

TRSD
Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day
Frequently Asked Questions for Elementary Parents
Revised January 2018

1. What is an Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day is a “snow” day during which students will work at home on online instruction and assignments provided by their teachers.

2. Will every snow day be an Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

No. There will be some traditional snow days. The NH Department of Education has approved Timberlane’s Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day plan for a maximum of five days. An Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day will not be scheduled when a large-scale power outage may occur.

3. How will I know if it is an Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day or just a No School Day?

The decision will be made by the SAU if an inclement weather day is a No School Day or an Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day. Parents will be notified through School Messenger (the district’s emergency notification system).

4. How will my child receive instruction or lessons?

K-2: Instruction and lessons for reading, math, and specials will be provided through a pre-approved take home copy. Blizzard Bag lessons will be sent home in advance of Blizzard Bag days. In October, a folder containing the 1st and 2nd Blizzard Bag lessons will be sent home in advance of a Blizzard Bag day. The lessons will only be used when a Blizzard Bag day has been decided by the district. Teachers will be available via e-mail from 10:00am-2:00pm to answer any questions.

3-5: Instruction and lessons for reading, math, and specials will be provided through your child’s Google Apps for Education Account. All teachers in grades 3-5 will be using Google Classroom.

Students in grades 3-5 will have lessons assigned to them which they will complete online and submit to their teachers. Teachers will be available online during the 10:00am-2:00pm window. Teachers will respond with feedback, questions, or comments, and students can continue working. When students complete the lesson, they submit the lesson to be graded by their teacher. Students may work online at other times during the day, but teachers are only available from 10:00—2:00 for immediate feedback.

During the lessons, students can log on and off as needed. It is not expected nor required for them to stay at the computer during the window of time. Documents on Google Classroom save automatically, so students do not need to worry about unsaved work. There is no need to save the documents in another program to complete the assignments. If you also have a Gmail account, please sign out of your account and have your child sign in. Your child must be signed into their school Google account in order to access all online lessons.

5. How does my child access the lessons on Google Classroom?

Directions for laptops and PCs to access and complete Blizzard Bag assignment:

1. Go to our school website using the Chrome browser.
2. Look for the Google Classroom link on the right side of the school home page and click on it.
3. Log off any family members that might be logged in before you log onto Google Classroom.

Type in your username and password:

Username: _____@timberlane.net

Password: _____

4. Open the Online Blizzard Bag Assignment from your teacher.

5. Click on the assignment.
6. When you have completed the assignment click “Turn In” at the top right corner of the screen to let the teacher know that you have completed the assignment.
7. You will be asked to “Turn In” your assignment a second time. After you do this you will see a green check mark and the word “Done” to let you know that your teacher has received it. There will also be a place to write your teacher a private comment.

Directions for all other devices:

For all other devices please go to the school webpage and scroll down the right hand side of the home page where you will find a blue box that says **“Online Learning and Blizzard Bag Information”**.

You will see “Google Apps/Google Classroom How to for Parents”.

Click on this link and follow the instructions.

6. What if our family does not have access to a computer on an Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

Paper copies will be provided to any child who does not have access to technology. Please request a paper copy from your child’s classroom teacher. Paper copies must be returned to your child’s teacher in order for the day to count as a Blizzard Bag day.

7. Will my child be working on the assignments for the exact number of hours he/she is typically in school?

No. The Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day instruction and assignments are expected to be completed in approximately four hours. Children may take breaks or do other activities during the completion of these assignments.

8. Is completion of the assignments required?

Yes, the online or hard-copy assignments are required to be completed. If your child is struggling with the assignment, your child’s teacher will be available online from 10am -2pm for questions and assistance. If your child does not do the assigned work, your child will be marked as “absent” on the Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day. If your child does not finish the assignment, he or she may speak to the teacher on return to school. The New Hampshire Department of Education requires that 80% of students and 80 % of teachers participate in Blizzard Bag activities in order to count it as a school day.

9. When are the assignments due?

The online or hard-copy assignments are due the first day students return to school. If your child has started and worked on the assignment but could not complete it at home, s/he will have 48 hours to complete it. Your child must communicate this with his or her classroom teacher during their online time between the hours of 10am -2pm on the online learning /Blizzard Bag Day.

10. What is my responsibility on an Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

Younger students may need you to help get them started and read the comments from the teacher. Older students should be able to log in, locate, and complete their assignments with little parental assistance. Ensure that online assignments have been submitted or hard copy portions are returned the next school day with your child.

11. What if my child has Art, P.E., or Music on the Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

Students will only complete one special per day. Specials will be completed during the Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day. Lessons in grades K-2 will be turned into the classroom teacher when they return to school. Art, PE, and music Lessons in grades 3-5 have been added to the homeroom teacher's Online Blizzard Bag Google Classroom.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about Online Learning/Blizzard Bag days