

Tips for Providing Reinforcement in Virtual Settings: Setting Up for Success

Quick tips for reinforcing students for meeting expectations in virtual settings

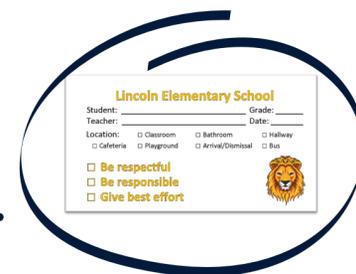
1) Establish, post, and teach expectations for remote, hybrid, and in-person instruction, with a focus on consistency.

Make sure expectations are consistent (e.g., Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Give Best Effort) and clear for each setting. Provide explicit instruction in expectations and give students opportunity to practice and receive feedback.



2) Use the same acknowledgment system during remote, hybrid, and in-person instruction.

Use the same term when referring to your reinforcer (e.g. "BEST Bucks" or "Bulldog BRAVE Tickets"). This helps students make the connection between the various instructional contexts.



3) Provide students with behavior specific praise paired with the reinforcer (e.g., electronic ticket) when the students meet an expectation.

Depending on student preferences, provide written behavior specific praise – publicly or privately. Also, consider whether to provide the feedback in the chat or verbally during instruction.



4) Make certain all adults can provide students acknowledgements (e.g., electronic tickets).

All adults should be able to provide feedback to students. If your students are in a hybrid learning environment, all staff (e.g., cafeteria workers, paraprofessionals) need access to the same reinforcement system as the classroom teacher- whether it be digital or paper reinforcers. Note: If using paper tickets, follow your district and CDC guidelines for distributing instructional materials (e.g., papers, pencils, and manipulatives).



5) Build a menu of reinforcers available for use in virtual environments.

Seek input from students, families, as well as faculty and staff when building your reinforcement menus. Remember to be creative!



6) Share the procedures for reinforcement with your families.

Communicate early and often with families. Consider providing access to the online system so they can enjoy their child's success.



Consider using a completely electronic reinforcement system this year.

Visit ci3t.org/covid for an example demonstrating how you might use Google Drive to build an online reinforcement system.



For additional resources for supporting educators and families, please visit

www.ci3t.org/covid