**Early Childhood Poudre School District Virtual FAQ**

**Question: Is ECE PSD Virtual delaying the start of school or students to August 24th?**

No, the first day of preschool is Monday, Aug. 24, for all students.

**Question: Is ECE PSD Virtual its own program, or will each PSD school have its own branch of PSD Virtual?**

ECE PSD Virtual is being created as a stand-alone program within Early Childhood in which students need to enroll for the 2020-21 school year.

**Question: Will PSD Virtual have unique start and end dates or breaks?**

No, ECE PSD Virtual will follow the approved 2020-21 ECE PSD school year calendar.

**Question: Can my child participate in ECE PSD Virtual alone? Or will they need someone, like a parent, to help them?**

Yes,preschool students will need a designated adult at home to partner with their teacher and support their learning. ECE PSD Virtual teachers will need to communicate with the adult at home to collect information about how each child is progressing in the developmental domains.

**Question: Will all students who apply be accepted to ECE PSD Virtual?**

All students who qualify for one of our no-cost funding sources, and any tuition-paying family can opt-in to the ECE PSD Virtual program rather than participating inperson.

**Question: I will have to enroll my child in ECE PSD Virtual if we do not get transportation. When will we know if my child has bussing or not?**

Transportation is currently working to determine which students they will be able to transport based on state and Health Department guidelines. Every effort is being made to notify parents of this decision as soon as possible, but it will likely be after the August 8 ECE PSDV deadline. If PSD is unable to transport your child to school and this means you will have to enroll your child in ECE PSD Virtual, please notify ECE of your intent to enroll and indicate “Will enroll only if transportation is not available,” in the section for comments. This will allow ECE PSD Virtual to plan for staffing and adjust enrollment numbers as soon as transportation information becomes available.

**Question: What if I want to see how in-person is going before committing to ECE PSD Virtual? What if PSD starts in Phase 3, then moves to Phase 4 and I am not comfortable moving to all in-person?**

Due to budget constraints and their impact on staffing, it is not possible to have space available for all PSD students both at their home school and at PSD Virtual throughout the entire year. Requests for a transfer to ECE PDSV after the start of school will be considered on a space available basis.

**Question: How will PSD Virtual accommodate my child who has an IEP/504? Or if we need more one-on-one interaction with our teacher?**

When a student with an IEP requests to enroll in PDS Virtual, the Integrated Services Team will conduct a re-evaluation and determine supports the student requires in the virtual setting. Students on IEPs will maintain their current case managers at the home school. Those case managers will collaborate with PSDV staff to deliver support services.

Students and families will work with their home school’s 504 coordinator to update the 504 for the new virtual setting. Coordinators will collaborate with ECE PSD Virtual staff to ensure awareness of student accommodations and familiarity with student needs.

Teachers will be working with students in small groups and individually to meet student needs. If your student needs more interaction with the teacher, please communicate that with the ECE PSD Virtual teacher.

**Question: Can I choose to enroll my child in ECE PSD Virtual partway through the school year, if public health conditions worsen to the point where I decide I am no longer comfortable with them attending if in-person education is happening in PSD in some form?**

Enrollment in ECE PSDV after the beginning of the school year will be based on space availability.

**Question: Who will teach at ECE PSD Virtual?**

Your child will have a consistent ECE credentialed teaching team. They will receive ongoing professional development in best practices in online education, based on the National Quality Online Teaching.

**Question: Do you know if PSDV teaching and learning will be synchronous or asynchronous? What will a student’s day-to-day experience look like?**

It will be combination of both that is developmentally appropriate in length, topics, and activities for a preschooler with an adult helper.

**Question: Will all the domains of development be addressed in online learning?**

ECE PSD Virtual will use the same curricular resources as teachers in our classrooms. This curriculum is research-based, developmentally appropriate, and aligned with our comprehensive assessment tool to ensure that we are addressing each of the developmental domains. Certainly some domains will be more difficult to address virtually and all will require a team approach between the teacher and the helping adult in the home.

**Question: If a COVID-19 vaccine becomes readily available and I decide I’m comfortable with my child returning to school, if PSD is in a phase with some form of in-person education, can I transfer them back?**

Enrolling your child at ECE PSD Virtual is a year-long commitment. This helps ensure continuity of curriculum for each student as well as the overall stability of ECE PSD Virtual. There may be a possibility of transitioning back to your student’s neighborhood school at the semester break, but that opportunity will be on a space-available basis. Staffing and budget constraints do not permit us to maintain a space at both PSD Virtual and all home schools for every student in the district.

**Question: What is the anticipated teacher/student ratio with ECE PSDV?**

This has yet to be determined as the numbers of students and the specifics of their individual needs are not yet know quantities.

**Question: Will there be "classes" established so that our students are able to (virtually) develop relationships with the same group of peers and teachers?**

Yes, students will be in classes and we will try to support the development of relationships with peers and teachers within those classes.

**Question: How much actual instruction from the teacher will take place?**

It’s hard at this point to give a specific amount of time because that will vary from day to day and class to class. We anticipate that there will be opportunities each week to meet with the teacher to learn about the plan for the week as well as opportunities for the students to participate in small and large groups each week. Students will have access to activities and videos to complete or repeat at your convenience.

**Question: If my student needs help on an activity, can I schedule time with the teacher?**

Yes, there will be time set aside each day for adult helpersto schedule a meeting with a teacher if they need extra support

**Question: Will the students use the same curriculum as at school?**

ECE PSD Virtual teachers will use our recently adopted, research-based Creative Curriculum. They have all been trained in its implementation.

**Question: Can my child enroll in ECE PSDV if they are not currently an ECE PSD student?**

In order to participate in PSD Early Childhood Education, families must apply and be found eligible for one of four funding sources: Early Childhood Special Education, Colorado Preschool Program, Head Start, or Tuition- based. Once found eligible, a site is determined such as a neighborhood school or virtual option. You can find application materials online: <https://www.psdschools.org/sites/default/files/PSD/early_childhood/Applications/2020-21%20Program%20Application_FILL_ASQ_200611.pdf>

 or stop by Fullana Learning Center M-Th from 8am-4pm

**Question: Will students receive a PSD computer to complete remote learning through ECE PSDV?**

Yes. ECE PSD Virtual students will be issued a PSD device. Additional information will be shared from ECE PSD Virtual.

**Question: How much time will students be on computers in ECE PSDV?**

As a virtual program, synchronous connections and content delivery will be done via PSD computers, but screen time is generally not ideal for children of preschool age. Some of the synchronous time will be to connect with the adult at home who will be helping their child. They will get instruction on the activities for the week, their purpose, materials needed and appropriate differentiation.

**Question: Our family is working with other families of similar aged children to offer a learning pod (a learning pod is a small group of families that share the responsibility to supervise all children in a pod during the student’s academic studies). Can our students be grouped with a common teacher to assure consistency in assignments and lessons?**

We will accommodate grouping requests as best as we can, however flexibility may be limited based on staffing and enrollment numbers.

**Question: Will PSD organize students into learning pods on behalf of families?**

If parents wish to use the learning pod model described above, they would need to organize the groups on their own behalf, as they are not part of the PSD program.

**Question: Do preschools kids stay with the same teacher across topics?**

Yes, for the most part students will connect with a consistent teaching team for their daily and weekly routines just like they would in a classroom. Exceptions might include music time or a special (virtual) guest such as a storyteller.