



Community E-Learning Pod FAQ's

Please carefully review the following information prior to your student's first day. We are taking additional precautions during this time of COVID-19, so take note of our updated procedures and the supplies we ask you send along with your student. A "school supplies" checklist is provided at the bottom of this document for a quick reference.

What educational platforms should my child be enrolled in to attend the virtual school hub?

Parents are welcome to use whichever educational platform they choose; our purpose is not to teach, tutor, or be a substitute for educational schooling, but rather to ensure student safety and provide extra support. Our team will provide assistance as needed for student success. We will also be intentional about offering opportunities for "brain breaks" where the kids can participate in an organized group activity or a quiet independent activity, depending on the platform your child is using.

What age group/grades can enroll in the virtual school hub?

Children ages 5-13 (Kindergarten through 8th grade)

How can the Balance 180 team assist my child?

Our team does not have a background in education, nor are we providing any educational instruction, tutoring, or teaching regarding your child's academic school. We are here to help those parents who are not comfortable with their child returning to brick and mortar schools amidst the current pandemic, and our role is to offer a safe environment for your child to complete his or her own academic assignments and instructions on his or her own devices at their own pace. Our staff is here to monitor your children and make sure they are completing their assignments and staying healthy with appropriate breaks, physical activity, and safe social interaction. Our staff will also assist your child with technical issues as they navigate the online learning platforms.

What if my child has an IEP or 504?

We are happy to accommodate. Please provide us with a copy of your child's IEP or 504 if you feel comfortable so that we can plan accordingly and help make the e-learning pod a good experience for your child. If you are not comfortable sharing, please share with us what you think would be most beneficial for us to know to be able to best help your child succeed.

How will you keep my child socially distant and safe while in your gym?

Depending on your child's age and grade level, they will be divided into small subgroups with spaced out seating arrangements. We will practice generous distancing throughout the day, have all team members and students wearing facemasks, frequently clean high touch surfaces, and focus on hand hygiene. Groups will be staggered with lunch time, snack time, etc. and kept separated as to decrease risk and exposure.

Can I enroll my child in gymnastics classes after school hours?

Yes. Immediately following the school day, we will be offering gymnastics classes and we would love for your child to join us. While the Community E-Learning Pod service is offered for free, please note there is a charge for the daily gymnastics classes if you decide to register, consistent with our regular programs.

Do I need to sign my child in at drop-off and sign out at pick-up?

- Yes, be sure to sign your child in and out of our gym each day with the time and your name.
- During this time of COVID-19, we will ask that parents do not come into the gym for drop off or pick up so that we can help minimize exposure and practice social distancing. We will also be staggering drop off and pick up times to minimize the number of people coming and going at any given time. These hours can be found on the registration paperwork and will be sent out in an email before the nine-week program begins.

- **Check-In:** If your child does not already have a mask, we will gladly provide one at check-in for him or her to wear. After signing your child in at our check-in station, we will temperature check your child and have him or her wash her hands at our outdoor sink before heading into the gym with one of our escorts.
- **Pick-Up:** *A valid photo I.D. must be presented at pick-up to verify identity.*
 - Only the individuals noted on your Registration Form will be authorized to pick up your child unless you submit a written notice to the office stating otherwise. Authorized individuals need to present a valid photo I.D. and know the safe pick-up password indicated on your registration form.
 - After being authorized for pick up, you will receive a slip of paper with your child's name saying that you are authorized to pick up the child. From there, one of our escorts will bring your child to you outside and will exchange your child for the authorized pick up slip of paper.

How can I get a hold of you while my child is at Balance 180?

Please **call or text us** (352) 340-1180 or **email** frontdesk@balance180.org if you ever need to pick up your child early, if you are running late, or if you need to get a hold of us for any reason. If you call, kindly leave a message if you do not get an answer and we will give you a call back as soon as we can.

What should my child wear?

- Please have your child wear breathable clothes that he or she will be comfortable doing school in. If your child joins us for gymnastics after the school day, please either have your athlete wear or pack athletic shorts (no zippers, snaps, or buttons) and a t-shirt or tank top that is not too baggy.
- At this time, we are asking that all students wear a mask while on Balance180 property with the exception of during snack time, lunch, and water breaks.

What should my child bring?

- **Quiet activities:** As the kids have small breaks in the school day, we will have quiet activities. Please pack your child some quiet activities such as coloring books, reading books, small toys, etc. We will have some activities available but are trying to minimize shared items.
- **School technology and supplies:** Students are required to bring their own materials for their schoolwork, including a laptop, charger, headphones, note-taking supplies, etc. for their learning program.
- **Craft supplies:** Please send your child with scissors, crayons, markers, colored pencils and a bottle of liquid glue in a storage container so that we do not have to share these supplies.
- Please label all clothing items, lunch/snack containers, back packs, water bottles, sunscreen containers, etc. with your child's name.

Should I pack a lunch, snack, or water bottle?

- We will not provide snacks, drinks, or lunch. Please send your child with a snack (no nuts, please as we do have students with nut allergies) and a lunch. We will not be able to refrigerate or microwave any items.
- All students need to bring a water bottle with them. We will have the bottle re-fill feature of our water fountains turned on for refills but will not have the kids drink from the faucet to avoid spreading germs. Only water is allowed in the gym training area.

As we are incorporating new safety procedures into our gym, we are asking our students to follow a few new rules when in the gym that are important to keeping themselves and others around them safe. We know it is challenging for the kids to resist running up to friends for hugs and to avoid taking off their face masks. We are asking you to please discuss these new guidelines with your student before coming for your first day to make a smooth transition.