



PARIS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Reimagining School

*Our North Star: Professional Teaching Culture ~ Graduate Competencies
~ Deeper Learning ~ Performance Assessment ~ Access and Inclusivity to
High Quality Learning ~ Student Agency, Empowerment, and Voice ~
Student Guidance, Advisory, College Supports ~ Positive, Restorative,
Equitable School Discipline ~ Culturally Relevant and Authentic
Curriculum*

GREYHOUND ACADEMY HANDBOOK

Paris Independent Schools will begin school on August 11, 2021 with a virtual online distance learning option for Paris High School and Paris Middle School students called Greyhound Academy. The Greyhound Academy is a fully remote learning experience available to PHS and PMS students and families. Students at Paris Elementary School will attend school in person during the 2021-22 school year.

Throughout the school year students qualifying for the Greyhound Academy will learn remotely at home. The teachers' role will facilitate courses and learning to include check-ins, virtual instruction, and scheduled zoom meetings that will enhance the learning of new material and stay on track with curriculum pacing guides. Our goal is for students to make a seamless transition from at-home learning in the Greyhound Academy to an in-person option when students choose a change in their learning environment and experience.

Paris schools are committed to reimagining school for the future and the opportunity to think differently about school has never been greater. We look forward to partnering with parents, students, staff, and the community to provide an excellent learning experience for all our students. Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year at Paris Independent Schools. It promises to be an exceptional and memorable experience for all of us.

Enrollment in Paris Greyhound Academy for the 2021-2022 will be limited and not all who apply will be accepted. Through our experience with the pandemic virtual learning model, we recognize that a virtual learning environment is not the best environment for all students, but it is a good option for some students and families. Before applying to Greyhound Academy the family must make sure this learning option is the right one for their child and that the student is equipped with the necessary skills to be successful in a virtual self-guided online learning environment.

Students who are considering enrolling in Greyhound Academy should exhibit the following characteristics, either independently, or in the case of younger students, with strong support from the parents/guardians:

- Self-motivated
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to set and meet deadlines
- Perseverance
- Taking initiative to ask for help when confused
- Ability to follow a schedule
- Prior demonstrated success, or potential for success, in a virtual learning environment

Parents/guardians who are considering enrolling their child in Greyhound Academy should make certain they can provide the following supports:

- Assisting the student in creating and adhering to a schedule
- Regularly monitoring progress and assignment completion within the learning platform
- Communicating with and responding to teachers and staff members
- Ensuring the student attends all scheduled synchronous (live) sessions assigned
- Establishing a distraction-free workspace within the home
- Ensuring reliable access to the internet

Interested families must complete an application for each student they wish to enroll, commit to adhering to the established Greyhound expectations, and commit to staying enrolled for a minimum of one entire semester. Applications will be reviewed by a committee and families will be notified of the final enrollment decision.

PARTICIPATION CRITERIA AND EXPECTATIONS

Certain criteria must be met to ensure the success of Greyhound Academy students. Parents/guardians will be asked to review and agree to the success criteria below when completing the application request for a student to enroll. Once enrolled in the Greyhound Academy, students who continuously do not meet the participation expectations may be placed on probation and could be released from the program and return to in-person learning at their school.

- All students registering for the Greyhound Academy commit to attend the Academy for a minimum of an entire semester unless placed on probation and released back to in-person school determined by the school.
- Technology access is a critical component for online instruction. Students must have reliable high-speed internet service to participate (i.e., ability to stream a video without buffering). If more than one student in a home will be enrolling in Greyhound Academy, then the internet service must be able to support all students being online at the same time. The district will provide internet service if needed and a Chromebook for each student enrolled.
- The learning platform is the primary mode of core instruction. Greyhound Academy students are expected to complete and submit all assignments and progress on assignments will be monitored regularly by staff. Students who are not making adequate progress and are not meeting assignments within a reasonable timeline may be put on probation and may be removed from the Greyhound Academy program.
- Attendance in Greyhound Academy is a requirement and is based on adequate progress through the learning platform and attendance at required scheduled live (synchronous) sessions. Students will be

expected to login on time and participate in ALL scheduled live (synchronous) sessions. This includes sessions that may be scheduled for small groups, interventions, and other special services.

