

Connecting with Students with Limited Access to Technology

This document presents strategies on connecting with students who have limited access to technology and begins with a statement on Learning Management Systems and Platforms. Each section articulates different degrees of “limited”.

In this guide, you will find:

- Guidance and options for **Learning Management Systems and Platforms**
- Strategies for **Getting the Most out of Your Existing Systems**
- Strategies for **supporting Students with Limited or No Access to Technology**

Learning Management Systems and Platforms

ISTE has recommended that the “best” learning management systems and platforms during this uncertain time are those that are already in use. Attempting to research, vet, pilot, and stand up a new solution in a short amount of time is difficult. If students, teachers, and families are used to, for example, Khan-Academy-style playlists, the best approach will be to maintain this normalcy and lean on the existing familiarity with the technology. While there may be other platforms that are attractive, the benefit of maintaining as close to “normal” interaction for all - and especially for students with disabilities - outweighs a change.

If you are investing in a new LMS or Platform, here are two guidance articles from ISTE:

- [“5 things schools should think about before investing in digital”](#)
- [“4 tips for choosing the right edtech tools for learning”](#)

If you have specific curricular gaps that need to be filled to provide students with more complete and robust curricula, here are some resources that list options and features of different online resources.

- [ISTE is curating community identified resources](#)
- [“Education Companies Offering Free Subscriptions Due to School Closings”](#) from Washington Latin Charter School
- [Remote Learning Planning Resource](#) from the Charter School Growth Fund
- [A resource collection](#) curated by a doctoral candidate at the University of Virginia in Educational Administration and Supervision has been featured in many of the webinars we have attended
- [Harvard Graduate School of Education “Virtual School” Lesson Plan Database](#)
- [Instruction Partners has created a hub of different helpful resources](#)
- [SETDA has created an e-learning hub of resources](#)

Getting the Most Out of the Systems You're Already Using

Platform	Resource for Educators and Families
Google (Classroom, Meet)	<p>Teach from Home Hub: Google COVID Resources</p> <p>Google Distance Learning Resources, including trainings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guide for teachers • Guide for administering assessments • Parents Guide to Google Classroom
Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Tips and Trick for Zoom • Zoom Guide to Breakout Rooms

Students Who Have Limited Device Access

There are a variety of strategies that can be used to engage students in instruction that only have access to phones.

- [YouTube Live](#)
 - Teachers are going live on YouTube to hold office hours and answer questions about assignments
- [TikTok](#)
 - TikTok can be used to share daily messages to students and give students a point of contact and connection. Students are able to share the message to others.
 - [How Teachers and Students Are Using TikTok in the Classroom](#) - from K12 Learning Liftoff gives additional information on using this tool.
- [YouTube Channels](#)
 - YouTube can be used to create short (3-6 minute) videos with daily prompts and instruction for courses. It can also be used to record webinars and videos for instruction, create playlists, and give directions for a learning project.
- [Remind](#)
 - Remind is a tool used for two way communication via text messages and can function with a non-smart phone. This tool has functionality to schedule messages and set availability options. Files, links and other instructional information can easily be sent with Remind. There is a free option as well as paid options.
 - They have published a [section dedicated to use for remote learning](#).
- [Google Voice](#)
 - Google Voice is a free tool that allows people to create a phone number that can be given out publicly without compromising your personal phone number. This tool can be used in similar ways as Remind to send texts to a non-smart phone.

Students Without Device Access

Schools are supporting students without access to devices or the internet with printed materials that can be mailed, hand delivered or available for pick up at the school during specified hours (send via a phone call). Schools consider including pencils and paper or a notebook in the packet.

[Going Old School Offline Activities](#) is a resource that provides ideas for instruction and activities families can do with students. The presentation provided by Karyn Fillhart, a Technology Training Specialist who has many additional resources on her [website](#).



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