

# Special Education, K-12 and Covid-19 Implications

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# What is Distance Learning



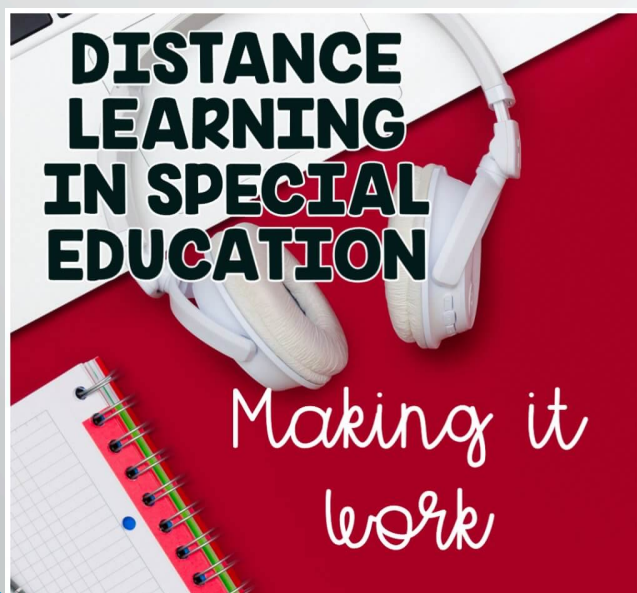
- Learning where a teacher is not physically present outside of the classroom
- **Delivered through methods such as:**
  - Web Portals (e.g. Blackboard, Canvas, etc)
  - Television
  - Streaming Platforms (Youtube, Vimeo, etc)
  - Videoconference (Zoom, Facetime, etc)
  - Completion of Packets via mail, email, or fax
- **Distance Learning in K-12 is a way to deliver core academics via the internet**

# Distance Learning Works Well for Students who are



- **Self Motivated**
- **Can figure things out without a teacher present or lectures well**
- **Comfortable without interactions from classmates or peers**
- **Have the vocabulary, background knowledge and comprehension to be able to complete work on their own**
- **Comfortable working from home**

# Special Ed issues when it comes to distance Learning



- **IEP Accommodations Being Met or Not?**
- **Modified Curriculum**
- **Supports and Services (OT, PT, Speech, etc)**
- **Those unable to use electronic devices**
- **Students who rely on teaching versus figure things out from books well**
- **Internet Safety Issues for younger children**
- **Section 508 Web Accessibility Issues**
- **Parents who are unable to tutor child or single parents who work during day**
- **Lack of Library Access**

# Classes that are difficult to implement in a distance learning format



- Science Labs
- Performing Arts
- Career Technical Education
- Industrial Arts
- Family & Consumer Science
- Physical Education / Sports
- Recess
- Socialization
- Community Based Transition

# Social/ Emotional Challenges of Distance Learning



- Lack of Peers / Classmates to Interact with
- No social interaction and stress from being lonely and having low amounts of physical activity
- Lack of extracurricular activities such as sports, performing arts, dances, birthday parties, etc
- Having to unlearn your social skills due to social distancing policies
- Stress and trauma from sitting at home indoors for long periods of time with no one to interact with and having all your fun activities cancelled for so long for no fault of your own
- Being behind academically when one goes back to school when schools reopen