



20/21 CVS K-12 FAQ

We look forward to partnering with you for the 20/21 school year. Given volume of applicants, the best way to reach us is through email. Please check this document frequently for updates.

*At this time, due to the volume of applicants and to ensure student and family safety, we will not be offering our traditional live orientation or first day of face-to-face school.

What is Charlotte Virtual School?

- Charlotte Virtual School (CVS) is a franchise of Florida Virtual School (FLVS) and serves as Charlotte County's virtual instruction program.
- CVS serves K-12 Charlotte County students, who are registered as public school students and take part in statewide, standardized assessments and district testing.
- CVS has successfully been in operation since 2010.
- Choosing your local virtual school keeps your tax dollars in Charlotte County.
- CVS courses are taught by highly qualified, experienced teachers employed by Charlotte County Public Schools.
- Teachers are available Monday to Friday from 8 am to 8 pm.
- CVS offers the availability of face-to-face instruction, guidance and administration, which is a key component of a truly student centered learning environment.
- CVS courses use a rigorous, standards-based curriculum that prepares students for success in state and local assessments.
- CVS is NOT a credit recovery program, nor is it an E-Learning program similar to Edgenuity.
- CVS curriculum is written for students at or above grade level in reading.
- CVS students have the opportunity to earn a standard diploma issued by Charlotte County Public Schools.
- CVS students are given the same opportunities as public school students to participate in extracurricular activities at their zoned school.

What is the difference between Charlotte Virtual School (CVS) and Florida Virtual School (FLVS)?

The funding generated from public tax revenue is put into our students and teachers right here in Charlotte County. Florida Virtual School (FLVS) is a statewide provider of public virtual education for students in grades K-12. CVS is a franchise of FLVS. That is, we use FLVS curriculum, systems and follow their guidelines. However, the way we manage our teachers, teach our students and incorporate unique learning activities is completely designed and implemented locally. We also offer the ability for face-to-face instruction, guidance and administration which is a key component of a truly student centered learning environment. CVS operates on the standard school calendar (August to May), with Thanksgiving, winter, spring and summer breaks.

What is the enrollment procedure?

- Submit a student application by the declared deadline (**August 18, 2020**).
- Once a student applies to CVS, the enrollment in FOCUS will reflect Charlotte Virtual School. However, once you have completed the New Student Orientation, you can decline enrollment and will be registered back at your original school.
- If your child receives ESE services, prior to developing the CVS schedule, the IEP team must convene regarding this change of placement. Please contact your zoned school's staffing specialist to schedule an IEP. The contact number is: 941-255-0808 x 3100. This does not apply to students who are identified as gifted.
- Students and parents are required to complete the **VIRTUAL/ONLINE New Student Orientation** (available on the CVS website July 27 – August 21).
- Once students and parents complete the orientation and agree to the conditions of enrollment (electronically), a schedule will be developed. If families decide CVS is not the right fit for them after completing the orientation, the electronic notification will trigger their FOCUS enrollment back to the original school.
- **August 31 – First day of school**

What if virtual learning is not for my child?

CVS offers a **21 day grace period** at the start of each semester for families to determine if the online environment is an appropriate fit. Students/families are encouraged to communicate regularly with their teachers to determine whether the virtual educational environment can appropriately meet the needs of the student. There will be no grade penalty if families choose to withdraw within the first **21 days**.

Teachers will advise parents of any concerns regarding their student's acclimation to virtual learning. If during the initial **21 days**, it is determined by CVS that virtual education is not the optimal learning condition, a discussion with the family will take place to determine the best learning environment to meet the student's educational needs, including brick and mortar and homeschool. There will be no grade penalty if families choose to withdraw within the first **21 days**. If parents choose to keep their child enrolled after the **21 day grace period**, and CVS has not recommended him/her for online education, CVS will not be held responsible for failing grades.

Students may return to their assigned school at any time. However after the **21 day grace period**, the transfer grade will reflect the assignments submitted (including zeroes for non-submitted or incomplete assignments) according to the pace chart at the time of transfer.

Students who fail to work regularly or adhere to the pace chart will be required to meet one-on-one, either virtually or in person, with the instructor. Parents/guardians are encouraged to participate in these meetings.

Students who are failing any virtual course beyond the **21-day grace period** will be required to attend the remaining VIRTUAL PACE labs for the semester.

What are the qualities of a successful virtual school student?

- Parent involvement (#1)
- On grade level in reading and math
- Self-motivated
- Disciplined
- Organized
- Independent learner
- Good time management
- Technologically literate

Does my child need to attend CVS in person?

*Given the COVID situation, students are not required to attend face-to-face labs. K-5 and 6-12 labs are held on different days. They will be held virtually.

Is CVS less challenging than other traditional accredited high schools?

