



Dear K-5 parents,

We are just a few days away from the start of the school year and are excited to welcome our ALS students and parents to the 2020 - 2021 academic year. The ALS leadership team and teaching staff have worked together to create a virtual plan that will suit the needs of our community and IB curriculum.

Class Placements

I know you are anxious to know who your child's teacher is and what the daily schedule will look like. We have been hard at work finalizing both of these. Many parents have requested their children be grouped with certain children or with specific teachers. We have used Class Creator this year to help create balanced classes and as the school is growing we can no longer accommodate parent requests. Please know the teachers are collaborating and working together more closely than ever, so children at the same grade level in different classes will have the same overall experience. Please make sure to settle last year's tuition fees to ensure that there is no delay in your child joining virtual school.

Getting Ready for the First Day

We are busily preparing for our first day of school on Sunday, August 30. Please continue to check your email on **Thursday, August 27** for the following information which will be sent to you in separate emails:

- Your child's username, password, and login instructions. Keep that info handy, as it will be needed the first day of school.
- The link to join classroom meetings and live lessons; this, too will be needed the first day
- Your child's class placement; this will be sent in the afternoon on **Saturday, August 29**.
- The weekly schedule for your child's class. They will be similar to the **sample** schedule shared below. Our start time for virtual learning will be 9:00 am every day for students. Ending times will be 2:00 pm for KG1 and KG2 and 3:00 pm for Grades 1-5.



- There will be a balance of asynchronous/synchronous learning and time on/off screen

Homeroom Teacher:					TA:
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
8:00-9:00	Teacher - planning, preparation and posting				
09:00 - 9:15	ZOOM HOMEROOM				
Session 1 09:15-09:45	Zoom Mathematics	Zoom Mathematics	Zoom Mathematics	Zoom Mathematics	Zoom Mathematics
Session 2 10:00-10:30	Individual Work on math assignments	Individual Work on math assignments	Individual Work on math assignments	Individual Work on math assignments	Individual Work on math assignments
Session 3 10:30-11:00	Zoom Arabic	Zoom Arabic	Zoom Arabic	Zoom Arabic	Zoom Arabic
Session 4 11:00-11:30	Individual Work on Arabic assignments	Individual Work on Arabic assignments	Individual Work on Arabic assignments	Individual Work on Arabic assignments	Individual Work on Arabic assignments
Session 5 11:30-12:00	Zoom Small Group Reading Sessions	Zoom Small Group Reading Sessions	Zoom Small Group Reading Sessions	Zoom Small Group Reading Sessions	Google Meet Link K-5 Assembly
12:00-13:00	Lunch and Prayer				
Session 6 13:00-13:30	Zoom Language Arts	Zoom Language Arts	Zoom Language Arts	Zoom Language Arts	Zoom Language Arts
Session 7 13:30-14:00	Individual Work on LA assignments	Individual Work on LA assignments	Individual Work on LA assignments	Individual Work on LA assignments	Individual Work on LA assignments
Session 8 14:00-14:30	Zoom Physical Education	Zoom Art	Zoom ICT	Zoom Islamic Studies	Zoom Islamic Studies
Session 9 14:30-15:00	Zoom UOI	Zoom UOI	Zoom UOI	Zoom UOI	Zoom UOI
15:00 - 15:30	Teacher - Office Hour				

Just as in a typical year, the focus of the first days of school will be on getting to know one another and building a class community. The complex social environment of a classroom is one in which students and teachers converse, share experiences, and participate in activities that, together, make for engaged learning, lifelong skills and memories. We are committed to helping our students feel connected to their learning and to each other despite our physical distance. The start of the school year will be centered around building community and relationships and learning the technology so the schedule the first week will look different than typical.



Books and Supplies

ALS teachers and administrators are preparing a package for every student that will include all of the books and notebooks that will be used during the virtual learning period. We will announce the pick up date and time for each grade level beforehand.

We kindly ask that you provide your child with the recommended school materials and supplies below. Your child will need these supplies while participating in online learning or individual tasks.

KG1 and KG2	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4 and 5
Mini white board Set of white board markers Board eraser 1 Bottle liquid glue 2 Glue sticks Colored craft paper 1 box of pencils 1 sharpener Erasers 1 box of colored pencils 1 box of crayons 1 box of markers 1 pair safety scissors White paper Playdough Magnets Dice Small objects for counting to 20 Paintbrush Watercolor paints	Mini white board Set of white board markers Board eraser 1 Bottle liquid glue 2 Glue sticks Colored craft paper 1 box of pencils 1 sharpener Erasers 1 box of colored pencils 1 box of crayons 1 box of markers 1 pair safety scissors White paper Playdough Magnets Colored counters Paintbrush Watercolor paints	1 box of pencils 1 pack of Faber Castell colored pencils Erasers 1 or 2 sharpeners 1 small whiteboard 1 pack of board markers 1 board eraser 1 pair of scissors 3 big UHU Glue Sticks Sticky notes 1 pack of colored paper 1 inch/ cm ruler Colored paints 1 paintbrush Zipper Pocket Files (a set of 5) in case students need to file their work per subject	1 box of pencils Colored pencils Water colors Erasers sharpeners 1whiteboard pack of board markers board eraser pair of scissors 3 big UHU Glue Sticks Sticky notes 1 pack of colored and white paper I lined writing pad 1 inch/ cm ruler Colored paints 1 paintbrush 3 Pocket Files LA, Math, and UOI	1 box of pencils Colored pencils Erasers sharpeners 1whiteboard pack of board markers board eraser pair of scissors 3 big UHU Glue Sticks Sticky notes 1 pack of colored and white paper I lined writing pad 1 inch/ cm ruler Notebooks Colored markers A pack of A3 hard papers Sticky notes 3 Pocket Files: LA, Math, and UOI Water bottle



What's New?

Teachers spent much of the summer learning about some technology enhancements to virtual learning:

- Zoom will be used for live classes by homeroom teachers and all specialist teachers.
- Class Dojo will be used by all K-5 teachers to communicate with parents.
- Google Classroom will be the platform for all assignments for K-5.
- We will be using various apps, websites, and features of Google Classroom which will enhance the virtual learning experience of students.
- Students facing difficulties can access school once a week through a booking system in which they can meet their homeroom teacher, Arabic teacher or support teacher.

We all wish we could deliver instruction face to face with students and wish the COVID-19 situation was different as we begin our school year. However, it is our duty to care for the well-being and safety of all students. We look forward to the day when we can welcome our students back on campus. Meanwhile, you can trust that our amazing K-5 team of teachers and support staff are preparing a school year that will support all our students socially, emotionally and academically the very best we can. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate our way through 2020-2021.