



Nanjing International School
An **Inclusive Learning Community**

Distance Learning Plan
School Year 2021

Preparing for learning...

- ❖ At Nanjing International School, we are working hard to ensure that we are as prepared as possible in the event of campus closure. Being in the fortunate position of having all grade levels start 2021 on campus and reflecting upon our experiences of the past year, we are well-positioned as we plan for any future disruption.
- ❖ The document is designed to give our community an overview of this planning, how we might adapt to different scenarios, and a chance to address frequently asked questions. We hope this is both helpful and reassuring as we work to craft the best possible plan for our students, families and entire learning community.



Learning Continues...

- ❖ Though we recognize that distance learning and on-campus learning are not the same, our goal of academic continuity remains...
Our faculty can provide quality teaching and learning that allows students to meet expected outcomes in any learning environment.

Distance Learning, like all learning at NIS,...

- ...is rooted in our Mission and Strategy.
- ...is based upon our existing curriculum.
- ...leverages existing blended learning platforms.
- ...prioritizes relationships and communication.
- ...remains adaptive to our situation and context.



Distance Learning at NIS

We have learned a lot regarding distance learning. Feedback, reflection, and preparation have helped us to become better positioned to support continuity of learning by refining our **focus** and strengthening our **tools**.



*Age-appropriate blend
of synchronous and
asynchronous learning*



*Focus on connections
and classroom
communities*



**Prioritize
communication and
community support**



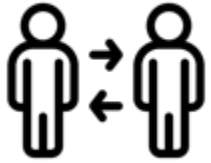
**Remain dedicated to
child protection & peer-
to-peer safeguarding**



Level One: On-Campus Learning

In this scenario, all NIS students have access to campus.

This is our default and preferred method of learning.



All required and necessary safety measures remain in place.



Co-curricular activities run as normal.



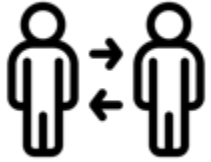
No distance learning plan is required



Level Two: Blended Learning

In this scenario, some NIS students have access to campus and some do not.

We provide a blend of on-campus and distance learning based on need.



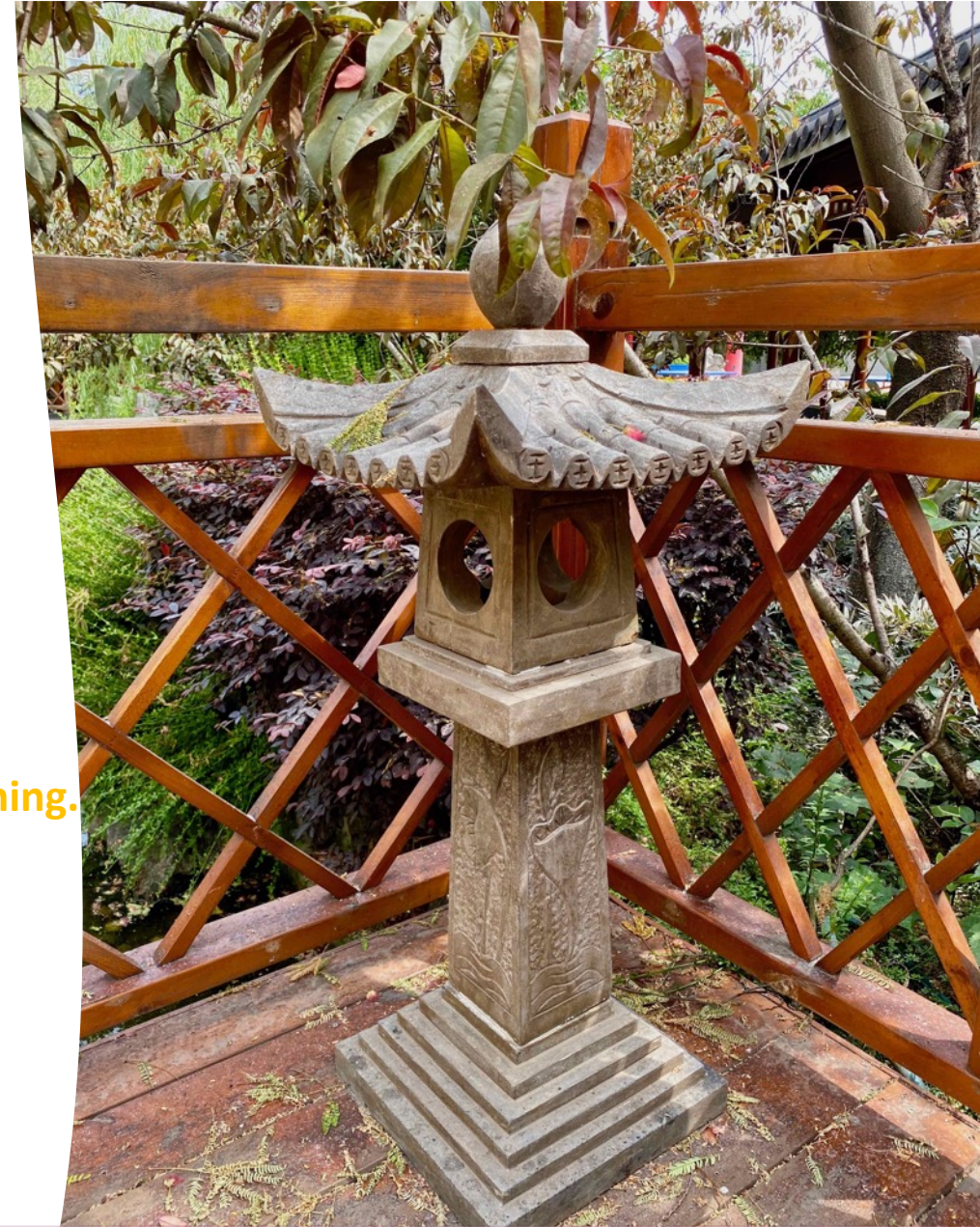
All required and necessary safety measures remain in place.



