



















**13. What role does the parent/guardian play in an online learning environment?**

Parents/guardians must attend any mandatory orientation meetings for newly enrolled students. Parents/guardians must ensure each student has readily available internet access. Parents/guardians should be prepared to provide supervision and act as a direct contact. To assist with student accountability, we ask that parents/guardians regularly check their student's progress by reviewing the course pacing guide and grades available through the online providers. This online program is only successful if the student completes the work. It is important that students have a solid support system to help them stay on track with their course work.

**14. Is there additional academic support available for my child?**

Support is provided by a Pennsylvania certified teacher assigned to the class through MVP. Individual appointments and communications can be made through the student portal and students also have access to concept coaches for core subjects via a virtual "help desk" in the online platform. Additional support will be offered by Lower Merion staff, who will also monitor student progress.

**15. When can a student choose/enroll in courses?**

Students must register and will participate for a full semester at a time. By the deadline of August 9<sup>th</sup> 2021, students must be registered in order for their schedule to be transferred to MVP and processed for the upcoming semester. Prior to each semester, families will need to re-enroll in LMVA by the deadline in order to be scheduled for courses for the upcoming semester.

**16. Can I drop/add classes at LMVA after the semester starts?**

Once students are registered and begin courses through MVP, those courses cannot be changed.

**17. Does LMVA offer different levels of courses at the secondary level?**

LMVA offerings include College Preparatory, Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) level courses. LMVA **does not** offer International Baccalaureate courses. It is important to note that not all courses that are available at the home schools will be available in the online platform. This is especially true for elective classes.

**18. Does LMVA offer AP courses?**

Yes, but the format is slightly different due to the high level of rigor in these courses.

- AP courses have weekly assignment due dates that cannot be extended.
- AP courses often have required summer work or a summer project that must be completed prior to beginning the online coursework.

- AP students may be required to attend live synchronous sessions with the instructor and/or other students registered for the course.

The following AP courses are available:

- **English**
  - AP® English Language & Composition
  - AP® English Literature & Composition
- **Math**
  - AP® Calculus AB
  - AP® Calculus BC
  - AP® Statistics
- **Science**
  - AP® Biology
  - AP® Chemistry
  - AP® Environmental Science
  - AP® Physics 1
  - AP® Physics C
- **Social Studies**
  - AP® US Government & Politics
  - AP® Human Geography
  - AP® Psychology
  - AP® US History
- **Elective Areas**
  - AP® Computer Science A
  - AP® Computer Science Principles
  - AP® Economics – prepares students for both Micro and Macro exams.
  - AP® French Language & Culture
  - AP® Spanish Language & Culture
  - AP® Music Theory

*Arrangements to take the AP exam must be made through the student's home high school – HHS or LMHS.*

#### 19. How is attendance monitored?

Each student is expected to log into his or her coursework five days a week. The program allows for flexibility and autonomy for each student/family to decide what schedule works best for them. LMVA will contact the Home and School Visitor with any attendance concerns and will follow-up with the family as needed. When students do not work regularly on their lessons and assignments, they may be considered truant. Students who are unable to login or submit their daily assignments should be prepared to submit an excuse note the same as if they were unable to attend a brick-and-mortar school. Per state law, student attendance must be reported to the state for every child attending Lower Merion School District. Please see the LMVA Handbook for additional details.

**20. Are students required to log in during certain times of the day?**

No. However, students who log in regularly and develop a daily routine tend to meet with greater success in an online environment. The MVP teacher may also have specific synchronous office hours for students to connect and ask questions. LMVA will contact the Home and School Visitor with any attendance concerns and will follow-up with the family as needed. When students do not work regularly on their lessons and assignments, they may be considered truant.

**21. Is attendance for LMVA required during snow days, closures, early dismissals, etc.?**

MVP courses are designed with a set start and end date. Students are required to complete the courses during that time period. There are no extensions. Therefore, snow days, school closures, holidays, and early dismissals that occur in the home building will not impact the online program or the end date. While students and families may observe personal holidays or other days on our LMSD calendar, the end date for course completion remains the same for all online courses. Full completion of all MVP courses is vital to student success and access to future courses whether continuing online or returning to the home school next year.