- Active participation during scheduled live sessions is an expectation for Greyhound Academy. This involves use of the webcam and microphone at the teacher's request, responding to the teacher's questions and discussion prompts, actively listening to directions and explanation of content, asking clarifying questions, and using the chat feature when appropriate. This means students should not be doing other tasks or using other devices or electronics during scheduled meeting times.
- Families should be aware teachers can request that cameras be turned on during live sessions to promote opportunities for engagement, monitoring, and interaction. For unique situations with individual students who may not benefit from camera usage during the live stream, the family should contact the teacher to discuss options.
- Parents/guardians should provide a space in the home for students to have a distraction-free learning environment during live Greyhound sessions. Since the area behind the student may be visible to others when the camera is on, it is the family's responsibility to make sure the student is in a video location that does not divulge any information they don't want to share (such as address, background, people walking through the home, etc.).
- Families should be aware that teachers may record synchronous (live) sessions. These recordings are made available on an as-needed basis. Media release opt-outs do not apply to recording live lessons.

➤ ***Please use this [form](#) to ask questions you may have about the Greyhound Academy - See FAQs here***

➤ ***Please complete the [application](#) to apply for the Greyhound Academy in the 2021-2022 school year.***

What Can I Expect From Virtual Learning for My Student who Receives Special Education Services?

Students who currently have an IEP will continue to be provided with a Free and Appropriate Public Education in accordance with federal and state law. Services will be equitable with those provided to students without disabilities, and IEP accommodations and modifications will be provided to all students as appropriate in a virtual setting. For any specific questions regarding your student's services or IEP, please contact your child's special education case manager or Amanda Evans, Paris Independent Director of Special Education, amanda.evans@paris.kyschools.us or by calling the district office at (859) 987-2166.

What Can I Expect From Virtual Learning for My Student who Receives Gifted/Talented Services?

Students identified as gifted and talented will be provided with a gifted student service plan (GSSP) that meets the individual needs of each gifted student. For each gifted and talented student, the GSSP will include a plan for in-person learning and Greyhound Academy. Each school in the district has a GT coach that will serve the building and will work with individual students and families to support service delivery. Leann Pickerill serves as coordinator for Gifted Services district-wide. You can reach Dr. Pickerill at leann.pickerill@paris.kyschools.us or by calling Paris Elementary School at (859) 987 - 2166.

What Can I Expect From Virtual Learning for My Student who Receives English Learner Services?

Mr. Luis Munoz is the point of contact person for all three schools in the Paris Independent Schools district to assist families and students with English Learner support and resources. He can be reached at luis.munoz@paris.kyschools.us or by calling Paris Elementary School at (859) 987 - 2166.

Welcome to Paris Elementary

HANDS

HEART

BODY

MIND



At Paris Elementary School, our mission is to provide all students with a high-quality, meaningful, personalized education; to care for student mental and physical needs; and to support families and other stakeholders in caring for the whole child. Our vision is to provide a safe, loving environment where students thrive by learning how to learn and how to apply what they've learned, where teachers are valued professionals, and where the community is proudly involved in helping children flourish.

Instructional Plan for Opening School on August 11, 2021:

Students at Paris Elementary will attend school in person during the 2021-22 school year. There is overwhelming evidence that Paris Elementary students were more successful and showed higher levels of academic growth during in-person instruction compared to periods of the year when we were hybrid or completely virtual. We believe that students who are learning the fundamental skills of reading and math need to be face to face with a certified teacher to maximize learning. We look forward to seeing all Little Hounds in person in August!

**If there are special circumstances that need to be considered, please reach out to Principal Keith Griesser by calling the school 859-987-2166 or emailing keith.griesser@paris.kyschools.us*

Welcome to Paris Middle School & Greyhound Academy

Paris Middle School's staff, parents, and community are dedicated to the intellectual, personal, social, emotional, and physical growth of all of our students. Our mission is to provide a high-quality, comprehensive, and meaningful education so that all students can succeed. Each student will be treated as an individual, given the tools to be a lifelong learner, and taught to function as a member of a group and as a productive member of society.

