



DIS-tance Learning Plan

Our school is making a successful transition from face to face learning to distance education very quickly, following the outbreak of Covid-19 in Italy, to minimise the disruption to student learning.

The success of our plan is dependent on **careful organisation by our teachers, student motivation and strong parent support** for this alternative learning mode to work. The result of such effort from all stakeholders will be the academic progress of our students as well as their social and emotional well-being. While this is a tough time for many reasons, we can confirm that our DIS community is prepared for this challenge.

This document outlines our school action plan during the Covid-19 school closure.

DIS e-learning is based on a **Blended Learning model**. This model incorporates the use of an **Asynchronous** as well as a **Synchronous Learning Mode**. An asynchronous learning environment is a learning environment that does not require participants, teachers, and students to be online at the same time or to learn at the same pace. A synchronous, real-time environment allows for interactions in real time and enables student-student interaction or/and student-teacher interaction.

The platform we are using in both cases are:

- **Managebac** and **Google Drive** (through Managebac tasks) for asynchronous activities such as worksheets, research projects, essays etc.
- **Zoom** (zoom.us) video conferencing platform for real time engagements. This system enables classes to be interactive, with multiple lessons taking place every day at the usual class time.

DIS is committed to monitoring the DIS-tance Learning Plan and student experience. The tools used for monitoring may include, but are not limited to:

- Continuous formative feedback through formative assessments (presentations, essays, orals, etc.)

- Feedback from students and parents via a weekly conference with school and class representatives held every Sunday evening
- Feedback from all school teachers via a weekly conference held every Friday.

Our teaching staff have responded very positively to this new situation and no one has encountered any major difficulty in transporting their lessons online. All teachers have demonstrated their commitment, determination and passion to try to provide the best lessons at this tough time. A few days into the transition and we are proud to say that it has been a success!.

Students and families have reacted very positively, especially as being away from their regular life at DIS is far from easy. They show up for their online classes enthusiastically, logging in to all their lessons and showing great appreciation for all that has been done to keep the classes going and to minimise the disruption to their academic work. One mother of a PYP student told us: *“Le videolezioni che state facendo sono bellissime: la cosa più bella è vedere mio figlio esaltatissimo di andare a fare lezioni online”*

DIS-tance Learning plan for our Elementary school

As our Elementary School students are still developing their independence, a teacher-parent partnership is necessary for students to engage in Distance Learning tasks and to access online resources.

All Distance Learning tasks and activities aim to provide direction and support to families with the understanding that task completion depends on each individual families' circumstances.

We recognise that parents may have more than one child to guide therefore we are working to ensure that adult support online is not excessive. Teachers in the Elementary School are striving to put in place a daily and weekly routine for students to help families create a routine, rhythm and structure to their child's day. Furthermore, to continue to develop and nurture our positive learning community, opportunities are being made for students to meet and greet their classmates and teachers on a regular basis. Whilst a reduced timetable is being offered to not exceed a safe amount of time for children to be in front of the digital screens, teachers are creating tasks and projects for children to work on independently or in groups, whilst providing guidance, support and feedback on ManageBAC, via videos on Google Drive or during Zoom sessions.

We ask parents for the following support:

- Read Managebac
- Help your child log in to Zoom sessions for interactive lessons and activities with teachers and classmates.
- Designate a place in your home or where you are temporarily located so your child can work independently on his/her assigned tasks and complete independent reading each day.
- Email your child's subject teacher if you or your child has questions and/or if your child needs extra help and support.

Here below an example of Weekly plan for our elementary classes:

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 - 9:30	LANTERNA Matematica Molinelli 9:00		LANTERNA Scienze Molinelli 9:00 MOLO Storia Camarda 9:00	LANTERNA Matematica Molinelli 9:00 MOLO Italiano (grammatica) - Camarda 9:00	SMITH English RED 8:30 (Unicorns) SMITH English RED 9:00 (Wolves)
9:30 - 10:30					
10:30 - 11:30		SMITH - ENGLISH PYP5 RED	LANTERNA Storia Camarda 11:00 MOLO Scienze Molinelli 11:00	LANTERNA Italiano (grammatica) Camarda 11:00 MOLO Matematica 11:00	
11:30 - 12:30					
13:30 - 14:30		LANTERNA marzolo visual art			MOLO marzolo visual art
14:00 - 15:00	MOLO Matematica Molinelli 14:30			BURNS - ENGLISH PYP 5 GREEN	

DIS-tance Learning plan for MYP

We know that learning takes on many different forms and can take place in many different settings. Our current Distance Learning Experience is the very type of experience that our middle school students are prepared to take on and to grow from, independently, with their peers, and even with their families.

