Pacing Guide

Introduction

StrongMind's content is designed to provide flexibility within a structure. A robust set of tools has been included with each hybrid course. How that tool set is used is dependent upon *how* your school/district has implemented learning.

As you start to determine how to best pace your course using StrongMind content materials and resources, take a minute to orient yourself to the materials available and their organizational structure.

Each course materials set includes:

- Student content organized into 6 units and 30 lessons, including summative assessments. The lessons are further divided into activities and include formative assessments.
- The Teacher Resource Guide is organized into three major categories: Course-Level Learning Objectives, Course Resources, and Activity-Specific Teacher Resources.

Helpful Hint

The teacher resources in the Teacher Resource Guide open in a separate tab so that you can keep them open and see them side-by-side with student materials.
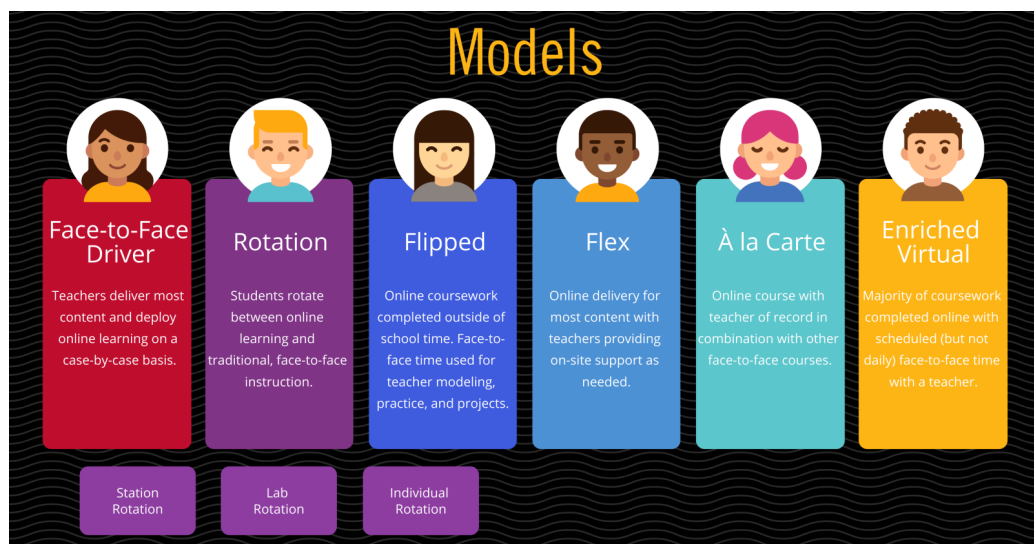
Key Planning Resources for Pacing

- **Course Overview** offers an overview of the course, unit-by-unit detailing content, connections, projects, and discussion board questions included in the course.
- **Activity Plans** consists of a set of plans, organized by unit and lesson, that outline multiple options for combining face-to-face and online instructional elements. Each plan includes learning targets, targeted vocabulary, activity plans, materials needed, and preparation notes.
- **Materials List** is a list of materials called for in the activity plans across the course. At this top level, materials are organized by unit.
- **Project-Based Learning** refers to plans and student materials to be used in a project-based learning experience within the course.

Models

There are many possible models, and each one can be modified and adapted to meet the specific needs of a district's program of instruction. Likely, your school/district has chosen one of the models below or is rooted in one of them.

Your first step is to determine the model your school/district uses to plan and pace daily work for students.

Models

Face-to-Face Driver
Teachers deliver most content and deploy online learning on a case-by-case basis.

Rotation
Students rotate between online learning and traditional, face-to-face instruction.

- Station Rotation
- Lab Rotation
- Individual Rotation

Flipped
Online coursework completed outside of school time. Face-to-face time used for teacher modeling, practice, and projects.

Flex
Online delivery for most content with teachers providing on-site support as needed.

À la Carte
Online course with teacher of record in combination with other face-to-face courses.

Enriched Virtual
Majority of coursework completed online with scheduled (but not daily) face-to-face time with a teacher.

Total learning time for your course is the sum of work done in onsite class sessions and online independent work. The first things to consider as you plan for pacing are:

- **How often and how long will I meet with students face-to-face?**
- **How can I maximize that face-to-face time?**

As you consider these questions, you'll also want to consider and balance your daily and weekly tasks as a teacher in support of your students. Some examples might include:

Daily teacher time

- Provide direct instruction.
- Check notifications from Courseware LMS.
- Identify struggling students.
- Respond to content-related questions.
- Read and contribute to online discussions.

