department will notify the Superintendent when students are quarantined. According to the Kentucky Department of Education, students in quarantine will receive daily participation marks for each day they are in quarantine, and are not required to have an excuse. Students who were originally learning in person will be able to learn from home during their quarantine period. Remote learning students may continue learning from home.

STUDENT NONPARTICIPATION

If a student does not participate for **five** instructional days and the teacher and other school staff have not been successful in contacting the student or family, the Family Resource Youth Services Coordinator will attempt to make contact with the parent/guardian. If the attempt to contact is unsuccessful, the Director of Pupil Personnel will attempt to make contact with the parent/guardian. If a student reaches **ten** instructional days of nonparticipation and student enrollment cannot be verified elsewhere, the Director of Pupil Personnel may file a petition with the Family Court.