Students unable to return to campus engage in Distance Learning.



Distance Learning continues through arrival & delayed entry.



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**Inspiring International Mindedness,
Personal Excellence, Creative Thinking**

Level Three: Distance Learning

In this scenario, students are not able to access the NIS campus.

The NIS Community switches to our Distance Learning Plan.



All students engage in the NIS Distance Learning Plan



Distance Learning begins as soon as possible.



NIS awaits permission to safely reopen campus for students



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The Role of the Teacher in Distance Learning

- ❖ Develop and document meaningful learning experiences that are genuinely rooted in units of study.
- ❖ Leverage recent professional learning, including from our partnership with Global Online Academy
- ❖ Provide social and emotional support to students in our classes.
- ❖ Provide students with choice and flexibility in lessons and assessments.
- ❖ Ensure an age-appropriate balance of synchronous and asynchronous learning.
- ❖ Provide timely and meaningful feedback to students on a regular basis.
- ❖ Communicate regularly with parents, especially in cases where students require additional support.
- ❖ Collaborate with Learning Support and EAL Colleagues to best support all learners in our care.
- ❖ Follow NIS Child Protection Guidelines and Code of Conduct.

The Role of the Student in Distance Learning

- ❖ Identify a comfortable and quiet place to study.
- ❖ Engage with the learning opportunities provided, both synchronously and asynchronously.
- ❖ Check appropriate online platforms for information on courses, assignments, and resources daily.
- ❖ Maintain communication with teachers, parents, and classmates.
- ❖ Manage your time and work to complete assignments within the set timeframe.
- ❖ Adhere to NIS Peer-to-Peer Safeguarding and Academic Honesty Guidelines.
- ❖ Balance your screen time and seat work with physical activity and regular breaks.
- ❖ Ask for help when you need it.

The Role of the Parent in Distance Learning

- ❖ Help create a comfortable, quiet place for learning each day. Provide support when needed.
- ❖ Ensure your child has a device at home with the best internet speed and connection you can provide.
- ❖ Support students to maintain healthy routines including quality sleep, a balanced diet, and time for exercise.
- ❖ Ensure your contact information is accurate in Veracross.
- ❖ Check your email daily for school-related communication.
- ❖ Contact teachers directly with questions about your child's learning.
- ❖ Complete feedback, health, and travel surveys given by the school in a timely manner.
- ❖ Ask for help when *you* need it.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What do synchronous and asynchronous mean?

Our Distance Learning Plan is based on the combination of an asynchronous learning environment and synchronous engagements. An asynchronous learning environment does not require participants, teachers, and students to be online at the same time. Synchronous, real-time engagements are opportunities for students to participate in sessions with their teachers and classmates at an established time to allow for face-to-face interactions. Both UNESCO and the International Baccalaureate (IB) suggest that blending these approaches provides students with higher quality outcomes.

What will my child's day be like?

This will be different for each child based on their grade level and learning style. All students will experience a mix of synchronous learning through Microsoft Teams and asynchronous learning through Managebac, Seesaw, and other NIS digital resources throughout the week.

What is a "focused curriculum?"

Students in the Primary and Middle grades will have a smaller number of focused subjects. This approach is based on feedback from parents, teachers, and students and is intended to help younger students better manage their time and deepen their learning.

What about students in Grades 9-12?

Students in these grade levels will have their full schedule of classes. This is both age appropriate and designed to support continuity of learning at these higher grade levels. Students in these grade levels also require marks in all classes on their individual transcripts.



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Please visit [Learning Continuity](#) on the NIS Website for more information about learning continuity at our school.

Please contact [Mr. Kasson Bratton](#), Deputy Director-Learning, with questions regarding the overall distance learning plan.

Please remember...

Be Kind

This too shall pass