

Planning Strategies for Students:

Remote and Blended Learning



1. Set a Routine

For many students, learning from home has disrupted their daily routine. Since routines are a source of comfort and familiarity, planner use is a simple way to re-establish structure. Have students start and end the day with a short planning session. At the beginning of the day, have them plan their daily to-do lists and structure their time. Then at the end of the day, have them cross off tasks they've finished and look ahead to tomorrow's lesson.

2. Create a Daily Plan

Many classrooms have a daily or class schedule posted on the board for students. This visual helps students understand the flow of the day and aids in transitions. Re-create this visual at home by having students shade class, break, and study times in their planners to help them see the structure for the day.

3. Get Kids Writing

Blended and remote learning has meant a lot of students' learning has moved online. Aside from blue-screen fatigue, students are also experiencing disconnect. Help reconnect students to online class schedules and homework by having them transfer information to their planners. Rewriting information helps students process the things they need to do on a deeper level.

4. Break Things Down

Learning from home requires students to take greater responsibility. They must manage their time well, stay organized and on task, and complete their work independently. Planners give students a place to create action plans for the day and map out how students spend their time. Having students break down projects into steps and scheduling time to work on them helps them stay focused and on track.

5. Empower Caregivers

Online apps and classrooms are convenient for students and teachers but may pose challenges for caregivers trying to stay on top of their childrens' assignments, due dates, and progress. When students use planners to capture all work and due dates, caregivers can spend more time helping students plan and complete work and less time looking for log-in info.

6. Avoid Distractions

Planning is an intentional act. It helps kids focus on the important work they need to do and formulate a way to get it done. Since notifications can pull students' attention away from the process, encourage them to put away their phones while they create their plans.