Weekly teacher time

1. Preview upcoming learning activities.
2. Provide student feedback.
3. Enter scores/grade.
4. Evaluate your plan; adjust as needed.
5. Create, find, and share new material (if needed).

Lesson Planning — Your Daily Work Cadence

There are so many ways to organize your week and determine your weekly plan. Choose the planning structure that works best for you. One of the things you may find helpful is to lay out the big picture.

Below is an example of how the first semester of Mathematics 7 might span over the weeks of a semester.

SAMPLE: Mathematics 7 - Semester 1

Weeks 1-6: Number Properties & Operations	Weeks 7-12: Proportional Relationships	Weeks 13-18: Geometric Figures
Week 1 - Additive Inverses • New semester orientation • StrongMind Lesson 1	**Week 7 - Unit Rates - Graphing Relationships** • StrongMind Lesson 12 • StrongMind Lesson 13	**Week 13 - Scale Drawings & Triangles** • StrongMind Lesson 21 • StrongMind Lesson 22
Week 2 - Integers/Rational Numbers • StrongMind Lesson 2 • StrongMind Lesson 3	**Week 8 - Unit Rates - Diagrams & Tables** • StrongMind Lesson 14 • StrongMind Lesson 15	**Week 14 - Circles** • StrongMind Lesson 23
Week 3 - Subtraction • StrongMind Lesson 4 • StrongMind Lesson 5	**Week 9 - Unit Rates - Verbal Descriptions** • StrongMind Lesson 16 • End of Unit 3	**Week 15 - Angle Relationships** • StrongMind Lesson 24 • End of Unit 5
Week 4 - Addition/Subtraction/Multiplication • StrongMind Lesson 6 • End of Unit 1 • StrongMind Lesson 7	**Week 10 - Graphing, Tables & Diagrams** • StrongMind Lesson 17 • StrongMind Lesson 18	**Week 16 - Area & Surface Area** • StrongMind Lesson 25 • StrongMind Lesson 26
Week 5 - Products & Properties • StrongMind Lesson 8 • StrongMind Lesson 9	**Week 11 - Solving Equations & Percentages** • StrongMind Lesson 19	**Week 17 - Volume & Cross Sections** • StrongMind Lesson 27 • StrongMind Lesson 28
Week 6 - Division/Operations • StrongMind Lesson 10 • StrongMind Lesson 11 • End of Unit 2	**Week 12 - Problems with Percentages** • StrongMind Lesson 20 • End of Unit 4	**Week 18 - Review & Final** • StrongMind Lesson 29 • StrongMind Lesson 30 • End of Unit 6

Once you have the big picture in place, you can begin to plan the daily work for you and your students. Included here are some models that may help in your planning and decision making.

Please note that the examples include the first week of instruction with a new class. Time for orientation, which includes setting expectations and ensuring that technology is assigned and understood, is scheduled along with course content.

Your pacing can/will/should vary based on the needs of the students in your class and the hybrid model under which you are working.

Station Rotation Model

In the station rotation example below, class scheduling is done using a traditional scheduling pattern of 50 minutes per day, 5 days per week.

The pacing of materials in this example schedule is roughly 1.5 StrongMind lessons per week.

SAMPLE STATION ROTATION

Mathematics 7
Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Learning Goals	**Day 1 Expectations** Write number sentences with a sum of 0. Describe real-world situations in which opposite quantities combine to make 0.	Describe situations involving additive inverses. Represent additive inverses on number lines. Determine opposites for given contexts.	Write equations involving additive inverses from situations.		Find the sum of two integers with the same sign. Interpret the sum of two integers in a real-world context.
Teacher Station	*Rolling Number Sentences* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 1	*Hot Air Balloon Number Line* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 2	*Scenario Swap* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 3	Share out for *A Story of Additive Inverses* from StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 3	*Number Line Sum Race* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 1
Independent Station		*Flashcards for Describing Opposites* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 2	*A Story of Additive Inverses* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 3	StrongMind Mathematics 7 *Exploring Number Sentences* Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 1	*Integer Sum Memory Game* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 1
Online Station	**Courseware Introduction** StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 1 NOTE: For the first day, this online work should come before the teacher-directed and Independent work.	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 2	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 3	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 1	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 2

Flipped Models

Hybrid programs using a flipped model for instructional delivery have a wide variety of scheduling patterns for consideration.

