At Hickman High School in Clinton, Kentucky, math teacher Kaitlyn Workman has been using EdReady with 57 high school sophomores and juniors to help them prepare for the ACT, reach math benchmarks for senior-year classes, and be ready for college math. In this interview, Workman outlines how she uses EdReady for student success.

How long do students work in EdReady per week?

In the majority of my classes, we are working in EdReady on individual Chromebooks two days a week in class. I do have a collaborative math class with our Special Education students, and they get an extra day to work if the schedule for the week allows. Typically, students work two 50-minute periods a week, during class. Any additional study is required outside of class. I make myself available in the computer lab for 45 minutes two days a week (outside of my normal tutoring day) for those who might not have access to a computer or internet at home, or for those who just need additional instruction to be able to complete the lessons.

What is the goal they have for each week?

I created notecards that show each student their weekly goals. To calculate those goals, I found the difference between their initial score and their EdReady target score, then divided that number by 12 (we are running on a 12-week schedule). This created weekly goals that ranged anywhere from 3 to 5 points in EdReady. If the range did not evenly divide, I placed greater jumps at the beginning, when students would be more likely to test out of sections.

Do students get classroom grades for working in EdReady?

Yes! We all have those students who simply would not complete the program if I didn’t. They receive a weekly homework grade calculated as a percentage out of the 15 points. It is a little time consuming to keep up with, but I created a spreadsheet where I recorded each student’s weekly goals, then went in on Monday mornings, ran the report, and filled in their scores for the previous week. This allowed students to work through weekends.

Do they stop other instruction and work on EdReady exclusively?

Yes, but what I have found is that, even though it means I’m losing two days of instruction, they are growing leaps and bounds with the basic principles they learned in middle school but have forgotten along the way. It has been amazing to see how the students have improved their work with fractions, statistics, etc. It also means that I have to be more selective with the lessons I choose. I have still covered all of the major topics I had originally planned, I just may not go as in-depth with the material as I would have, given the other two days of EdReady time.

Score gains for one of Workman’s classes with 12 students, where the median initial EdReady score was 42 (out of 100) and the most recent median EdReady score was 91.