imagine
instructional services

Build Your Own Virtual School

Tips and guidance for a successful start

Several needs can be filled by developing a virtual school:

- Course Expansion
- Staffing Shortage
- Summer School
- Dropout Recovery
- Special Education Needs
- NCAA-Approved Instruction
- World Language Courses
- English Language Learners

Whatever your reason(s), it's important to partner with a virtual learning provider who offers flexible digital solutions that adapt to each student's unique learning journey. Use this guide to help you identify goals, challenges, and opportunities as you build your virtual school.

10 Tips for Building Your Own Virtual School

1

DEFINE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

Clearly defining your goals will enable you to establish appropriate policies and ensure you have the right measures to evaluate your program's success.

2

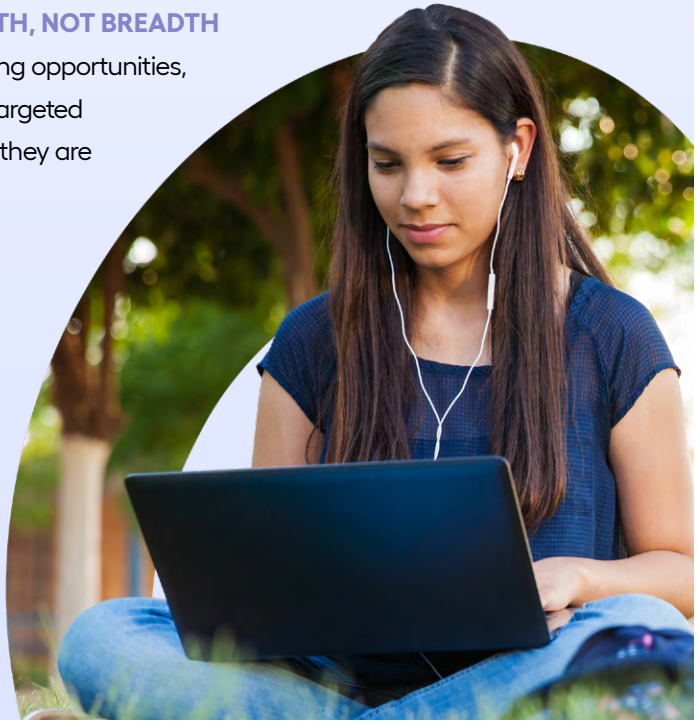
PRIORITIZE STANDARDS AND FOCUS ON DEPTH, NOT BREADTH

Today's students have missed out on many learning opportunities, so it's important to provide them with engaging, targeted instruction that is optimized to meet them where they are and get them where they need to be.

3

DEMAND HIGH-QUALITY COURSEWARE

Look for interactive, media-rich courses updated to reflect national and state standards changes. The course content and student, educator, and family resources should constantly address feedback and changing needs and priorities.



4

DON'T ASSUME DIGITAL NATIVES ARE DIGITAL LEARNERS

Ensure students understand how to interact with the technology you're using, where to get help when they need it, and how to manage their time well.

5

PRIORITIZE STUDENTS' SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS

Relationship-building with students takes on greater importance when learning doesn't happen face-to-face. It helps build student confidence, increases motivation, and aids teachers in personalizing instruction.

6

MAKE LEARNING RELEVANT AND ENGAGING

Instruction needs to be appropriate for students' skill and age level to be fun. Explore gamifying instruction, project-based learning, and interactive and group activities to keep students engaged.

7

CONNECT, COMMUNICATE, AND CAPITALIZE ON CAREGIVERS

Keep family members in the loop and provide resources so they can be involved in the learning process. Engaging students in learning outside of traditional school hours helps everyone.

8

ELEVATE AND EMPOWER TEACHERS TO DIFFERENTIATE INSTRUCTION

Teachers need tools, information, and time to differentiate instruction effectively. Seek out learning solutions that collect easy-to-read, real-time data that can be used to inform instruction.

9

PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Give teachers guided training to utilize new technology and teaching strategies. Engaging, ongoing, targeted training empowers teachers to immediately apply what they've learned to help students achieve their potential.

10

ITERATE AS NECESSARY

If something isn't working, don't wait to fix it. Instead, make use of your provider's advisors, implementation consultants, and customer service and tech support specialists to help you diagnose and implement changes to your program to foster greater success. If your provider doesn't offer those services, find one that does!

No matter the size and scope of the virtual program you're planning, Imagine Learning Virtual School Services can provide guidance. When you're ready, our robust suite of core, elective, and honors courses is designed to adapt to the changing classroom requirements and can be implemented in any in-person, blended, or virtual learning model.

Learn more at imaginelearning.com/virtual-school-services

imagine learning
imaginelearning.com/virtual-school-services
877-725-4257 • solutions@imaginelearning.com

853507007 22XX