



FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS FAQ SHEET:

PA Act 64 of 2019 allows for an alternative to the 180 day school day requirement when the school building is prevented from being opened for a variety of reasons. The Flexible Instructional Day (FID) Program is a tool available to be used as an alternate approach to delivering instruction if a circumstance arises when the school cannot be in session for a variety of reasons.

A Flexible Instructional Day is an option for schools only when at least one of the following occurs:

- A disease epidemic
- A hazardous weather condition
- A law enforcement emergency
- The inoperability of school buses or other equipment necessary to the school entity's operation
- Damage to a school building
- Another temporary circumstance rendering any portion of a school building unfit or unsafe for use.

As a pilot program this school year for schools in the Diocese of Allentown, schools with an approved plan may use up to three (3) Flexible Instructional Days after all other emergency days built into the school calendar have been exhausted.

Schools may develop a Flexible Instructional Day Plan that is delivered via a packet program that is sent home with the students or through an online program. Any lessons or activities should support the learning taking place in the classrooms, but should not require the students to take their textbooks home with them to complete the assignments. The packet program should be self-supporting with the materials supplied as part of the program for the Flexible Instruction Day.

A packet program would require students being given the materials prior to an anticipated emergency day such as a snow day. The online option day would involve posting the lessons or activities on the school website/Internet through the school learning management system during the morning of the Flexible Instruction Day.

As you will see below, students are to complete the assignments and return to the teacher either directly or via email depending on the packet or online option within forty-eight hours of the Flexible Instructional Day. Also, students must submit the work to receive credit for the assignments and to be considered present for the purpose of attendance for the Flexible Instruction Day.

For each Flexible Instructional Day, students must receive instruction in each of these content areas:

- **Elementary (K-8): Reading, Language Arts (English), Mathematics and Religion.**
Grades 5-8 must also include Social Studies and Science.

- **Students must submit work no later than 48 hours beyond Flexible Instruction Day to potentially receive full credit for any assignments. .**
- **Students who do not complete and submit work within the required time frame will not receive credit for the assignments and will be marked absent.**

If you will use a Packet FID Program, what are the procedures for distribution and collection of the materials and assignments?

Students are responsible to check in to Google Classroom for the morning homeroom check in by 8:15 am for attendance and to see what their assignments will be for the day.

Classroom teachers will treat the online assignment as a regular classroom assignment. Teachers will enter grades for each subject into Option C after student completion, submission, and assessment of assignments. Teachers will utilize Google Classroom to post assignments for students and enter grade into Option C as “FID (date) assignment” upon completion, submission, and assessment. Assignments will be due two days after returning to school from FID for attendance purposes.

If students are unable to print assignments off at home due to technology issues, a hard copy will be given to students upon return to school. Students will have two days to complete the assignments.

If there is an advanced warning that Saint Catharine of Siena may be utilizing an FID, assignments will be posted *prior* to the weather event. Accommodations can be made for hard copies if needed.

If you will use an Online FID Program, what are the procedures for posting and collection of the materials and assignments.

Some of our teachers will utilize First in Math, Mathletics, or Khan Academy. These have electronic due dates on them. Teachers will assign, set the due date, and assess upon completion. Some of our Middle School Teachers are very versed in Google Classroom and use this as their communication methods. Some of our primary teachers have Google Websites, so they will also use this as their method of communication as well as Option C. The grades will then be entered into Option C as FID (date) assignment. Teachers will allow 48 hours for completion of Online Assignments.

If you are using the Online FID Program, what accommodations are made for students/employees without internet access?

All teachers have internet access and school assigned laptops. If students are unable to print assignments off at home due to technology issues, a hard copy will be given to students. Students will have two days to complete the assignments. If students do not have internet access, they will have time to complete in school prior to the due date. Either way, students will be given ample time to complete assignments.

What are the students’ responsibilities on a Flexible Instruction Day?

Students are expected to log in to Google Classrooms for the morning check in by 8:15 and to see what their assignments will be for the day. It is in the students best interest to complete the assignments because incompleteness could affect the students grade. Students are responsible for completing the assignments prior to the due date regardless of the method they obtain the assignment.

What are the teacher's responsibilities on a Flexible Instruction Day?

Teachers are responsible for posting assignments in Option C, Google Classroom or their websites for student access. Teachers are responsible for collecting, assessing, and entering grade into Option C as well. Teachers are also responsible for tracking completion just as they would any other assessment given to students.

How will you identify student participation for the purpose of enforcing attendance?

Students will be given 48 hours for completion of all assignments. If the assignment is not handed in on the due date, the student will be marked absent for not completing the assignment. The student's grade will also be affected by the lack of completion. If an assignment is late, the student will be marked absent.

What subjects will be covered during the Flexible Instruction Day?

Elementary (K-8) Reading

- English - Language Arts
 - Mathematics
 - Religion
 - Social Studies (Grades 5-8)
 - Science (Grades 5-8)
-
- Students must submit work no later than 48 hours beyond Flexible Instruction Day to potentially receive full credit for any assignments.
 - Students who do not complete and submit work within the required time frame will not receive credit for the assignments and will be marked absent.

How will families and students be notified of a FID?

If there is a possibility of a Flexible Instructional Day, please be advised Saint Catharine of Siena School will post the news in the event of a Flexible Instructional Day closing via the website, Option C email and text alerts, Facebook, WFMZ, and Action News. You may choose to receive a phone call by managing your Option C alert settings. Please also check your local public school district during inclement weather. Most districts post via WFMZ. Be sure to "Like" our Facebook Page to receive important updates and information [SCS Facebook Link](#) .