

ROME HIGH SCHOOL

Title I Technology Meeting
Parent and Family Digital Learning
Department of Education: Educational Technology



Parent and Family Digital Learning Guide



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Today's Agenda

Part 1: Benefits of Digital Learning

- Meeting the Learning Needs of Your Child: Personalized Learning
- Understanding Your Child's Progress: Competency-Based Learning
- Connect with Your Community and Beyond: Developing Partnerships

Part 2: Enabling Digital Learning

- Ensuring Your Child's Access: Personal Learning Devices
- Ensuring Your Child's Access: Internet Service
- Ensuring Your Child's Safety, Privacy, and Responsibility Online



Benefits of Digital Learning

Personalized Learning

- Technology and digital tools can help your child learn in ways that work for your child.
- These tools can help change the way content is presented and how learning is assessed.
- They can make instruction personalized based on what will help your child learn.

Personalized Learning

- Personalized learning is an educational approach that tailors learning experiences to each student's strengths, needs, skills, and interests.
 - Not a “one size fits all” approach to instruction.
- Engaging Students In Different Ways
 - Relevance - imagine using skills outside of school
 - Interest - excited about the topic
 - Culture - child's learning connects to the culture they experience
 - Language - the assignments build vocabulary (English and/or Native Language)
 - Background Knowledge - the topic can be connected to something already known
 - Differences In How They Process Information - how does a disability impact learning

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Personalized Learning

Effective digital tools can help accommodate your child's needs and preferences. Here are five ways that technology can be used to customize learning:

1. Choose your preferred learning environment.
2. Uncover new learning opportunities.
3. Support creative expression.
4. Provide fast feedback.
5. Provide multiple means of interacting with content.

Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology that a child with a disability may use may include:

- Software and Systems that Translate Text to Speech or Speech to Text
- Closed Captions
- Translation Tools
- Resources available in multiple media formats such as:
 - Text
 - Audio
 - Video
- Some of this technology can present content in shortened or lengthened formats to accommodate students who have limited attention spans or other disability-related needs.

Competency-Based Learning

- Your child masters content and develops skills at their own pace.
- Many children learn effectively when the support they receive is customized for each new skill.
- In a competency-based system, your child can be empowered to learn skills in a personalized manner and to take responsibility for and make more decisions in their own learning.
- As a result, your child may be more engaged and successful in their learning.

Competency-Based Learning

- Competency-based learning (also known as performance-based, mastery-based, or proficiency-based education) is an approach in which the parent and teacher builds a structure around the difference in pace of each student.
 - The learning is set up to help ensure that students progress after showing mastery of the skills and competencies.
- Students can work with their parents, peers and get support from members of their learning community.
 - Technology can help parents and teachers provide the variety of support that each student will need to progress and help students know when they have gained a specific competency.

Developing Partnerships

- Students are more engaged when parents and families are involved in education.
- Using digital learning resources provides new opportunities for your family to develop a strong partnership with your school or education provider.
- Technology can help you and your child stay connected to your local community, your child's school and teachers, and other parents and children.

Social Emotional Support

Local Community Supports

- If your school is providing instruction virtually or your child is learning from home, technology can help support social connections.
 - You and your child could:
 - Hold a video conference to stay connected to teachers and peers.
 - Take pictures of their work or their creations and share them with their teacher or classmates.
 - Practice writing by sending letters and e-mails to friends and relatives.
 - Set up virtual playdates for your younger child, and make sure your older child has time to talk with friends.
 - Set up video chats with grandparents and other family members.
 - Social connections can reduce the impact of stress while also helping children develop communication, problem-solving, and empathy skills.

