

## FAQs ABOUT MIS REMOTE LEARNING

SY 2021 - 2022

(updated June 24, 2021)

The COVID-19 situation has prompted all schools to move away from brick-and-mortar classrooms to digital classrooms. For school year 2021 - 2022, MIS continues to deliver its brand of education online through a primarily remote learning approach.

In *remote learning*, the lessons, topics and activities are delivered asynchronously using the MIS digital classrooms, which are viewable 24/7. Visual and performing arts, music and practical activities will be integrated in the lessons. The lessons are presented or followed up through weekly synchronous classes (real-time online classes) that allow live student-teacher interaction. This type of learning also allows MIS to bring the Philippine and Montessori curriculum to learners, no matter where they are.

Blended learning is another approach, which is a combination on remote learning and limited on-site school visits. However, this approach has not been approved for all schools by the DepEd due to the ongoing pandemic. **Thus, we shall not offer the blended/regular approach for SY 2021 – 2022.**

Through remote learning, MIS stands by its commitment to deliver quality Philippine education through the Montessori way.

Below are some of the most-frequently asked questions from parents:

- [When will SY 2021-2022 classes begin at MIS?](#)

**Grade 1 – 12 classes will begin on July 14, 2021. Preschool and Kinder classes will begin on August 2, 2021.**

- [What equipment is needed for remote learning?](#)

Students will need a good internet connection, a laptop or desk top, a headset (with mic) and the Zoom app. A printer for downloadable material may also be needed.

- [Where and how will remote learning be conducted?](#)

Remote learning will primarily take place in digital classrooms (DCs) that have been set up on the Moodle platform. Students will be registered on Moodle, which will then send log-in details to the student's email address to allow entry into the digital classroom. Each student should have a unique email address for this purpose.

Once in the digital classroom, students will be able to view those classes in which he or she is enrolled. Students navigate through the platform and click on their classes to open topics, assignments, etc. Students accomplish the activities and submit them through the DC. This type of self-paced and self-driven learning is called *asynchronous class*.

- How many hours per day is the program for remote learning?

The general learning time is from 9 am until 3 pm, Mondays till Fridays. This time period helps give a structure to children's home study routines.

Once a day, a subject teacher schedules a *synchronous session* (live online class) to present and follow up the topics in the DC. These synchronous sessions may last from 1 hour to 1.5 hours. In the primary and kinder classes, the live classes are split into short sessions of 30 minutes each.

The rest of the student's learning time is spent on *asynchronous learning* – viewing, reading and doing the activities in the DC. Some of the lessons will be downloadable as worksheets, while others will be videos, slides or simple task instructions. Outputs will be in the form of accomplished worksheets, videos showing the student performing a task, and written activities.

Quizzes and exams are also given using the DC.

- Will there be a schedule per day for online discussions so that students will be looking forward to it?

Yes. Schedules for the synchronous classes are announced ahead of time in the digital classroom, and participants are extended an invitation by the teacher through email. Since the video sessions cannot be recorded because of privacy concerns, students should be present for all live discussions.

- How will the kids know what to do first?

The sequence of activities and topics is arranged by day, so that it is easy for parents and children to know where to start and where to end. The teachers will ensure that the workload will be easy to accomplish and not too long, so that online learning will continue to remain fun for the learner. To view the DC's lessons, all learners need to do is scroll down the screen. The DC also has a taskbar feature which allows a learner to see the upcoming schedule of activities. It also shows how long these activities will be open. The student needs to accomplish the work and submit this before the activity closes.

- What kinds of lessons or activities should we expect?

For the regular school year, Elementary and Junior High School students will have 5 major subjects: Languages (English and Filipino), Math, Science, Social Studies and PE and Wellness. **Each day of the week will feature one major subject as the main lesson.**

The main lesson will be delivered through a synchronous class that may last from an hour to up to 1.5 hours. During this time, the teacher will hold class discussions about the current topic.

The rest of the learning time will be devoted to asynchronous learning – the students view and read that subject's materials on the DC, and accomplish the tasks. Because the DC is 24/7, lessons and materials can be viewed anytime. However, submissions will be open only for a specific period (usually 7 am until 9 pm).

The teaching approach will be integrated where possible. Arts, music, TLE, HELE and other non-academic activities can be inserted as part of the academic lessons. For example, in

Science, a remote learning activity may ask a student to cook a viand. While cooking, the student takes note of the physical and chemical changes in matter. This activity merges TLE and Science. The cooking is then recorded on video, and the student can talk during the video about the changes in matter, also targeting English. Thus, when the video is uploaded, portions of the student's performance go into Science, TLE and English (co-grading). This approach ensures a healthy balance of academics and non-academics.

- [What about tests and quizzes?](#)

The DC's task bar will show the date when quizzes and tests will be available to students. The learner takes the quiz or test when these are open. Re-takes can be programmed by the teacher to allow a specific number of attempts. However, once the student clicks on the test or quiz to open it, he will have to complete it.

Learners can definitely expect to receive quizzes and tests per subject. However, this will not happen every day, since departments will work to ensure that balanced learning takes place.

Students who are unable to take tests and quizzes for legitimate reasons can communicate with the teacher regarding this.

- [What about books?](#)

Books and uniforms are not necessary for remote learning, because the material will be uploaded into the digital classroom.

- [Is it possible for a child to do all the activities in one or two days?](#)

Teachers put a lot of thought into the sequence of subject matter – presentation, follow-up and assessment. The sequence follows a timetable which opens tasks or activities in chronological order, with particular dates and times, and then closes them. This allows diverse learners to go through lessons at their own pace, within a reasonable learning period.

- [When parents send email, what is the turn-around time?](#)

Teachers will monitor the DC and do synchronous classes within the 9 am – 3 pm learning period. During this time, they are expected to answer email, respond to messages in the chat area and do consults with parents. If an email is sent to a teacher after this time, it is reasonable to expect a reply the following day.

- [In remote learning, do we also respect holidays and no-class days?](#)

There will be no synchronous classes on these days, and teachers will not assign new tasks or submissions. However, the lessons will still be viewable on the DC.

- [Is the remote learning program designed so that children can be independent?](#)

Yes. For older children, the remote learning program would require very little parent supervision, perhaps only in technical troubleshooting. However, younger children will definitely need active parent participation to be able to carry out the activities.

- How can young children do online learning? My preschooler cannot read yet.

Parents of learners in MCH and Lower Elementary levels have to actively support their children's distance learning, as this medium of instruction is vastly different from face-to-face interactions in regular classes. At times, the instructions on the subject matter will be addressed to the parents, so that they can do these with the children. Younger children will also need help with technical setup, troubleshooting, and establishing a home study routine. Thus, parental involvement is critical for online learning to be successful.

- Pure remote learning fees include technical services. What are these?

Technical services include monthly fees for our It infrastructure -- all the service fees needed to maintain and host the digital classroom sites and content, the monthly fees for digital classroom technical management and troubleshooting, and the monthly fees for our school internet, enrollment system database and upkeep.

- What happens to remote learning if on-site classes are allowed to resume by the government?

Regardless of whether on-site classes are allowed to resume within the school year, in MIS, *the digital classrooms and synchronous classes shall continue to deliver lessons online through remote learning.*