

Continuity of Education Plan

Intermediate Unit	Bucks County Intermediate Unit
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Goal of Plan

On March 24, 2020 the Pennsylvania Department of Education required all Local Educational Agencies to publish and submit their Continuity of Education Plan for all students in the most appropriate and accessible way. In this unprecedented time, The Bucks IU is committed to providing educational and learning opportunities and other educational services for all students, regardless of disability, economic status, or ELL status, to the extent feasible. The Bucks IU is making a good faith effort to provide as much education to as many students as possible in all programs, including Pre-K Counts, Head Start, Early Head Start, Preschool Early Intervention, School Age, and Related Services. Educational program decisions for all School Age programs and Related Services programs are made in consultation with referring LEAs.

Overview of Plan

The Bucks IU's Mission states: As educational innovators, we ensure optimal growth of all learners by collaborating with our school districts and community to initiate, design and deliver exemplary leadership, teaching and learning. During these unprecedented times, the Bucks IU remains committed to our mission in supporting all students in all programs, from birth to 21, to the best of our ability.

Expectations for Teaching and Learning

School Age Programs - The Bucks IU will work collaboratively with each referring LEA to support School Age programming, including Related Services provided in School Age programs. The Bucks IU will utilize a combination of both Planned

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Instruction and Enrichment and Review across all School Age programs as determined by each LEA's COE plan.

Early Childhood Programs - Bucks IU serves as the LEA for all Early Childhood Programming and will work directly with families regarding teaching and learning expectations. The Bucks IU will utilize a combination of both Planned Instruction and Enrichment and Review across all Early Childhood Programs.

Communication Tools and Strategies

During this unprecedented time, students and families in any Bucks IU program can expect communication from Bucks IU staff via Seesaw, Web Ex, email, and telephone.

Access (Devices, Platforms, Handouts)

Bucks IU will use Seesaw as the primary platform for student/parent communication and delivery of instruction/materials. eLuma will be used by some IU therapists to deliver some related services through telepractice. Additionally, student/parent communication may occur through WebEx and phone communication.

Staff General Expectations

The following is a list of expectations for all Professional Staff:

- Create daily lesson/activity plans and upload to Seesaw by 9:00am as appropriate for your position. For school age, weekly opportunity for 1:1 instruction with teacher via telephone or WebEx.
- Maintain compliance with all paperwork timelines (ER/RR/IEP/ITT/Progress Reports/ChildPlus).
- Work collaboratively to ensure high quality virtual programming for all students.
- Communicate with families as per directions from your Supervisor.
- Continue to develop and share resources as defined by your program.

Student Expectations

During the shutdown, all students, including students with IEPs will have access to synchronous and asynchronous learning and support as appropriate. Students who are English Learners will have access to both synchronous and asynchronous support from an ESL certified teacher.

Attendance / Accountability

Teachers will track student participation and connection for the purpose of identifying students who may have access issues. Bucks IU personnel will reach out and support student participation in learning and will work with families to provide alternate formats for instruction whenever feasible. Formal attendance will not be taken.

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Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students

Students and families in Bucks IU programs were surveyed to determine access to internet and technology to support distance learning during the mandated closure.

The Bucks IU will work to ensure all students, including those receiving special education services continue to be provided with a good faith effort, as appropriate and reasonable for each student's circumstances. Educational and related services and supports may need to be adjusted accordingly.

Once school resumes under typical circumstances, a child's IEP Team must make an individualized determination whether and to what extent appropriate compensatory education or other future services may be needed, within a reasonable timeframe and consistent with applicable requirements, including to make up for any skills that may have been lost during the closure.

Special Education Supports

School Age and Preschool Early Intervention students and families should contact classroom teachers, case managers, related service providers and program supervisors for support. Pre-K Counts, Head Start, and Early Head Start students and families should contact classroom teachers, family support providers, and early childhood specialists and program supervisors for support.

EL Supports

School Age and Preschool Early Intervention students and families receiving EL supports should contact classroom teachers, case managers, related service providers and program supervisors for support. Pre-K Counts, Head Start, and Early Head Start students and families receiving EL supports should contact classroom teachers, family support providers, and early childhood specialists and program supervisors for support.

Gifted Education

School Age and Preschool Early Intervention students and families receiving Gifted Education supports should contact classroom teachers, case managers, related service providers and program supervisors for support.

Building/Grade Level Contacts

School Age and Preschool Early Intervention students and families should contact classroom teachers, case managers, related service providers and program supervisors for support. Pre-K Counts, Head Start, and Early Head Start students and families should contact classroom teachers, family support providers, and early childhood specialists and program supervisors for support.

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Resource Links

[PDE Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[Bucks IU Services Update](#)

[Web Ex - FAQs for Parents](#)

[Web Ex - Parent Teacher Conference for Parents](#)

[Web Ex - Meeting Quick Start Guide for Parents](#)

[Seesaw Log In Website](#)

[Seesaw Family Supports](#)

[Seesaw Family Resources](#)