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Education Built on Relationships

March 19, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

These unusual circumstances we find ourselves in lead us to encourage you to think about why you chose Linden Christian School for your children. Today, perhaps more than ever, we remain steadfast in our mission to provide a Christ-centered education that equips students to love and serve God. Our commitment to excellence in providing Kindergarten to Grade 12 education remains--it will just be delivered differently.

Many of you have asked about the implications of online learning for your child's grades, course credits, graduation and university applications. We want to reassure everyone that the School will do everything possible to minimize disruption and ensure students achieve learning outcomes.

To help ensure academic continuity for our students we will use an online approach to education to reinforce routine and stability for students. Our exceptional teaching staff have prepared and adapted their instruction to an online environment. We not only appreciate the teachers, but also the various support and IT staff that have invested countless hours to facilitate this transition.

The following important information is provided for each of the divisions.

Early Years

Early Years teachers will use a variety of approaches to stay connected and provide learning opportunities at home for your children:

- The teachers will use paper packages and seat work tasks that reinforce skills and understanding in a variety of areas.
- Links to various programs that are school based and will support learning and curricular expectations will be provided. For example, the students are already familiar with a math program called Dreambox.
- Each teacher will find creative approaches to connect with students including emails to their wingmails accounts, a video greeting, telephone calls and through blogs. Some assignments in Grades 3 and 4 may also use Google Classroom to share messages, suggested activities and lessons.

Middle Years

MY teachers will upload lessons to Google Classroom for completion and submission. There will be times set aside (see schedule below) where students will be able to access their teachers through Google Meet for video, or audio conferencing. This asynchronous delivery allows students and faculty flexibility with time and work and is most appropriate for this situation.

Students using the option of video conferencing with their teacher are required to set up their screen and camera in a common area of their home positioned with a blank wall immediately behind them.

Google Meet will only be available for students using their wingsmail accounts between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm. Emailing teachers with questions will continue to be available at any time.

The following table outlines the schedule to be used by Grade 5-8 students for connecting live with their teachers for educational support using Google Meet conferencing. Modifications to this schedule may be required for suitability and will be communicated as we move forward.

Students will be provided with a Google Meet link through Google Classroom and invited to join their teacher and classmates during the scheduled times.

GM=Google Meet

Day/Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:00	Grade 5-8 teachers available in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)
10:30-11:30	Grade 5 French teacher available for support in GM	Grade 6 French teacher available for support in GM	Grade 7 French teacher available for support in GM	Grade 8 French teacher available for support in GM	Grade 7 & 8 Health teacher available for support in GM
1:00-2:00	Grade 5-8 teachers available for support in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available for support in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available for support in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available for support in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)	Grade 5-8 teachers available for support in GM (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, Bible)
2:15-2:45	Grade 5&6	Grade 5&6	Grade 5&6	Grade 5&6	Grade 5&6

	Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE)	Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE)	Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE)	Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE)	Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE)
2:45-3:15	Grade 7&8 Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE, Art)	Grade 7&8 Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE, Art)	Grade 7&8 Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE, Art)	Grade 7&8 Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE, Art)	Grade 7&8 Itinerant Subject Teachers available for support in GM (Choir, Band, PE, Art)

Senior Years

Teachers will be able to administer all of their courses through Google Classroom while using a number of strategies. These strategies are:

- **Assignment Driven** - Assignments are posted regularly/daily for students to complete on Google Classroom.
- **Online Pre-Recorded Lessons (Flipped Classroom)** - Teachers film their lessons and post to Google Classroom. Generally speaking, daily video and assignments will be posted by 8:30 am for the day.
- **Google Meet** - Teachers meet students during regularly assigned classes online and live. Any Google Meet will be planned with students the day before. This strategy can be used to teach content or to help students with assignments. **Students using the option of video conferencing with their teacher are required to set up their screen and camera in a common area of their home positioned with a blank wall immediately behind them.**

For All Students

Teachers will be available to answer questions from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm to support on-line learning. Students are encouraged to keep up their daily work and to ask for help and support as we navigate this new learning environment.

Again, the initial implementation of online instruction will start Monday, March 23. Pickup of learning materials, etc. began today and continues Friday, March 19 and Monday, March 23 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

We are aware that this is a stressful time for many families and students. Josh Dalzell, our Director of Spiritual Care and Campus Life, will be providing videos of encouragement and devotions. Josh along with the Terrilee Friesen and Cameron Kerney, also from the Spiritual Care Team, will offer support to students in need.

Josh Dalzell	jdalzell@lindenchristian.org
Terrilee Friesen	tfriesen@lindenchristian.org
Cameron Kerney	ckerney@lindenchristian.org

Counselling from our Student Support Services Team is also available for students as classes move online. Student Support Services would like to remind students they are available by email, or through the online community. Other formats such as phone or video messaging can also be arranged. For ease of reference, Student Support Services includes:

Heather Karr	hkarr@lindenchristian.org	EY
Lois Wiebe	lwiebe@lindenchristian.org	EY Literacy
Jennifer Schraml	jschraml@lindenchristian.org	MY
Kathy Hepner	kaheppner@lindenchristian.org	SY
Carri McDonald	cmcdonald@lindenchristian.org	MY/SY
Evelyn Davison	edavison@lindenchristian.org	EAL

There have been many communications as this situation unfolds. All of these communications can be found on our website by visiting the [COVID-19 UPDATES](#) page.

As always, you are welcome to contact any one of us as needed. Together, we continue to uphold all of you in prayer,



Robert Charach
Principal and CEO



Lorraine Kehler
Vice Principal



Jeff Thiessen
Vice Principal



Andrew Fast
Vice Principal