2020-2021 Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education, Office of School Readiness: First Class Pre-K Remote Instruction Guidance: First Nine Weeks and Beyond

Introduction: This guidance is provided as an addendum to The Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education (ADECE), First Class Pre-K Reopening and Operating Framework, http://children.alabama.gov/reopening-guidance/. This Remote Instruction Guidance is designed to support teachers as they provide high quality distance-learning education to First Class Pre-K students. The Addendum consists of three components: (1) digital access to "dynamic planning tools that help to individualize instruction, facilitate communication between the (teacher) and families, streamline weekly planning processes, and offer access to new family-facing resources to build consistency in learning experiences" Teaching Strategies™, (2) virtual classroom social connection guidance, and (3) professional development to support teachers with the implementation process.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Teaching Strategies™ Creative Curriculum® Cloud

Available Teacher Resources

- Getting Started Guide
- Foundation Volumes
- Teaching Guides
- Intentional Teaching Experiences
- Mighty Minutes®
- Select Titles from the Teaching Strategies™ Children's Book Collection
- Learning Games®

Family-Facing Resources

- Family Guided Learning Plans
- Guided Learning Experiences
- Family Mighty Minutes®
- Learning Games®
- Recipe Cards

MyTeaching Strategies™ Family Mobile App: Two-Way Communication

- Communicate in real-time with families
- Share video, photos, text, and files securely with families
- Receive family documentation and observations
- Provide a seamless experience for families with access available on Android and iOS

Learning Management System (LMS) Platforms

Capacity	Schoology®	Google Classroom	Teaching Strategies™ The Creative Curriculum® Cloud
Lesson planning	• Developmentally appropriate practices (DAP) based on the Alabama Standards for Early Learning and Development (ASELD) lessons and activities can be created by the teacher or imported from The Creative Curriculum® Cloud or Schools PLP." • Schoology® can link with Google and One Drive to import created lessons and activities. • Teachers can assign lessons and assignments to individual students and small groups to differentiate instruction.	• DAP ASELD standards-based lessons & activities can be created by the teacher or imported from The Creative Curriculum® Cloud. • Teachers can assign lessons/assignments to individual students and small groups to differentiate instruction.	• DAP ASELD lessons & activities from The Creative Curriculum® Cloud available to pull down into the Teaching Strategies GOLD® lesson plan and shared with families through the MyTeachingStrategies® Family portal. • Teachers will also have the capability to send differentiated instruction to students to meet their specific needs. • Many activities have already been translated into family-friendly language and can be shared through the MyTeachingStrategies® Family portal. Teachers can also create/upload and share custom lessons/activities with families. • What resources do I have access to in my planning calendar for my preschool/pre-k class if I have The Creative Curriculum® Cloud?

Learning Management System (LMS) Platforms

Capacity	Schoology®	Google Classroom	Teaching Strategies™ The Creative Curriculum® Cloud
Written Communication with Families	• Teachers can send emails, post to the stream, send private comments on assignments, and provide feedback. Teachers have full control over student comments and posts. They can also communicate with parents through individual emails or through classroom email summaries which include class announcements and due dates. • Parents and teachers can use the app and get notifications on their device when post have been added, commented on, or messages have been sent.	• Teachers can send emails, post to the stream, send private comments on assignments, and provide feedback. Teachers have full control over student comments and posts. They can also communicate with parents through individual emails or through classroom email summaries which include class announcements and due dates. • Parents and teachers can use the app and get notifications on their device when post have been added, commented on, or messages have been sent.	• Teachers and families can communicate in writing and receive notifications through the MyTeachingStrategies® Family portal and email. • Families can use the app and get notifications on their device when post have been added, commented on, or messages have been sent. • What is MyTeachingStrategies® Family?