Learning Resources

Support From Your Learning Community

- Staying connected to school and learning communities will help parents and families while better supporting their children in their learning environment moving forward.
- Two-way communication with your child and their learning community can be essential.
 - PowerSchool
 - Email
 - SchoolStatus & Text Blasts
 - Social Media
 - Google Classroom (Weekly Summaries)
 - Parent Conferences (In-Person or Virtual)

Learning Resources

Support From Your Learning Community

- **RAL-E Tutoring Sessions**
 - Available In-Person and Virtual
 - Monday - Thursday
 - After School
 - Saturday
 - 9AM - 12PM
- **SAT/ACT Tutoring Sessions**
 - See Your Grade-Level Counselor For More Details

Learning Resources

Support From Beyond Your Local Community

- Technology can give your child opportunities to engage in research and problem-solving activities and to share ideas and collaborate on projects with other learners beyond those in their local community.
 - Google Meet (Video Conferencing)
 - Google Forms (Surveys)
 - Phone Calls and Texts
 - Emails



Enabling Digital Learning

Personal Learning Devices

You may have multiple options to access a personal learning device for your child:

- Learn about available personal learning device options.
 - RCS Chromebooks
- Learn about device distribution opportunities at your school or education provider.
 - Occurs at the beginning of the school year.
 - Chromebooks are distributed during the Back to School Extravaganza.
 - Chromebooks are returned the last week of school.
- Get technical support.
 - See our Media Center for details on Chromebook Repairs.
- Learning without a personal learning device.
 - Local Library

Internet Service

- Streaming, downloading content, and participating in video conferences requires a high-speed, reliable internet connection.
- Although many public spaces offer internet access, obtaining access at home is critical for supporting continuity of learning.
- If you do not have access to the internet to support your child's learning, some options may be available to you.
 - RCS Jetpacks
 - Jetpacks can be checked out in the Media Center.
 - Partnerships with Local Businesses
 - Many Local Businesses have free wifi that students can use outside of school hours and on the weekends.
 - RAL-E Tutoring offers students opportunities to access internet outside of school hours.

Safety, Privacy, and Responsibility Online

Know your rights and learn what information is being collected or shared about your child.

- While federal, state, and local laws have been developed to protect your child's safety and privacy online, your child's safety and privacy also depends on your child's and the education provider's safe and responsible online practices.
- We offer the sections below as helpful places to start discussing internet security and privacy with your child, and to outline the federal laws that govern privacy and safety.

Safety, Privacy, and Responsibility Online

- Security Settings
 - Turn on the security features on any device your child may use for learning activities. These can be found in the device's general settings under the privacy menu. These features can:
 - Restrict access to offensive or inappropriate content.
 - Require approval for downloads.
 - Limit time spent on certain apps.

Safety, Privacy, and Responsibility Online

- Digital Citizenship
 - Talk with your child about how to be a responsible digital citizen.
 - Remind your child that virtual communities are an extension of their classrooms and the same basic rules apply, such as treating others with respect.
 - Let your child know that they should tell you, their teacher, or a family member if they or a classmate are being bullied or are worried about any troubling content, encounters, or activities online.

Safety, Privacy, and Responsibility Online

- Password Management
 - Make sure you and your child have all the information to find their learning resources.
 - Keep track of log-in and password information and URLs for each platform they use.
 - Consider using a password manager in your internet browser, or keep passwords written down in a safe place.
 - Change passwords regularly.

Safety, Privacy, and Responsibility Online

- **Video Conferencing**

- You may choose to talk with your child and your child's teacher if you aren't comfortable with your child using the video feature during virtual lessons.
- Many platforms allow you to use virtual backgrounds or images to protect the privacy of your home.
- If your child's teacher, school, or education provider plans to record a lesson or take screenshots during a lesson and you are uncomfortable, you may ask if your child can be off-camera or watch the recorded lesson later.

- **Privacy Policies**

- Keep in mind that your school or education provider may have different agreements with companies to protect the privacy of students, and checking with your school or education provider is always an important first step.
- Schools may use certain digital learning tools without your consent as long as the use of these tools aligns with state and federal law.



QUESTIONS???

References

- Department of Education. (2021, February 2). Parent and Family Digital Learning Guide. Office of Educational Technology. Retrieved October 19, 2021, from <https://tech.ed.gov/publications/digital-learning-guide/parent-family/>.