

Nassau Virtual Q&A

- What programs are offered by Nassau Virtual?

Nassau Virtual offers an FLVS Franchise school called My District Virtual School. My District Virtual School is a franchise of FLVS. FLVS curriculum is used by Florida certified teachers hired by the North East Florida Education Consortium and Nassau County School District. In grades K-5, students will complete printed assignments and online assignments. In grades 6-12, students will complete online assignments. The pacing guide follows the FLVS curriculum and will outline weekly assignments per semester for each individual course.

- How much time will my child spend online?

The answer varies between programs and grade levels. Students will need to complete 2 to 3 assignments in each course every week. Students will spend approximately 4 hours a day for five days a week or 20 hours per week in grades K-5, and 5 hours a day for five days a week or 25 hours per week in grades 6-12. Progress for each student will be monitored weekly and percent complete in each course should increase each week.

- What grades does my child need to maintain?

Students must maintain a “C” for better in all virtual courses.

- What happens if I drop a course?

Students have a grace period of 28 days to try a course and determine if a course should be dropped and replaced.

- What happens if I drop a course after the grace period?

Students will receive a withdraw passing, WP, or a withdraw failing, WF, from the virtual program. The information is placed on the student’s course history but will not count against a student’s overall grade point average.

- Why does my child need to make a semester commitment?

Virtual programs only release one grade to the district at the end of the semester. Although the student will see multiple grades for assignments completed in the virtual program, the teacher only submits the final grade at the end of a semester.

- How many credits does my child receive per semester?

Students receive one ½ credit per semester for each course with a passing grade.

- Can my student transfer back to their brick-and-mortar school at any time?

Yes, your student can transfer back to their traditional brick and mortar school. However, the gradebook from the virtual program does not transfer with the student. The student must complete a full semester to receive a grade.

- Will the District provide a computer for my child?

The district will provide a computer for all Nassau Virtual students.

- Will my child have access to AR, I-Ready, IXL, and various other programs used at the brick-and-mortar schools?

Students will not have access to most programs used in the brick-and-mortar schools. Virtual curriculum is a self-contained program created with internal progress monitoring. If a parent feels their child needs additional practice, we suggest using Khan Academy for review and remediation. It is a free program for all students.

- Can my child still participate in sports at their brick-and-mortar school?

Students can still participate in sports. In addition to the required participation forms and physical, students will need to have an EL-14 completed and returned to the coach or the athletic director. This form is available at www.fhsaa.org under the students and parents tab.

- Can my child participate in elective classes at a brick-and-mortar school that are not offered by Nassau Virtual?

Students can participate in certain classes at the brick-and-mortar school. This is subject to availability of seats in the class.

- Do the virtual programs offered by Nassau Virtual allow a flexible work schedule?

Yes, students and parents can set their own schedule, but must complete 2 to 3 assignments in each course every week to stay on pace.

- How do I or my child contact the teacher?

Students and parents can contact the teacher by text, email, or phone. During the first week of school, the teacher will make a "Welcome Call" to both the parent and student. They will provide you with their contact information and vital information about the course(s).

The fastest method to contact a teacher is by text or email. Please make sure you include your first and last name and the course in the correspondence. Teachers have 24 hours (excluding weekends) to respond to all phone calls. Please make sure you save the teacher's phone number, so you will know when they are calling.

- How long does it take to grade assignments?

Teachers have 48 hours (excluding weekends or holidays) to grade assignments.

- When is my child's teacher available?

Not all virtual teachers are available during the school day. Some teachers work for local school districts during the day and work online in the afternoon and evenings. Each teacher should provide their availability during the Welcome Call. Teachers are not available before 8am or after 8pm.

- What if my child had difficulty contacting the teacher or has not received a grade from the teacher after several days?

If you are having any difficulties with an instructor, please contact Mrs. Purvis by phone at 904-277-9029 or by email at nvsinfo@nassau.k12.fl.us.

- What if my child gets sick and falls behind pace?

Virtual programs are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A student can resume the proper pace by working on the weekends or during holiday breaks.

- Can my child work ahead of pace?

Yes, students can work at an accelerated pace by completing assignments and DBAs in order. If a student is moving too quickly through the curriculum, the teacher will want to conduct a Discussion Based Assessment, DBA, by phone to check for understanding and retention of material presented in the lessons.

- What are DBAs?

