As the cases of the Coronavirus increase daily, Ivy Preparatory Academy continues to put the health of our scholars, staff, and faculty at a high priority. Many questions have been asked about the extended school closure. We have compiled a list of the most commonly asked questions. We will update this list from time to time.

**Is Ivy required to continue to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to scholars with disabilities during a school closure caused by a COVID-19 outbreak?**

The IDEA, Section 504, and Title II of the ADA does not specifically address a situation in which elementary and secondary schools are closed for an extended period of time (generally more than 10 consecutive days) because of exceptional circumstances, such as an outbreak of a particular disease. If Ivy closes to slow or stop the spread of COVID-19, and does not provide any educational services to the general scholar population, then Ivy would not be required to provide services to scholars with disabilities during that same period of time. However, Ivy has chosen to use an online platform through Google Classroom where all special education teachers and support staff will be able to support scholars daily through their online experience. Your scholar will also receive VI, OT, or Speech therapy through tele-therapy provided through the Google Classroom as specified in their IEPs.

**Must Ivy provide special education and related services to a scholar with a disability who is absent for an extended period of time because the child is infected with COVID-19, when the school reconvenes?**

If a scholar with a disability is absent for an extended period of time because of a COVID-19, and the school reconvenes, then the IEP Team must determine whether the scholar is available for instruction and could benefit from homebound services such as online or virtual instruction, instructional telephone calls, and other curriculum-based instructional activities, to the extent available. School personnel should follow appropriate health guidelines to assess and address the risk of transmission in the provision of such services.

**Can an IEP Team consider a distance learning plan in a scholar’s IEP as a contingency plan since the COVID-19 outbreak required the school’s closure?**

Yes. IEP teams may, but are not required to, include distance learning plans in a scholar's IEP that could be triggered and implemented during a selective closure due to a COVID-19 outbreak. Such contingent provisions may include the provision of special education and related services at an alternate location or the provision of online or virtual instruction, instructional telephone calls, and other curriculum-based instructional activities, and may identify which special education and related services, if any, could be provided at the scholar's home.

**Will my scholar continue to receive Speech and Occupational Therapy throughout the school closing of the COVID-19 outbreak?**

Speech and Occupational Therapy teachers have set up Google classrooms and included your scholars so that they can offer services according to what is outlined within the IEP.

**What if my scholar needs help while completing their assignments?**

Each special education teacher and paraprofessional teacher will be available through the Google classroom during the specific instructional time that they typically support the scholar. If you scholar needs additional assistance please contact the Case Manager so that they can assist.