Learning Management System (LMS) Platforms

Capacity	Schoology®	Google Classroom	Teaching Strategies™ The Creative Curriculum® Cloud
Child Assessment Data Collection	• Parent can upload videos and photos of their child's work into Schoology®. • Teachers can click on photos and videos uploaded to Schoology® by families and save the file to their computer. Then the teacher can open Teaching Strategies™ GOLD® on the computer and manually save media files to a student's portfolio in Teaching Strategies™ GOLD® for documentation.	• Parent can upload videos and photos of their child's work into Google Classroom. • Teachers can click on photos and videos uploaded to Google Classroom by families and save the file to their computer. Then the teacher can open Teaching Strategies™ GOLD® on the computer and manually save media files to the students' portfolio in Teaching Strategies™ GOLD® for documentation.	• Families can upload photos and videos of their children's learning and activity in the secure MyTeachingStrategies® Family portal app for teachers to use to document student progress outside of the classroom environment.
Community Building	• Teachers can post, comment, and facilitate conversation in Schoology® discussion boards, groups and media albums.	• Teachers can post, comment, and facilitate conversation in the Google Classroom stream discussion board and classroom albums.	• The Creative Curriculum® Cloud does not have community conversations options. We suggest having some type of community-based communication available like a closed Facebook group.
Live 2-way video communication	• Conferencing Feature - Live 2-way interaction with individuals and groups. • The system can also link with Zoom, MS Teams and Google Meet for other live 2-way interactions.	• Google Meet is the video conferencing that can be used for live 2-way interaction with individuals and groups.	• The Creative Curriculum® Cloud does not have live 2-way video communication capacity. Teachers will need access to a program to provide Live 2-way interaction with individuals and groups (Zoom, MS Teams, Google Meets, etc.).

Learning Management System (LMS) Platforms

Options for using the Teaching Strategies™ The Creative Curriculum® Cloud:

- Teachers can copy and paste lessons and activities from the Creative Curriculum® Cloud and their lesson plans in Teaching Strategies™ GOLD® into the Schoology or Google Classroom platform for families to access.
- Program directors can choose: To allow teachers to use Teaching Strategies™ The Creative Curriculum® Cloud for family activities and lesson plans as well the platform to collect photos and videos of children's work from the families for documentation purposes, and use Schoology or Google Classroom for live instruction, group interactions and community building communication.
- ADECE strongly recommends First Class Pre-K programs, where available, utilize the Creative Curriculum© Cloud for family activities, lesson plans and to collect photos and videos for student documentation, and utilize Schoology, Google Classroom, or another approved platform for two-way and/or live interaction with students and families.
- *Creative Curriculum© is a solution that 100% of all First Class Pre-K have access to and may use.*

Additional Considerations

- Each program is responsible for selecting the LMS that best meets their needs, which could include Schoology, Google Classroom, Canvas, etc.
- All LMS platforms listed above are both app and web-based programs.
- The Creative Curriculum® Cloud will be available to all First Class Pre-K classrooms; however the ADECE *does not require classrooms to use this curriculum.*
- Schools PLP will be available to First Class Pre-K classrooms whose LEA opts to use Schoology; however, the ADECE *does not require classrooms to use this curriculum*.

Virtual Classroom Social Connection Support for Teachers

Resource	Additional Information	Support
Virtual Meetings and Areas of Connection **Appendix A:** http://children.alabama.gov/reopening-guidance/	Focused on three areas of connection	Guidance from Region Coach
Social Connection Strategies **Appendix A:** http://children.alabama.gov/reopening-guidance/	• Teacher: Family • Teacher: Child • Child: Child	Specific strategies with descriptors provided to support each area
Virtual Learning: A Family Affair **Appendix B:** http://children.alabama.gov/reopening-guidance/	• Family Facts-4-year old children • What to expect in pre-k • Family Agreement	Seven "willingness" descriptors with specific family guidance

Emotional Support for Teachers and Families

Resource	Support
• 9-Week Calendar with Mental Wellness Ideas • Virtual Calming Space • Reflective Consultation • Access to Mental Health Consultants	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health State Coordinator

9 Week Family Conscious Discipline Curriculum Plan

Resource	Support
• Family-Focused Conscious Discipline Information • 30-minute webinars, 2-times per week	Region Coach Online resources

Teacher Professional Development

	Support Information
• **View Creative Curriculum® Cloud video clip** • **Review teacher and family information sheet**	Region Coach
• **Review The Creative Curriculum® Cloud training module**	2-Hour Webinar
• **View The Creative Curriculum® Cloud Support Webinar, Part 1** • **Complete Learning Management System (LMS) aligned with Creative Curriculum® Cloud Module** • **Review additional resources featuring 9 weeks of distance social emotional support and activities**	Region Coach
• **View The Creative Curriculum® Cloud Support Webinar, Part 2** • **Complete courses in Teaching Strategies™ P.D. Platform according to specified need**	Teaching Strategies™ P.D. Platform Region Coach
• **View The Creative Curriculum® Cloud Support Webinar, Part 3** • **Complete courses in Teaching Strategies™ P.D. Platform according to specified need**	Teaching Strategies™ P.D. Platform Region Coach