

UMBRELLA ACADEMY

Where Leaders Grow, Communities Thrive



The Hybrid Guide

2026 – 2027 School Year

Everything hybrid families need to know

UMBRELLA ACADEMY

6140 E Peak View, Cave Creek, AZ



Hybrid Families, Welcome

We are so glad to support your child this year.

If you chose a hybrid plan, this guide is for you. It covers exactly how hybrid works at Umbrella Academy, what happens on school days and home days, how to choose your days, and how to change them when life changes.

One thing we want to say clearly at the start: **hybrid does not mean part of the class**. It means at school on some days and at home on others. On their designated days, your child is here, fully in the rhythm — same rotations, same lunch table, same community, same expectations, same welcome at the door. Nobody is a visitor in their own classroom.

How Hybrid Works

◆ School days

Your child attends on their designated days and is part of everything: literacy and math rotations, special programs, outdoor time, life skills, lunch, and community circle. They have their own cubby, their own house shoes and boots, their own place. Their teachers know them and plan for them.

◆ Home days

On home days, your child brings their curriculum materials home and works on them there. The work is the same work — only the room changes. Materials go home with your child on their last school day of the week and come back with them on their next one.

◆ What comes home

Home-day materials can include workbooks, worksheets, and hands-on tools. If you'd like, we can also send a **Chromebook with the curriculum loaded on it**, so your child can work through the same digital programs at home that they use at school. This is optional — tell us on the sign-up form which you'd prefer.

◆ Assessment and progress

Hybrid students take the **NWEA MAP Growth** assessment on the same schedule as everyone else — three times a year, in August, December, and May — and their learning plan is built the same way: we spend the first two weeks getting to know them, then build a curriculum around what they actually need.



Choosing Your Days

Whether you're on a **two-day** or a **three-day** plan, we need to know which days your child will be here. Please tell us before each quarter begins.

WHY WE NEED YOUR DAYS IN ADVANCE

Knowing who is here on which day is how we staff the room, prepare materials, group children for rotations, and cook the right amount of food. A day we don't know about is a day we haven't planned for — and the child who shows up to it is the one who feels it.

Your days can change every quarter

Your days are **not locked in for the year**. Before each new quarter, we'll send the sign-up form again. You can keep the days you have or choose new ones — no explanation needed. Families change jobs, sports seasons start, a schedule that worked in September stops working in January. That is normal, and we built for it.

If something needs to change *mid-quarter*, tell us. We would far rather adjust than have your family stuck in a schedule that isn't working. We just ask for as much notice as you can give, so we can re-plan staffing and materials around it.

Our quarters

Quarter	Dates	Sign-up form sent
Quarter 1	August 5 – October 9	Before the first day of school
Quarter 2	October 19 – December 18	During Fall Break
Quarter 3	January 4 – March 12	Before Winter Break ends
Quarter 4	March 22 – May 28	During Spring Break

To choose or change your days, use the hybrid schedule form. It takes two minutes. We'll confirm your days by email.



Travel, Absences & Practicalities

Traveling?

Some of our families will still be traveling when school opens on August 5th. Others will travel later in the year. Both are completely fine — travel is one of the best educations a child can get, and we would rather your child go and come back full of it.

We only ask that you **let us know your dates**, using the travel form. Knowing when you're away lets us hold your child's place, set the right number of lunches, and — if you want it — send curriculum materials with you so your child doesn't lose their thread while you're gone.

What lives at school

Hybrid students get a cubby just like everyone else. House shoes, closed-toe ankle boots, a sun hat, and (for K–2) a comfort item all stay here all year. The only thing your child carries back and forth is their water bottle and their home-day materials.

Lunch

A fresh, homemade lunch is provided on every school day your child attends — there is nothing to pack. Please tell us about any allergies or dietary needs in advance.

Staying connected

Hybrid families get the same weekly recaps, updates, and announcements as everyone else, by email and text. You are just as much a part of this community, and we want you to feel it.

Family members are always warmly invited to join us at school — for a full day, part of a day, or just for lunch. There is a separate sign-up form for that, too.

THE THREE FORMS — AND WHEN TO USE THEM

Hybrid schedule form — before each quarter, to choose or change your child's school days.

Travel form — any time you'll be away, whether at the start of the year or later.

Family visit form — whenever you'd like to spend a day, part of a day, or a lunch with us.

Questions? Email julia@umbrella-academy.com or call (480) 694-5438. If something about hybrid isn't working for your family, tell us early — there is almost always a way to make it work.