This is the mission of Paris Middle School, and with the 2021 - 2022 school year getting ready to begin, this statement is more important than ever. School as we know it has changed. Our goal to provide a safe environment for all students where they can learn and continue to develop the skills they need to succeed in life. For some students this will be attending school in-person and for others it will be distance learning from home. No matter which option a family chooses, all students will have access to a certified teacher, appropriate grade level curriculum, and technology to communicate with staff and accomplish all tasks. Through the use of the Summit Learning Platform, we will be able to continue to provide a unique learning environment for all students. Students will take part in mentoring, projects and self-directed learning in order to gain access to content knowledge, cognitive skills and habits of success. Summit Learning allows our students to have a seamless transition should they need to move between in-person and distance learning.

Now is the time to reimagine what school can look like. It is time to embrace change and take a different approach to learning. We must provide opportunities that meet the needs of all students no matter where

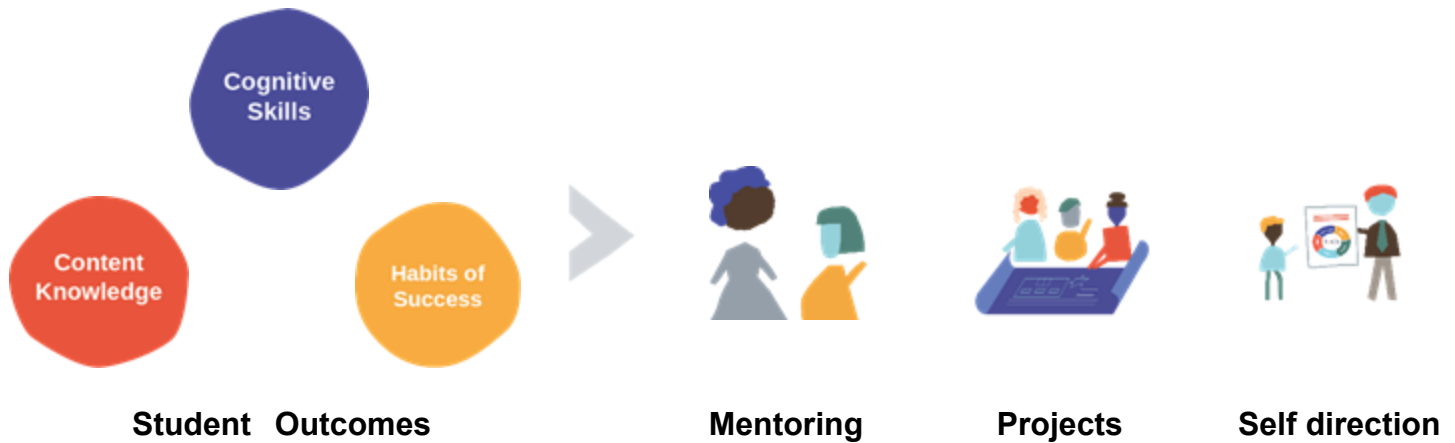
their learning is taking place. Only with a concerted effort by staff, families and community can we be sure that our students are successful.

Paris Middle School Instructional Plan for Opening School on August 11, 2021:

- **At-Home Virtual Learning** - Qualifying students requesting to do so will begin school in the **Greyhound Academy** as a learning-at-home virtual experience. This will include instruction which will closely pace with in-person learning and direct contact with a certified teacher on a regular basis.
-
- **Instruction**
 - All students will use the Summit Learning Platform for Core Content classes (English/Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies). Related Arts classes will have a corresponding Google Classroom that will be utilized.
 - Teachers will use ClassTag for all communication and Google Classroom for turning in assignments that are outside of the scope of Summit Learning.
 - Teachers will instruct students on how to use other forms of technology (programs, apps, etc...). This includes, but is not limited to Summit Learning, Notebooks in Summit , Zoom, Google Meet, FlipGrid, NearPod, ClassTag, Google Suite, etc...
 - **Chromebooks**
 - Students are taught how to appropriately use, clean and maintain a Chromebook.
 - Each student will be assigned their own Chromebook.
 - Chromebooks will be distributed to students in Greyhound Academy prior to the start of the school year.
 - **Greyhound Academy**
 - The classroom teacher is responsible for designing daily or weekly instructional checklists for students to follow. These checklists will be sent the night before or first thing in the morning each day using ClassTag and by posting them in their Google Classrooms. If the teacher chooses to send a weekly checklist, it will be sent Sunday night or first thing Monday morning.
 - Students are responsible for completing their checklist each day.
 - Student work will be submitted in the Summit Platform for all Core Content classes. If a teacher includes an assignment that is not on the platform, that will be submitted through Google Classroom. Related Arts assignments will be submitted through Google Classroom.
 - It is strongly recommended, if possible, that Greyhound Academy Virtual Learners have a designated 'school' space at home in which to complete their work.
 - Classroom Teachers will be directly responsible for all of their students.