**22. How is a student progress monitored throughout the course?**

Each course is assigned an MVP teacher who can be contacted by the student or parent. The system will generate a pacing guide for each course that will automatically adjust as students work ahead or fall behind. As long as students check the pacing guide, and adjust accordingly, they will complete the course on time. Again, regular signing in and working on lessons and assignments are necessary for attendance. Students who do not sign in and work regularly may be truant. MVP Teachers have office hours when they are available for student questions or concerns. LMSD will also have staff assigned to monitor students and be available for questions.

**23. Are there weekly/daily due dates for assignments?**

In order to successfully complete a course, pacing and completion of assignments are important. The system will generate a pacing guide for each course that will automatically adjust as students work ahead or fall behind. As long as students and parents check the pacing guide, and adjust accordingly, students will complete the course on time. As a reminder, some courses do have weekly due dates and include some live synchronous sessions.

**24. Can I withdraw from the MVP program?**

Once the online course begins, the student is required to complete the semester. If a student is having problems with the coursework, technology, or any other aspect to online learning, it is the responsibility of the student/family to contact the district or MVP immediately. We will work to rectify any concerns and help make this a successful school year. Students may switch to their

home school after the completion of the semester. Families will have the opportunity to either re-enroll in LMVA or their home school roughly 6-8 weeks before the start of next semester.

**25. How will grades be calculated and reported?**

Grades are determined by the MVP assigned teacher. This is typically based on completion of the assigned tasks and through the online assessments. LMVA grades will be included on the student's LMVA academic record; however, the report card issued for LMVA students may look slightly different than the one provided to students attending their home school. A grade will be issued for each semester. The average of those two semesters will become the final grade for each online course. Please see the LMVA Handbook for additional details.

**26. Will LMVA grades be used in calculating GPA and class rank? (HS Only)**

Yes. Courses offered through the Lower Merion Virtual Academy via MVP are recognized the same way as courses offered face-to-face.

**27. Are students required to take state standardized tests?**

Yes, all LMVA students are required to take the same state-mandated exams as students attending their home school. Students in LMVA will be required to come to the school building they would have attended for all standardized testing. This includes PSSAs and Keystone Exams.

**28. Is the program accredited?**

Yes. All courses offered through MVP are aligned to the PA Core Standards and are delivered by teachers with a Pennsylvania certification.

**29. Are MVP courses NCAA compliant?**

Yes. Course offerings are NCAA certified and taught by a PA certified teacher.

Note: Because MVP courses are semester-based, in order to acquire a full credit in any core subject area, the student would need to complete both semesters of the course. *(Example: if attending LMVA for 2 semesters - English– Part A and English– Part B or if returning to the school building, the other half year of the course must be completed to be awarded one full year credit).*

**30. Will my child be able to enter the buildings?**

Yes, students may enter their buildings in the District provided the child is there to participate in a school-sponsored event, activity, club or sport. Students should not be entering the building during the regular school day for any other reason.

**31. Can my student join a club, activity, or sport?**

Yes, provided that club, activity, or sport is offered in the regularly assigned home building.

**32. Will I still receive all of the messages from the district or my home school?**

Yes. When attending LMVA families will continue to receive calls and emails via School Messenger as they have previously.

**33. Who do I contact for help?**

For course content, books, materials needed, assessments, or assignments, the student should contact the MVP teacher for the course.

For platform access issues or general platform troubleshooting, the student should contact the vendor help-desk directly.

If the student has questions about computer specific issues or basic computer questions, the student should contact LMSD Helpdesk at [techsupport@lmsd.org](mailto:techsupport@lmsd.org).

If the question relates to the program, policies, or any other aspect of Montgomery Virtual Program, please contact the MVP office at (484-687-4101) or [mvp@mciu.org](mailto:mvp@mciu.org).

If you still have questions after reading these FAQs, please contact the LMSD Virtual Academy coordinators at [lmva@lmsd.org](mailto:lmva@lmsd.org).