A Discussion Based Assessment, DBA, provides teachers with an opportunity to speak with the student and assess their knowledge and retention of the material presented in the previous lessons. These are generally scheduled in advance and conducted over the phone. Usually, the student is not provided the questions in advance.

- How can parents help set up a successful virtual program at home?

1. Print pacing guides for each course.
2. Use a calendar to schedule assignments for the week.
3. Provide a learning space with few distractions.
4. Set up an organized schedule for virtual instruction during the day.
5. Keep an open line of communication between the student, parent, and teacher regularly.
6. Check the parent portal for completed assignments and grades.

- How do parents set up a parent portal?

Parents can use the following link to set up a parent/guardian account,

<https://vsa.flvs.net/Registration/GuardianApplication.aspx?pageID=141&AID=273&fn=Apply-for-Parent-Guardian-Account>. An additional window will open asking, “Do you have a Parent/Guardian username and password already?” You will select “NO” and click “Submit”. You will need your student’s username and password to complete your registration.

- What if my child is having technical difficulties?

If a student is having technical difficulties with the assigned computer from the district, they must contact Mrs. Purvis to replace the computer.

If a student is having technical difficulties with the virtual program’s platform, they will need to contact the provider. FLVS technical support is 1-800-374-1430.

- Where can I find helpful videos to learn about FLVS courses or preview FLVS courses?

Preview of a lesson in various courses:

Elementary: Go to <https://www.flvs.net/elementary?source=home>, scroll down to “Try a Sample Lesson”, click one of the subjects listed below and a pop-up box will appear, click on a link within the pop-up box to view a sample lesson.

Middle and High School: Go to <https://www.flvs.net/online-courses/course-tours?source=courseCatalog>

- What is the difference between FLVS Flex, FLVS Full-Time, and County Virtual School (MDVS)?

Nassau Virtual or My District Virtual School: Nassau Virtual full and part-time students fall under this category. Students are enrolled in the Nassau County School District and remain public-school students.

Students follow a 180-day school year and must participate in state assessments. Funding from the State of Florida remains in the school district. Students must adhere to all Florida Statutes for public school students.

FLVS Flex: These courses are offered to students who enroll in Home Education. Students are no longer enrolled in the Nassau County School District. Students are no longer considered a public-school student. Funding from the State of Florida goes to FLVS. Home Education students are not eligible for a standard Florida diploma and are not required to participate in state assessments.

FLVS Full-Time: These courses are offered to students who enroll in FLVS as a school district (#71). Students are no longer enrolled in the Nassau County School District. Students are considered a public-school student in District 71- FLVS. Students follow a 180-day school year and must participate in state assessments. Funding from the State of Florida goes to FLVS.

- **Is there a difference in the curriculum between FLVS and MDVS?**

There is no difference between the curricula. However, there are a few classes that are offered to FLVS full-time students that are not offered to FLVS Flex or MDVS (Nassau Virtual) students.

- **Can a Nassau Virtual (MDVS) student take a course through FLVS Flex if it is not offered by MDVS?**

Yes, a student can take a course through FLVS Flex if it is not offered by MDVS. For example, Art History and Criticism is a popular elective that is not offered by MDVS, but Nassau Virtual students can take this course through FLVS Flex.

- **Can students take AP and Honors courses in MDVS?**

Yes, AP and Honors courses are available for High School students. Advanced classes are available for Middle School students.

MDVS Courses: <https://sites.google.com/nefec.org/mdvs/mdvs-powered-by-flvs?authuser=0>

- **Will there be live lessons in MDVS courses?**

Weekly live instruction will be available for the following courses.

- Elementary: Language Art, Math, Science, Social Studies
- Middle Grades: Language Art, Math, Algebra I, and Science
- High School: Language Art, Algebra I, Geometry, Biology, Environmental Science, Earth Space Science, and Physical Science.

Teachers are available during office hours for all other courses.

- **What happens if my child needs help with an assignment or concept?**

The student can stop working temporarily and text or email the teacher explaining where they need help. If the student needs significant assistance on an assignment or a concept, the student should attend the teacher's scheduled office hours or arrange a tutoring time with the teacher.

- **Where can I find more specific information about Nassau Virtual?**

Please visit our website at www.nassauvirtual.com. You can review our school handbook, testing calendar, attendance policy, student expectations, how to create an FLVS account, and many other helpful links and information.