

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT HOME-BASED INDEPENDENT STUDY



General Information for All Grade Levels:

- ➔ What is the Home Based Independent Study Option (HBIS)?
This option provides schedule flexibility for families who have selected to participate in Distance Learning for the 2020-2021 school year. This option can also be utilized for those families wanting to homeschool their child(ren).
- ➔ Will my child still be a student at their school?
Yes. Students are still associated with their home school (ie. Arnold Alley Cats, Madrona Wildcats).
- ➔ Will my child be assigned a teacher or be part of a classroom from their school?
Students will be assigned a teacher (TUSD credentialed teacher, not necessarily from the child's school).
- ➔ What are the criteria for a child to participate in HBIS option?
Students who are at or above grade level and are able to learn independently can choose to participate in this learning option. Students who have selected the Distance Learning model can choose this option AFTER a discussion with their child's principal.

Elementary (TK-5) Specific Information:

- ➔ What is the learning platform for the TK-5 HBIS option?
TUSD credentialed teachers designed and created a TK-5 learning platform which families who would like to homeschool their child(ren) can also use. The TUSD platform has been customized to provide a rigorous learning experience utilizing the District curriculum. This is the same curriculum that will be used by students that are in the distance learning program.



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Elementary Information Continued:

- ➔ How often will my student interact with the assigned teacher?
Students will check in with the teacher at least once a week with additional frequent live interaction with their school and/or teacher.
- ➔ Can my child transfer to a different learning option during the school year?
Similar to our structured distance learning program, transferring to other learning options (structured distance learning or blended) is space dependent. Or, if the child is not progressing academically, we may transfer the student to a different learning option.
- ➔ What are the parent expectations for students participating in the HBIS option?
Parents/Guardians will support student learning by acting as a learning coach. A learning coach will need to be identified for a student to be eligible to participate in this learning option.
- ➔ Will there be any training provided for parents/guardians who will be serving as the learning coach?
Yes! We will be sharing training information with parents in the coming days. In the meantime, please view this short 10 minute video to help familiarize yourself with the learning platform (this was previously shared in the Parent Guidebook): <https://www.loom.com/share/7932768129de44af9df145738166ff6d>

Secondary_(6-12) Specific Information:

- ➔ What is the Home Based Independent Study Option (HBIS) for middle and high school?
Students in grades 6-12 will be using an online platform called Odysseyware, that provides a rigorous, common core, a g curriculum to give our students the best possible learning experience while in this program.
- ➔ What are the parent expectations for students participating in the 6-12 HBIS option?
Parents/Guardians will support student learning by attending the first orientation meeting and communicating with the teacher via emails or phone calls.
- ➔ How often will my student have interaction with their assigned teacher?
Middle School will do a weekly google meet and high school will meet each time they finish classes (approximately every 4-6 weeks). All students and parents are communicated with regularly to discuss progress and make sure students are on track.