NO! As an accredited school, CVS offers a flexible alternative for students. It is not an easier option than traditional accredited high schools. All courses are written at or above grade level and require an average of one to two hours of focused study on a daily basis to complete one course within the traditional semester time frame. Our courses engage students in real-life projects, requiring the use of critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and the ability to apply the knowledge they have acquired.

What if my elementary child cannot read?

The K-5 elementary curriculum is designed for non-readers and utilizes audio and video clips, games, as well as hands-on activities. There is a built in text-to-speech reading tool.

Do I need to log in at certain times?

CVS offers a flexibility. Students are recommended to engage in their coursework daily and adhere to their weekly pace charts. However families set the schedules which best meet their needs. It is important to note that if students need to contact their teachers, they are available Monday to Friday 8 am to 8 pm on school days. However coursework is accessible 24/7. CVS equates being on pace (turning in your weekly assignment by the due dates) with attendance. Students who fail to work regularly or adhere to the pace chart will need to meet one-on-one, either virtually or in person, with the instructor. Parents/guardians are encouraged to participate in these meetings.

What courses are offered?

Parents and students are encouraged to preview courses and offerings at these links:

[High School](#)

[Middle School](#)

[Elementary](#)

What are the technology requirements?

To maintain contact with teachers, staff, and administration, students must have daily access to the following:

- Computer ([system requirements](#))
- Internet service
- Email
- Telephone
- Printer access is recommended for elementary grades.

How many courses can my child take?

Full-time CVS students are required to take six courses. Elementary students take four cores and two electives. Seniors are only required to take their remaining graduation requirements.

As a parent, will I be kept informed of my students' progress?

Absolutely! As a parent, you will likely receive more updates and information about your student's progress than ever before. We strongly feel that a parent's involvement in a child's education is critical. Our teachers provide frequent online reports to parents. Parents are required to create an account to monitor their child's progress.

What is expected of parents of CVS elementary students?

CVS values parents as partners. Elementary students will require parental supervision, as K-5 builds the educational foundation. Although CVS teachers deliver regular instruction, parents play an integral role in their student's education. Parents are referred to as "learning coaches." Teachers are also available for personalized, one-on-one instruction throughout the week as needed, however younger students require additional parental supervision and support in course navigation and proceeding through coursework. It is important for the parent to ensure their child is completing his/her own work so teachers know how to provide additional learning support.

We cannot stress enough that student success depends heavily on parent involvement. Parents are expected to: monitor students daily, communicate regularly with teachers, ensure content mastery and assist with navigation. Students are expected to engage 3-5 hours per week per core subject and one hour per week per special.

What if my child has an IEP (Individual Education Plan) or Section 504 plan?

CVS teachers are aware of student's unique needs and accommodations set forth in their IEP or Section 504 plan. All students at CVS have access to many accommodations that naturally occur in the virtual setting. In addition, CVS may be able to provide additional accommodations per a student's IEP or Section 504 Plan, if they are applicable to the online educational environment. ESE students applying for full-time enrollment with CVS are essentially changing the delivery method of their instruction. As a result, an IEP review has to be conducted at the zoned school before a student can be permanently enrolled with CVS. It is important to note, that through this process, it may be determined that the CVS curriculum is NOT the best fit for a student. CVS is a "school of choice" and therefore does not offer all of the services that may be available at other schools.

How is CVS going to meet the needs of my gifted elementary student?

CVS does not offer an advanced elementary curriculum, although it is designed for students who are at or above grade level in reading and math. Parents do have the option to accelerate their child in accordance of the Charlotte County Public School Student Progression Plan. For example, some advanced/gifted elementary students (usually 4th or 5th grade) begin taking high

school elective courses. These students must be reading and writing at a high school level. In addition, these credits are recorded on the high school transcript and GPA. Another option is to accelerate in one or all core subject areas over the course of a school year. Students are permitted to work ahead of pace and complete courses early, as well as be enrolled in different grade level core courses. Acceleration decisions will be determined during a conference prior to the start of the semester.

Will I be able to use a diploma from Charlotte Virtual School to enroll into college, obtain a scholarship or gain employment?

Yes. CVS has a solid reputation within the academic community. CVS offers a standard high school diploma that meets state and school board requirements. Our graduates have gone on to post-secondary education, employment, or to join the military.

Is Charlotte Virtual School accredited?

CVS is registered with the Florida State Department of Education and a part of the Charlotte County Public School system. Our accredited online high school diploma and all credits earned at CVS are accepted by other 6-12 schools, colleges, universities, and employers.

Are Honors courses available?

Yes! Students are able to take Honors and/or Advanced classes.

Are AP (Advanced Placement) courses available?

Yes! Students can choose to take a variety of Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

Can virtual students enroll in dual enrollment courses at a college or university?

Yes! Students can choose to enroll in dual enrollment courses just like any other Charlotte County high school student. They must meet college admission requirements. There is no charge for the courses.