



30 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Implementing National Home-Based Learning Days

As you know by now, we have put in place strict COVID-19 precautionary measures over the past two months to keep our school a safe environment for our students, and to allow our students to continue learning. This letter gives you details about the updated plans, including home-based learning.

1. Daily School Dismissals

- With the recent spike in imported cases and the tightening of nationwide safe distancing efforts, we are further enhancing precautionary measures by ensuring transient congestion during school dismissal. Students are already staggered in dismissal times by their timetable. Additionally, students leave the school through three school gates. This ensures that students do not gather in large groups during dismissal.

2. Thursdays are National Home-Based Learning Days for Secondary Schools

- From April 2020, all MOE schools will implement one day of Home-Based Learning (HBL) a week. This will help us prepare for an extended period of HBL should the need arise, so that our students can continue with their learning.
- Our school will be conducting **HBL on Thursdays, starting from 2 April 2020**.
- In the event that the day of HBL falls on a public holiday, your child will not need to make up for HBL on another day.
- Classroom lessons will still proceed as usual on the other days of the week.

3. School will ensure students are prepared for HBL Days

- Many of our teachers have already been preparing your child for HBL. For example, students are now familiar with the online Student Learning Space (SLS) and access to their account. Students have also been using a blend of digital and face-to-face learning in class.
- This Wednesday, our teachers will reinforce all this again and ensure your child has the instructions on how to access HBL materials. This includes, knowing how to tap the technical hotline if needed.
- The Customised Timetable for HBL and Daily Assignment Plan which contains instructions for the HBL lessons will be made available on the school website. The HBL Day will begin at 8 am and end at 2 pm, with 30-minute breaks in between lessons. FTs will also check-in on your child's well-being at the end of the HBL Day.
- If your child requires additional support for HBL, alert the Form Teacher **by Wednesday, 1 April 2020** to give us time to work with your child on alternative arrangements.

4. How to support your child in HBL

The HBL activities are designed to be completed independently. Your child is expected to stay at home from 8 am to 2 pm for the Customised Timetable lessons. Here are some suggestions to ensure HBL is successful at home.

- Work out a daily schedule with your child and guide him/her to set goals and schedule tasks. Display this clearly in the home. When a task is completed, strike it off. Make sure your child has breakfast before HBL begins at 8 am.
(More tips at <https://go.gov.sg/selresforparents>.)
- Establish an agreement with your child on managing screen time of a handphone or computer. The school will assign a daily maximum of 2 hours of online learning.
(More tips at <https://ictconnection.moe.edu.sg/cyber-wellness/for-parents>.)
- Encourage your child to maintain an optimistic and positive outlook while accepting the changes and emotions that he/she has had to face as part of going through HBL.

Ensure that your child stays at home and continues with good hygiene practices such as washing hands frequently with soap. If your child feels unwell, see the doctor promptly and inform the Form Teacher if there are fever or flu-like symptoms.

5. CCAs and External Activities

The Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation will be cancelled. The following will remain suspended for the rest of Term 2: Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs), external activities and those that involve mingling of students across schools, e.g. the National School Games.

6. Live streamed Assembly Talk by Principal

On Friday 27 March, I held a live stream assembly talk with all the students in their classes. There was a Q&A segment, followed by a lesson which ended with student reflections that impressed me and gives me confidence. Our students are sensible and want the best for their loved ones and community. They understand the larger implications of the severe precautionary measures that enforce social distancing. Most of all, while they hope for the best, they know we must be prepared for all scenarios. These HBL Days are part of proactive plans to ensure learning can continue.

MOE is monitoring the situation closely and we will update you of any changes to the precautionary measures. We partner closely with you to guide your child in these unusual times, with many teachable moments.

Please do not hesitate to contact our Year Heads if you have any queries.

- Year Head Upper Sec: Mr Mok Boon Foong 64560669 ext. 118
- Year Head Lower Sec: Ms Kelly Cho 64560669 ext. 205

Thank you for your understanding and support. Keep safe and stay in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Carol Lim, Principal