



Virtual Learning Plan School Year 2020/2021

Update August 31st, 2020

Virtual Learning Plan

There is a virtual learning option for students whose parents/guardians choose not to send them to school for in-person learning in September. This plan would also include in-school students who are required to quarantine due to Covid-19.

This plan is continually being updated as circumstances change, please keep this in mind. An updated version of this plan will be provided when adjustments are made.

By its very nature, virtual learning is not the same learning experience as what students experience when attending in-person at school. Virtual learning will be provided by the same teacher that is teaching the class at school. As well, the amount of contact time with teachers and peers each day will differ, compared to the daily school experience. There will be separate outlines for elementary and secondary students.

Due to Virtual Learning relying so on many different types of technology to function, there will inevitably be times where live streams are not possible/functioning. Heritage Academy will do everything possible to ensure that this happens as infrequently as possible, but acknowledges that this is a component of Virtual learning.

Teachers that have virtual student's will provide those students with a link to an online meeting (zoom) for that class. Attendance will be taken daily and students are expected to observe and participate (depending on the lesson) appropriately.

Virtual lessons will be provided only when required (confirmed virtual learner or Covid-19 related quarantine) and recordings of sessions are not permitted/provided. Students are expected to attend the virtual classroom and missing a virtual class will be the same as missing an in-school class.

The educator's goal is to have the virtual stream online within the first 5 minutes of class, and will be ending the sessions within the last 5-10 minutes of class.

In order to eliminate as many in-class distractions as possible virtual learner's microphones will be muted. Virtual learners will be able to ask the teacher questions in the chat bar, or through email; educators will do their best to include their input during lessons. (This does not apply to one-on-one learning)

The remote learning program will use the following tools to provide online instruction to students. This may be subject to change as we are always looking to be more efficient and use the best applications for our students' needs.

SeeSaw
Edmodo
Zoom

Elementary:

Junior students will be following along with their homeroom teacher for their core classes. Each Virtual student will be provided with apx. 4 hours of instruction /class time (Language, Math, Social Sciences) through the streaming of these classes. These classes will coincide with the individual class's schedule. Student's schedules will be provided to students at the beginning of the school year.

Students will be provided with tasks and assignments in the other subjects being taught (eg. Art and Phys-ed) but there will not be a virtual class option for these activities.

Secondary

Senior students learning virtually will be following along with the teacher teaching the class at school. All senior classes are 75 minutes in duration and students will be provided with a zoom stream of the approximately the first hour of class. The remaining time will be dedicated to supporting in-class learners.

Virtual learners will be provided with synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities. Attendance will be taken on a daily basis for each course in the same manner as the in-class learning experience. Virtual classes follow the in-school schedule.

Please take into consideration that this is a new process and there will be bugs to work out. Our learning relies on many factors that can have issues so please be patient as we work it out. Students learning virtually will have opportunities for live contact with a teacher and synchronous learning each day.

A virtual study hall is in development and we hope to have that in place once the school year starts and we have our final student list.

S.M.T.

Any junior students who have S.M.T. scheduled during the day will have their S.M.T. lessons take precedence over their Language class (when they are at the same time).

This would constitute their Language lesson for the day. Any virtual learners that have S.M.T. scheduled outside of regular classes will have their S.M.T. lesson during the regular scheduled time slot.

Switching Between In-Person and Virtual Learning

As a great deal of planning and organization is required to teach a class both in-person and virtually, we ask that all Parents finalize their child's learning plan by Friday, September 11th, 2020. After this deadline only extenuating circumstances will be considered for a change of learning strategy. Please contact the director for additional information.

Teacher Absences

Due to multiple factors (including confidentiality concerns regarding parent contact information), when an educator is absent and a supply teacher is needed there will be no virtual classes for that teacher on that day. Students would instead be supplied with activities via email or online platform (Edmodo/SeeSaw etc.)

Extended Student Absences

Virtual classes are not provided for regular illness and absences from the classroom. If a student is unable to attend class for more than 2 days due to COVID-19 quarantine then virtual learning may be applicable in that situation. Please contact the director for additional information if you feel that this situation applies to your child.