In the first example below, flipped scheduling is done using a mostly traditional scheduling pattern of 50 minutes per day, 5 days per week.

The pacing of materials in this example schedule is just short of 2 StrongMind lessons per week.

Week 1 — Flipped Classroom/Traditional Schedule Example

SAMPLE FLIPPED MODEL

Mathematics 7
Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Learning Goals	**Day 1 Expectations** Write number sentences with a sum of 0. Describe real-world situations in which opposite quantities combine to make 0.	Describe situations involving additive inverses. Represent additive inverses on number lines. Determine opposites for given contexts.	Write equations involving additive inverses from situations.	Find the sum of two integers with the same sign. Interpret the sum of two integers in a real-world context.	Find the sum of two integers with the same sign. Interpret the sum of two integers in a real-world context.
Teacher Directed	*Rolling Number Sentences* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 1	*Hot Air Balloon Number Line* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 2	*Scenario Swap* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 3	*Number Line Sum Race* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 1	*Opposite Sign Tug-of-War* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 2
Independent Practice	**Courseware Introduction** StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 1 NOTE: For the first day, this online work should come before the teacher-directed instruction listed here.	*Flashcards for Describing Opposites* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 2	*A Story of Additive Inverses* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 3	*Integer Sum Memory Game* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 1	*Integer Addition Concept Web* StrongMind Activity Plan Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 2
Flipped Assignment (Online)	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 2	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 1, Activity 3	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 1	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 2	StrongMind Mathematics 7 Unit 1: Lesson 2, Activity 3

Project-Based Learning

Each hybrid course offering includes a project-based learning (PBL) opportunity. PBL projects are designed to stretch across 2 weeks within the semester and cover a subset of the standards in the course. These projects are optional and contain a full project calendar, driving question, standards, objectives, and student materials. They also tie in with StrongMind online lessons.

Adding these rich experiences to your calendar will impact the pacing of the work. For example, the PBL project for Mathematics 7 is for Unit 5 and asks students to take a close look at the use of scale drawings. To create space for student discovery, a shift in the semester plan is necessary. In this case, expanding the workload in week 11 and moving a lesson from week 13 to week 14 clears a path of time for the PBL project.

SAMPLE: Mathematics 7 - Semester 1 with Project-Based Learning

Weeks 1-6: Number Properties & Operations

Week 1 - Additive Inverses
- New semester orientation
- StrongMind Lesson 1

Week 2 - Integers/Rational Numbers
- StrongMind Lesson 2
- StrongMind Lesson 3

Week 3 - Subtraction
- StrongMind Lesson 4
- StrongMind Lesson 5

Week 4 - Addition/Subtraction/Multiplication
- StrongMind Lesson 6
- End of Unit 1
- StrongMind Lesson 7

Week 5 - Products & Properties
- StrongMind Lesson 8
- StrongMind Lesson 9

Week 6 - Division/Operations
- StrongMind Lesson 10
- StrongMind Lesson 11
- End of Unit 2

Weeks 7-12: Proportional Relationships

Week 7 - Unit Rates - Graphing Relationships
- StrongMind Lesson 12
- StrongMind Lesson 13

Week 8 - Unit Rates - Diagrams & Tables
- StrongMind Lesson 14
- StrongMind Lesson 15

Week 9 - Unit Rates - Verbal Descriptions
- StrongMind Lesson 16
- End of Unit 3

Week 10 - Graphing, Tables & Diagrams
- StrongMind Lesson 17
- StrongMind Lesson 18

Week 11 - Solving Equations & Percentages
- StrongMind Lesson 19
- StrongMind Lesson 20
- End of Unit 4

Week 12 - Project-Based Learning
- Driving Question: How can scale drawings be used to design a house?

Weeks 13-18: Geometric Figures

Week 13 - Project-Based Learning
- StrongMind Lesson 21

Week 14 - Triangles & Circles
- StrongMind Lesson 22
- StrongMind Lesson 23

Week 15 - Angle Relationships
- StrongMind Lesson 24
- End of Unit 5

Week 16 - Area & Surface Area
- StrongMind Lesson 25
- StrongMind Lesson 26

Week 17 - Volume & Cross Sections
- StrongMind Lesson 27
- StrongMind Lesson 28

Week 18 - Review & Final
- StrongMind Lesson 29
- StrongMind Lesson 30
- End of Unit 6