

Zahrat Al-Sahra'a International School

2020-2021

Readiness in COVID-19

Online Learning Environment (OLE)



Equipping young leaders with superlative knowledge and adaptable social skills through contribution, updated technology and resources, enthusiasm, equality, conscientiousness, commitment and quality assurance.



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Zahrat Al-Sahra'a
International School



@zsisSchool

ONLINE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (OLE)

The learning experience during the COVID-19 pandemic might be scary and stressful. However, in ZSIS, we try to make this experience as easy and as successful as possible. We have put all of our efforts in preparation for this period. Our main goals are:



An obstacle-free journey We have chosen the friendliest platform available by Google for an easy access by students and parents alike.

Flexible learning experience All lesson explanations are recorded so the student is allowed to go back to them any time of the day and during revision for tests. Students will also be allowed to meet with the teacher in case of his/her inability to reach a particular resource or to understand a certain lesson.



High achievement levels Assessments and tests will continue to be held on time. Difficult lessons are enriched with a variety of resources to make it easier for all students to understand. ZSIS students are not allowed to falter and we are there to support them throughout the way.

Exciting, engaging, and stress-free time A student's learning experience should not only involve reading off books and completing written assignments. Students are there to learn to interact with one another, discuss topics, engage in experiments, etc. We apply that by assigning small group discussions, video presentation projects, and encouraging the use of materials other than the usual stationery (especially in kindergarten).



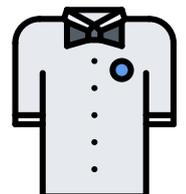
YOUR ROLE, PARENT!

Before helping your child, you have to be convinced that online learning will be very beneficial to your child. He/she will acquire the required skills for his/her grade level as smoothly as possible.



Help your child develop a new routine. An early bedtime and an early rise are important for energetic learners. Students of all ages need between 8-10 hours of sleep at night for a healthy brain that is ready to learn new material.

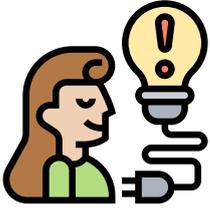
Encourage your child to do the schoolwork while wearing the school uniform or a plain shirt of the same color. This guarantees a sense of discipline that will be reflected on the work.





Prepare a quiet area for studying. The students should have their own quiet study area.

Set a timer for work. Students are expected to get bored and fidgety when sitting alone. Always give proper break times and encourage a sense of accomplishment when the work is completed.



Avoid assistance. Allow your daughter/son to show the teacher what s/he can and cannot do. Leave room for mistakes so we teachers can correct them and reteach when needed. After all, we are not looking for false perfect performance.

Make sure you have good internet access and your audio and camera are connected and working well.



In case of difficulty in reaching a particular website or completing an assigned task, you are requested to contact the teacher immediately. Teachers are there to assist you.

Photos or screenshots of students during live sessions is strictly prohibited, especially at the Girls' Section.



TEACHERS

Teachers have been professionally prepared to deliver the curriculum online. They have been equipped with the trainings and technical resources needed to implement the perfect virtual lesson.

PLATFORM

Google Classroom is used for all subjects from Preschool through High School. Additional platforms might be used to cater the need of different aged students. Kindergarten is also using Seesaw for a friendlier work experience. Lessons will be delivered through recorded and live sessions. Additional resources from YouTube and online academies are used to enhance the delivery of some lessons.

PRESCHOOL TO K

A daily morning message will be sent by the teacher. Accordingly, students will know how to proceed throughout the school day step by step.



Assessments will be held in large groups through assigned tests and in small groups through live chats.

Kindergarten students will also be receiving a kit of manipulative to allow a positive learning experience at home under the direct guidance of our teachers. The kits will serve as the workstations that they were always used to visit in class.



GRADES 1 TO 12

The school day for students will be from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm for Grades 7 to 12 and from 3:00 PM to around 8:00 PM for Grades 1 to 6.



LIVE

Students will have scheduled recorded sessions done by the teacher followed by live sessions. Attendance is obligatory since these sessions will not be recorded.

Parents will be informed once books are ready to pick up from school. Meanwhile, teachers will provide everything needed online.



Lesson-related activities will be assigned to students on Google Classroom. These tasks will be worksheets prepared by the teacher or links to assignments.

Assessments will be conducted through online platforms at a schedule that will be set later as we start our journey.

-  Grades 1 to 6 will have 4 to 5 subjects a day. Live sessions will be 45 minutes long.
-  Grades 7 to 12 will have five subjects a day. Live sessions will follow the 20-minute recorded sessions/timed worksheets and will be 40 minutes long.

We would like to point out that the schedules are done taking into consideration the attention span of each age group and to limit screen time.

KEY EXPECTATIONS FOR HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our virtual classrooms are real classrooms with real teachers; therefore, appropriate student behavior in keeping with our school values and behavior policy is expected.

Think before you communicate: be courteous and polite. It can be tempting to slip into a way of speaking that you are used to online but that may not be appropriate when communicating with your teacher.

Write using full words and sentences and correct grammar.

If there is something you don't understand or you do not agree with then ask questions in a polite respectful manner.

By your comments and actions, show your appreciation for contributions of others in the learning forum

Be honest and submit work that is your own



ORIENTATION

At ZSIS, we value the parent-teacher-student bond and believe that a positive bond leads to better results.



At the Kindergarten department, we plan to meet with the students and their parents on campus during strictly appointed meetings. All meetings will be held in precautionary manner - social distancing, transparent shields, and masks on faces in a disinfected area.

For grades 1 to 12, ice-breaking activities during the first week will be held to ensure that students get to know each other, teachers know their students, and students are able to use our platforms without facing problems.

REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

Teachers will communicate with parents through the ZSIS School System to inform them about their attendance, behavior, and academic progress.

Attendance will be taken during live sessions, daily.

Student assessments will be graded and a record will be issued in the form of their progress report cards.

Upon return, the school staff will make sure to cover any gaps that were not covered during online classes.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Behind the scenes, of what students and parents experience on our OLE, a vast amount of additional and often underestimated, time-consuming work is being conducted by teachers as they:

Evaluate the reception and efficacy of past lessons

Meet to plan and prepare new lessons

Mark and give meaningful feedback on the work students produce

Assess and keep records

Respond to parent queries

Prepare e-worksheets from scratch keeping skills in mind.

