

## Distance/Blended Learning Guide for Early Years Parents

### **Overview**

Distance/Blended learning at FIS is designed to provide continuity, to ensure progress towards established learning targets for all our students. In keeping with Fairgreen's commitment to high quality education, Distance/blended learning experiences are developed to be robust and meaningful.

At Fairgreen we have deliberately chosen the term "Distance Learning" to differentiate this method from the approach we had in term 3 of the last academic year, which was termed "eLearning". Distance learning is different because rather than all students being at home, the majority of students are now back on campus. As teachers are delivering learning for students on campus and at home simultaneously, this requires a very different approach, outlined below.

### **Early Years (Pre-K to KG2)**

Parents will receive pre-recorded sessions from the previous day's learning. These may include; a morning greeting; phonics; maths; circle time; jigsaw and read alouds.

Images of students in the class may be captured, in passing, as the teacher delivers instruction to small groups of children. This will only show students as they would normally appear to another child in the class. These recordings will be stored temporarily on the school's Google Drive, and deleted regularly.

Content sent out to parents from Early Years teachers may include but are not limited to:

- Screencasts and mini lessons (recorded on Screencastify or Zoom).
- Self-created or third-party videos (modeling, demonstrating skills, showing activities e.g. Khan Academy, FlipGrid etc).
- Animations and other multimedia resources.
- Live Zoom sessions - where this is felt to be most appropriate.
- Creative tasks.

Teachers will make online resources/ workbook pages etc. available to Distance Learning students via Seesaw. Students should also submit their work on Seesaw.

## **Expectations for Distance Learning when the majority of the students are IN CLASS**

### Expectations for **Parents** - Distance Learning

- Support your child with Distance Learning if you are able.
- A commitment to Distance Learning should be for a period of time (eg 2 weeks) to ensure consistency for your children. This does not apply to students who are adhering to the quarantine regulations.
- During live sessions on Zoom, do not engage with any other children online.
- Please do not try to engage the teacher - they will be focused on providing for the needs of all the students and trying to ensure their lesson can flow as naturally as possible.
- Do not comment (either verbally, on social media or online) about other children or the lesson.
- Even if you are asked by another person, do not comment on another child's behaviour or learning.
- Do not record the screen - other parents have not given permission for this.
- Support our aim for balance by providing room and time for regular breaks, reflection, and physical activity.

### Expectations for **Students** for Distance Learning

- The purpose of this arrangement is for you to learn.
- Make sure you still follow the Fairgreen behaviour expectations.
- Be prepared for learning. You may need to access the online resources before the lesson, mums / dads will help with this.

### Expectations for **Teachers** for Distance Learning

- Ensure instructions are clear.
- Ensure distance learning students have access to the materials for the lesson, if this isn't possible (if specialist materials are used) suggest an alternative.
- Make sure that prerecorded lessons are sent to parents promptly each morning.
- On the occasions when you are using Zoom live:-
  - teachers don't have to be visible throughout, but should be able to hear Distance Learning students and engage with them as would occur in a normal classroom situation. Protocols for taking turns etc. should be established in Essential Agreements.
  - Teachers may turn off video and audio when appropriate.
  - Teachers should mute microphones when speaking individually to other students.

- Teachers must not meet students 1:1 or accept unscheduled calls.
- Teachers must not continue with a Zoom call if a student is inappropriately dressed or in an inappropriate environment.