

Opportunity for Independent Study

UPCS is not offering long-term independent study as an alternate to in-person instruction for the 21-22 school. The only time this might become an option is if the entire school were closed, by the health department, due to COVID-19 infection rates.

UPCS will be offering short-term independent study opportunities that can be up to a maximum of 14 days cumulative for the school year. Parents/Guardians of students on quarantine or isolation due to COVID exposure or infection may request an independent study from the school. If the student exceeds the 14 days maximum for the school year, they will then be considered absent. When requesting an independent study parent/guardians may request a student-parent-educator conference prior to enrolling in the independent study.

We encourage families to use our regular school breaks, fall break, winter break, and spring break, to go on family vacations and NOT to use independent study this school year for vacations. It is very likely your child may end up on a mandated quarantine or isolation due to exposure or infection and they will need to utilize some of the 14 days allowed. If/when your family has used all 14 days of allowed independent study, the child will be considered absent.

Pre-planned (family going on vacation, etc.)

- Parents need to request an Independent Study with, at minimum, a 3-day advanced notice and no more than 10 contiguous days
- After parent signs the contract, the teacher will be notified.
- Student will receive the independent study packet on their last day of school before the scheduled independent study
- Packet is due back to the teacher upon the student's return from independent study in order to receive attendance and work credit

COVID-19 Quarantine/Isolation

- Teacher will be notified of child's first day of quarantine/isolation
- Parent will be contacted by the attendance office regarding desire to participate in Independent Study Program
- If parent agrees to Independent Study, the teacher(s) will supply a work packet no later than 3 days after the first day of isolation with a goal of starting as soon as possible. Not all work will

be given up front. Teachers will send out work as it is assigned at school and will regularly communicate with parents regarding student progress.

- Work may include:
 - Packets
 - Paper
 - Google Classroom
 - Logs to be filled out for:
 - Reading
 - PE
 - Etc.
 - Time on online programs
 - Sum Dog (K-8)
 - Achieve 3000 (4-8)
 - Newsela (4/5)
 - Smarty Ants (K-3)
 - Nearpod
 - Raz Kids (Reading A-Z)
 - Epic
 - Prodigy
 - ETC.

- Students should turn in work as it is completed and ALL assignments that were assigned during the Independent Study must be turned in no later than 10 days from the day the assignment was given.

- Teachers will evaluate the student's work to determine the extent to which the Independent Study is complete and acceptable for credit.