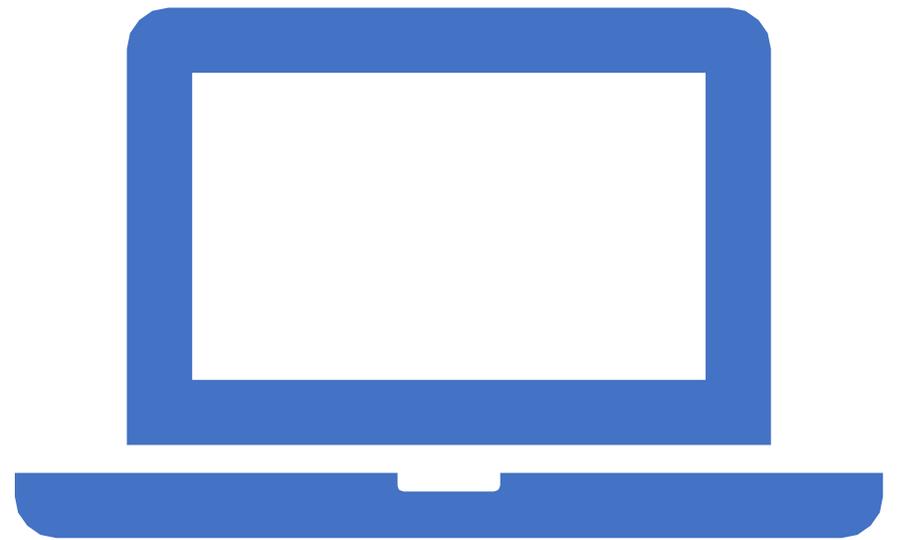# PC Cyber Academy
K-5 FAQ's
2021-2022

Will my child be doing the same lessons that are being taught in PC classrooms?

- No, the PC K-5 Cyber Academy will be using curriculum provided by IU8 Extended Campus (based on Accelerate Ed) that is specifically designed for cyber learning.

- This is not just a list of assignments, but a full cyber curriculum package.

- This curriculum aligns to PA standards and as a whole matches grade level expectations.

What classes or subjects will be included?

Every K-5 student will be enrolled in the following classes.

- English Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Art
- Music & Movement

Are there textbooks?

There are not textbooks, but K-5 students will receive workbooks to use in the courses.

Families can take pictures or video through the system to share work.

In upper grades, students may also need some paperback novels. We will provide those as needed for borrowing.

Who will be the teacher?

The online teacher will be a certified teacher assigned by

IU8 Extended Campus.

Does My Child Need A Computer?

- Yes! Penn Cambria will provide a laptop for your child to use while he/she is enrolled in our cyber academy. Parents are responsible for returning this device at the end of the year or when the child leaves the PC Cyber Academy.

Will My Child Need Internet Access?

- Yes, your child will need high-speed Internet access for several hours each day to participate in the PC Cyber Academy.

How much time per day will my child have to devote to cyber school?

You can expect a child to work between 4-5 hours a day in order to stay on pace in the classes. This is a full-time school option.

Not all of this will necessarily be online, as some activities may include reading or other work offline as well.

Are there synchronous class sessions?

There are not required times for class sessions.

However, there are opportunities to meet with the teacher one to one in real time and in a workshop with other learners.

Are reading materials at my child's reading level used?

Yes, reading material is differentiated, most often using tools such as Lexia Core 5 and Learning A to Z for independent and guided reading experiences.

How will you track attendance?

A student must login and work for at least ONE HOUR (60 minutes) EVERY SCHOOL DAY following the Penn Cambria School Calendar to be marked present for the day.

If your child is not able to login, he/she will be marked absent that day and parents will be asked to provide an excuse as you normally would.

Can my child work ahead?

Yes, your child can work ahead.

However, just remember that even when working ahead, the student must login and work for 60 minutes each school day to be marked in attendance.

Will we get a report card?

Yes, at the end of the marking period, you will get a report card showing student progress in the PC Cyber Academy.

LETTER Grades in the PC Cyber Academy will be recorded on your student's permanent record card.

Is the orientation meeting mandatory?

- Yes, the orientation meeting with your PC mentor is mandatory. A parent and the student both must attend. This meeting can be scheduled via Zoom if needed.

- During that time, the mentor will review how to access courses through the IU8 Canvas system, key policies and procedures, set up communication methods, and handle laptop distribution. This can be done virtually or face-to-face.

- If done virtually, alternate plans will be made for laptop sign out.

How do I schedule the orientation meeting?

Contact us at 814-886-8121 or email Mrs. Black at BLACKJL@pcam.org to schedule your meeting.

Orientation meetings will be held on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 between 8 am and 4 pm.

What if I have questions about my child's work?

Your PC mentor will be your main contact and will reach out to you every week to discuss progress and offer support as needed!

Your mentor also will be able to communicate directly with your child's teachers online to get information and help answer your questions.

What if my child needs extra help?

- In addition to your child's online teacher through Extended Campus, your mentor can also offer before/after school tutoring sessions or help set up additional tutoring sessions (on-site or virtually).

My child has an IEP and receives special education services. How will these be provided?

Arrangements for services such as speech will be made with the Special Education Office.

The PC mentor and your child's special education teacher will work with the online cyber teacher to make necessary accommodations to coursework.

What happens when we are ready to transition back to the school building?

We know transitions can be challenging. The student will have to learn new classroom routines and expectations. In addition, they may have learned content in a different order so some things may be skipped or repeated just as they would if your child was transitioning to Penn Cambria from any other school or cyber school.

The advantage to our Cyber Academy is that our mentor will know what your child has already learned in cyber and where he/she might need more support. The mentor will help communicate that to our classroom teachers to smooth that transition.

If my child enrolls in PC Cyber Academy are we committing to a full year of cyber school?

PC Cyber Academy isn't meant to be a temporary option. It takes time for students to adjust to new routines and to learn new systems. We highly recommend that students only enter / leave PC Cyber at the change of a marking period.

We will work with our families and do our best to make for a smooth transition whenever it might need to happen.