The DIS-tance Learning plan for MYP provides engaging experiences for all students in each of their scheduled classes daily. We have asked our teachers to be contactable via Zoom for one class per week to provide feedback, answer questions and support students in their learning. Subject content, tasks and feedback will continue to be posted on ManageBAC and videos on Google Drive. By way of example, our PHE teacher has uploaded a Physical Activity for all MYP classes.

We recognise that parents may have more than one child to guide, therefore we are working to ensure that each learning experience requires minimal parent involvement.

We ask parents for the following support:

- Read Managebac
- Designate a place in your home or where you are temporarily located so your child can work independently on his/her assigned tasks and complete independent reading each day.
- Monitor your child's deadline calendar and support them in submitting assignments according to the established deadlines.
- Remind your child to email his/her teachers if your child or you have questions or if you need extra help and support.

Here below an example of Weekly plan for our MYP classes:

TIME	SECTION	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 - 8:55			Biology-Stauder	Colucci Physics McDermott Chemistry	Taretto Italiano	
8:55 - 9:50		Sanchez Spanish	English - Rondanina	Romeo French Zoom English - Rondanina+ Romeo Fre	Artom English	Dolcetto - Math/Physics
10:00 - 10:55			Taretto Italiano	McDermott Chemistry	Dolcetto - Math/Physics History - Barozzi	
10:55 - 11:50		Biology-Stauder		History - Barozzi	Barozzi availability	Bender German formative test+ Romeo Romeo French Zoom
11:50 - 12:45		Artom English Taretto Italiano	Taretto Italiano Dolcetto - Math	Roccatagliata - DESIGN Sangiovanni - ART	English - Rondanina Dolcetto - Math	
12:45 - 13:40		Colucci Physics				
13:40 - 14:30						
14:30 - 15:20						

DIS-tance Learning plan for DP

All members of our school, DP teachers, students and parents are aware of the additional pressures related to this unexpected transformation of in-school instructional time to distance learning. Our DP coordinators are in regular contact with our IBO contact, Mrs. Katrin Fox.

DIS will keep the community updated on this topic should our recommendations change as the situation evolves.

We ask parents for the following support:

- Designate a place where your child will work independently on his/her assigned tasks.
- Ask your child about their deadline calendar and support them, as needed, in submitting assignments according to the established deadlines.
- Remind your child to email his/her teachers if your child or you have questions or if you need extra help and support.

Here below an example of a part of the Weekly plan for our DP classes:

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3:00 - 8:55	Taretto Italiano HL Andreani Italiano HL	Colucci Physics Shababi BM HL Spanish HL Carta Bio HL	Franchini - Maths AA SL		Taretto Italiano SL Andreani Italiano SL/HL
3:55 - 9:50	Taretto Italiano HL	Colucci Physics Bender German Shababi BM HL Carta Bio HL Goelard French	Franchini _ Maths AI SL	Bonavia Psychology SL	Taretto Italiano SL Andreani Italiano SL/HL
10:00 - 10:55	Monteverde - Mathematics AA HL Franchini - Mathematics AA SL	Carta Bio SL Sallis Chemistry SL HL DT Roccatagliata Nunneri ESS	English B HL-Rice English A HL Artom	Bonavia Psychology HL	
10:55 - 11:50	Monteverde - Mathematics AA HL Franchini - Mathematics AA SL	DT Roccatagliata Carta Bio SL Nunneri ESS	Sallis Chemistry SL HL DT Roccatagliata Nunneri ESS Carta Bio SL	Shababi BM SL	English A SL/HL- Rondanina English B HL-Rice

We would like to thank IB (www.IBO.org) and SAS International School (<https://www.saschina.org/>) as sources for this document.