

# **What will my student need from me as their Learning Coach (and parent)?**

It is important to know your students' learning style, so you know how best to support them at home. Often we think our high school students can "just figure things" out, but more realistically, they need support from trusted adults. When they are not at school, this responsibility lies with those at home.

## **Questions to ask yourself (and your child(ren) as you prepare to be their Learning Coach:**

- 1) Does my student learn best or better when they have face-to-face interaction when learning? Will they need me or a tutor to sit down with them?**

If the answer to this question is yes, they will need me or a tutor to sit down with them, then ask yourself the following questions:

- When will you sit down with them each day?
- What will you need to change in order to make this possible?
- Are you able to hire a tutor?
- Where will you find this tutor?
- When will you call them?
- Can another family member help out?
- When will you ask them to help?

- 2) Is my student good to average when it comes to understanding what they read or do they need help in this area?**

Online Learning (especially for Middle School and High School) requires a lot of reading without a whole lot of interaction from a teacher at the moment when your child(ren) is reading. If you know that your child(ren) read more slowly and/or have a hard time comprehending what they read, you may need to plan for extra supports. A few extra reading comprehension supports are:

- After your child reads their lessons, verbally check-in with them and ask them to summarize what they read. This way, you can ensure they understood the information AND it gives them an opportunity to solidify what they learned by teaching you!
- Teach them how to use guided reading notes AND teach them to develop the habit of always using them when they read
- Download a Read Aloud
- Work with a tutor or teacher and ask for extra reading comprehension exercises to increase your child's skill level

**3) Does my child need extra support/explanation in certain subject areas, i.e. math, science, reading comprehension, writing? If so,...**

- What are these areas?
- Can I support them?
- When will I support them?
- If I can't do it, how will I get them the support they need?

**4) Does my child procrastinate activities that feel hard or overwhelming?**

(Think about this one a minute. We all do it at some point, but some of us do it more than others.)

If the answer is yes, they do feel overwhelmed...

- How can I help them do the tough stuff?
- When will I sit down and help them create a weekly schedule?
- Can I help them stick to that schedule?
- What are the natural consequences we have agreed upon when they don't do their work?
- What are the positive rewards we have agreed upon when they do the work?

**5) Does my child get easily overwhelmed? If so,...**

- When will I sit down with them each week to plan out their assignments? Do I know how to do this?
- What specifically makes them feel overwhelmed? Too much work? Not knowing how to do something? Juggling too many at-home responsibilities? Juggling friends and school? Juggling work and school? How can I help them clear up their schedule and make room for their priorities? A messy environment? Too much noise?
- What organizational systems can I create to help them manage their schoolwork and time

**6) Are they able to work independently without much prompting from me? If no,...**

- How can I help them track their assignments
- How can I help them create internal motivation
- If they need prompting from me, can I move their study environment closer to where I am so that I can see them easily?
- If I am not available for one-one support, is there a family member who might be able to help out once a week?

**7) Do they have good to average organizational skills or will I need to help them learn to organize their digital work or time?**

**8) Are they self-motivated?**

**9) Do they naturally follow a schedule or will I need to help them with this?**

**10) Who is my student's support network? Is it just me or do they have more people in their lives that I can call forth to help? Do I have the time to help them at home? Am I able to make time?**