

Distance Learning FAQs

Nazareth staff are hearing some similar questions from parents. We have compiled a list of answers to frequently asked questions that will help our families navigate our distance learning program. As new questions arise, we will be sure to add them.

1. How long will schools be closed?

The Governor has announced the closure of schools in NYS remains in effect through the end of this school year. What does this mean for Nazareth? Our teachers will continue to teach through virtual learning until the end of June as indicated on our yearly calendar. Check the Teachers' Web and Google Classroom pages daily for lessons. We know it will be difficult for many having the entire fourth quarter taught through distance learning. We appreciate every parent's effort to make sure your child is checking in every day with teachers and completing lessons as much as possible with your own home schedules. Education continues and we want each student to finish the year strong!

2. What if a parent has a question for a staff member?

All Nazareth teachers, school social worker, main office and business office staff, and principal are working from home. Their email contacts are on our website. Click the link here to access the staff directory: <https://www.nazarethschools.org/Page/260>.

3. What can I do to help my children continue learning at home?

We understand that there are many pieces in navigating distance learning, especially for parents at home. Here are some ways to help navigate learning at home:

- Have a routine with a specific time for academics, helping around the house, doing other activities away from screens such as playing board games or cards, reading, praying, exercising, and taking advantage of nice weather. Children cannot sit and work all day, so set a couple of hours aside at the most, or spread them out over the day. It will depend on the grade level. We recognize that many parents are also working from home so having time together is precious, too.
- Have a specific workspace (if possible); working in bedrooms may not be the best for most children.
- Minimize distractions.
- Do one day's lessons at a time. Do not go ahead just to get work done.
- Be sure to check the Teacher pages for the Specials Teachers, too. If you are able to connect, teachers will give feedback through their Google Classrooms.
- Do not worry if your child is unable to complete every assignment. Touch base with the teacher through email or DoJo. We understand everyone's circumstances at home these days are different. Do the best you can to help your child keep learning and growing. Save work in a folder if you are not able to send it back to the teacher now. Teachers will collect work when time permits.

- If you do not have a computer available at this time, everyone can work on reading, writing, math facts, handwriting, art and music, PE exercises...use the books and materials you have at home. All can say prayers each day.
- Even preschoolers have many skills that can be developed and strengthened while home.
- Check our website for more tips for home in the parent memos.

4. What if I don't have a home computer or Internet access?

Nazareth's distance learning is accessible on computer, tablet, or from a smartphone. If there is still an issue getting work, please contact your classroom teacher through DoJo or on their Teacher web page.

Spectrum is offering free Wi-Fi for families with children who are engaged in distance learning during the COVID-19 closure. Here is a link with more information:

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/coronavirus/charter-to-offer-free-access-to-spectrum-broadband-wifi-during-virus-outbreak/>

5. What if my child needs to connect with the school social worker?

Mrs. Conrow, our social worker, has a teacher web page and Google Classroom. She will be regularly posting resources for families and will be in touch with some students as needed. Do reach out to her through her Google Classroom or via email.

6. What is the distance learning protocol for a child who receives Academic Intervention Services (AIS)?

Our Academic Intervention Services staff, Mrs. Hummel and Mrs. Strowe, is also available to students during the school day. They are providing lessons through our website and their Google Classrooms. Sr. Damian and Ms. Hannah are working with them behind the scenes providing input for lessons.

7. What can I do to keep from getting sick?

The same steps you take to reduce the spread of flu or other respiratory illnesses are key measures in reducing the spread of coronavirus.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (the length of the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end, twice). If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve or a tissue (then throw the tissue in the trash).
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.