Summit Learning at Paris Middle School & Paris High School

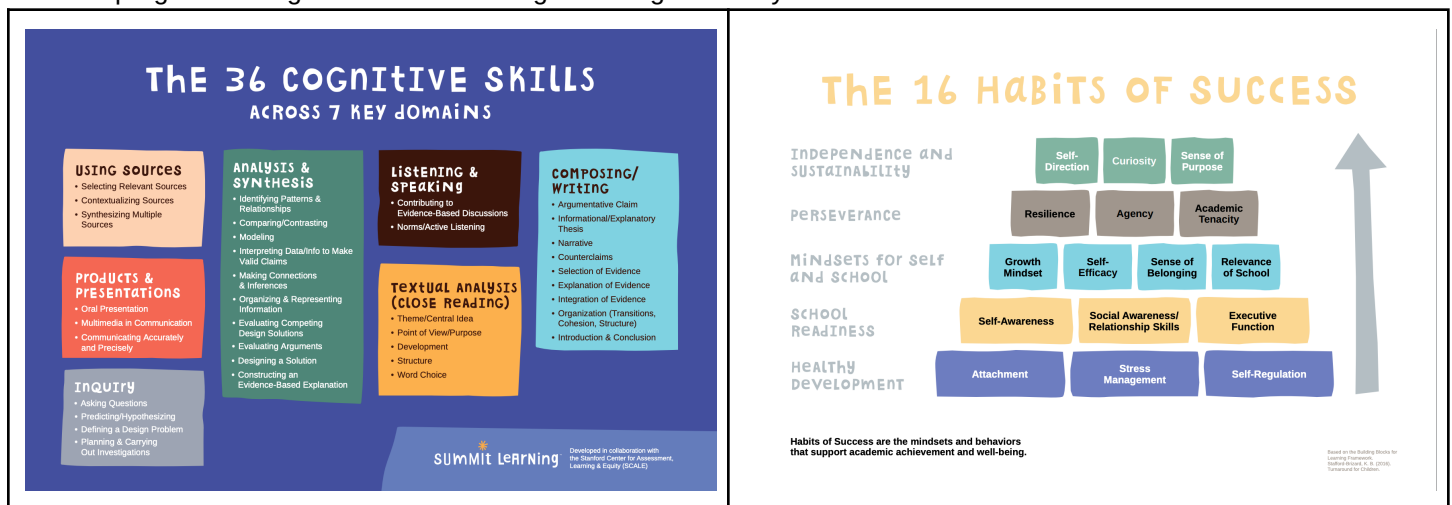
Designing for Student Success ~ Summit Learning Program



Summit Learning Cognitive Skills & Habits of Success:

Summit Learning is explicitly designed to help students develop cognitive skills necessary for success in college, career, and citizenship. Cognitive Skills are divided into 7 Key Domains: **Inquiry, Using Sources, Analysis & Synthesis, Composing/Writing, Listening & Speaking, Textual Analysis, and Products & Presentation** (see graphic below). These 7 Key Domains are then divided into 36 different skills which are connected to content projects students complete as they move through the curriculum. The Cognitive Skills are the key lasting components of learning of the curriculum and are intended to be reinforced across content areas and grade levels throughout the curriculum.

Another key component of Summit Learning are the Habits of Success incorporated to build capacity in students. These habits apply to the youngest children to the eldest adults. Though we have to flex into habits in order to use them, they can be taught and developed over time. The developmental goals of the Habits of Success are Independence and Sustainability for all students (see graphic below). Like Cognitive Skills the Habits of Success are developed over time as students progress through classes and through their high school years.



Welcome to Paris High School & Greyhound Academy

Paris High School proudly offers courses of study to meet the needs of a variety of student learners. Each year, PHS prepares students to enter the workforce, join the military, begin technical programs, and start colleges all around the state of Kentucky. In addition to preparing students to achieve their goals for after high school by being Motivated Learners, Paris graduates have the opportunity to develop skills to be Collaborative Leaders, Active Citizens, and Effective Communicators. These opportunities are offered in a variety of ways to meet the needs of a diverse student population. Some of those opportunities include:

- Cognitive Skills developed through the Summit curriculum
- Participation in Generation Citizen projects in select classes
- Paris-Bourbon County Youth Leadership program during the junior year
- Student Council representation
- Kentucky Youth Assembly involvement
- Internship and Coop placements around Paris and Bourbon County
- JAG supported job fairs
- GEAR Up coordinated college fairs

Paris also proudly partners with numerous higher education institutions to offer additional educational opportunities for all students:

- University of Kentucky dual credit courses using a collaborative teaching model which includes both UK professors and Paris teachers
- Maysville Community & Technical College dual credit offerings including on-site professors and online learning
- Workforce Development dual credit course offerings in Allied Health through Maysville Community & Technical College with on-site instruction
- Racer Academy Agricultural dual credit courses through Murray State University with on-site instruction
- Graduates with a 3.0 GPA and an ACT score of 21 will receive a \$20,000 scholarship for up to four years at Georgetown College.

Students who chose a pathway after graduation that does not include college will be supported through vocational opportunities both on and off campus. On campus programs include courses of study in culinary arts, visual and performing arts, and plant and animal science. These programs include multiple course pathways and the opportunity, in some areas, for industry certificates. Courses off campus are held at the Harrison County Area Technical Center. Vocational pathways here include areas of study in automotive, carpentry, Information Technology, manufacturing, web design, entrepreneurial, and welding. Many of these pathways lead to industry certifications. These certifications enhance a graduates employability and earning potential after graduation.

2021-22 School Year

Paris High School will begin school on August 11 with a virtual learning experience for students qualifying to continue their learning at home. Greyhound Academy will provide a high quality, online student experience for these students. We value each student's learning experience and are planning to use the resources available to continue to prepare students for life after high school regardless of if students are in-person or online.

Paris High School Instructional Plan for Virtual Learning:

Virtual Learning - Qualifying students requesting to do so will begin school in the **Greyhound Academy** as a learning-at-home virtual experience. This will include instruction which will closely pace with in-person learning and direct contact with a certified teacher on a regular basis.

The Greyhound Academy at Paris High School ~ A Virtual Learning Experience for All Students

- Instruction
 - All students will use the Summit Learning Platform, as well as other online tools, for learning in core classes - English, Math, Science, History.
 - All courses, including elective and pathway courses, will utilize Google Classroom and Zoom or Google Meet to meet virtually.
 - The school administration will use Class Tag and School Messenger as communication tools.
 - Teachers will use Google features for primary communication.
 - Teachers will instruct students on how to use other forms of technology (programs, apps, etc...) This includes, but is not limited to Summit, Zoom, Google Meet, FlipGrid, ClassTag, Google Suite, etc...
- Chromebooks
 - Students will be instructed on how to properly clean and maintain a Chromebook. Students should promptly report any Chromebook issues to the high school office.
 - No attempt to bypass the student login should be made by any student. Doing so will cause a loss of features and could result in a loss of functionality.
- Instruction
 - Much of the mode of instruction is yet to be determined. This will depend on factors such as the number of students selected for the Greyhound Academy and the grade level of those students.
- Mentoring & Student Success
 - Just as if students were attending school in-person, a student's mentor teacher is their best point of contact for anything school related.
 - Students will check-in each day in Mentoring to ensure a good start to the day and to make sure they are aware of the schedule.