

# FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) for MS Students Home Learning

## General - Class Schedule, Policies, Work Assignments, etc.

### Where can I find a copy of the MS Block Schedule for At-Home Learning?

- [Grade 5 - Block Class Schedule for Home Learning - Spring 2020](#)
- [Grade 6 - Block Class Schedule for Home Learning - Spring 2020](#)
- [Grade 7 - Block Class Schedule for Home Learning - Spring 2020](#)
- [Grade 8 - Block Class Schedule for Home Learning - Spring 2020](#)

### What can happen during the assigned day/time period for a class?

- Your teacher for that class MIGHT CHOOSE to schedule a live Zoom class during that period. If a Zoom class is scheduled, your attendance in the Zoom class is required.
- If you have no Zoom class scheduled, you are welcome to work on assignments for that class during the period.

### Do I HAVE to work on my class assignments during the assigned class time period?

- If the teacher is having a live Zoom class, you are required to attend during that period/day.
- If you do not have a live Zoom class, you do NOT have to work on your assignments during your assigned period. You still can choose to work on your class assignments during your class period, or you can work on them whenever you choose, as long as the assignments are submitted before the due date.

## **Will teachers assign work for days that our class doesn't meet on the schedule?**

- Assignments should be posted ONLY on the days your class meets. There should NOT be new assignments posted on days that your class doesn't meet.
- Your assignments can include "classwork" to ideally be done that day (during live Zoom class or independently). Independent classwork is still due by 8am the next day that your class meets.
- Your assignments can also include "homework" to be done between that day and the next day your class meets.
- Homework could be practice of skills taught in class, or prep for next class (reading chapters in novel, watching a video, grammar/vocab exercises, textbook reading/notes, online games etc.)

## **So teachers can assign "homework" too?**

- See answer to previous question.

## **How much time should I expect to be doing my work between one class day and the next day my class meets?**

- General rule of thumb is that you can expect to do about 40-55 minutes of classwork and another 10-20 minutes of homework, if your teacher assigns "homework."
- Teachers understand that working on learning in front of the computer, or independently, can take up more emotional energy than regular school group learning. Teachers are trying to find the right amount of classwork/homework so that you are making good progress in your learning but are not overwhelmed.
- If you find that you are spending WAY more time than what is listed above on classwork and homework most days, please first let your teacher know how long the work is taking you. If you continue to be spending far more time than listed here on schoolwork, please email Dr. Blum.

## **I want to email my teacher with a question. When should I expect to hear back from him/her?**

- Here is what we told students/parents about communication expectations:
  - There are times when teachers are teaching other classes or engaged with other students and might not be able to respond to email right away.
  - Please be patient and know faculty are responding as quickly as possible.
  - If students are waiting for answers from a teacher about a particular assignment, we encourage them to ask a classmate or to move on to other material until they

hear back from the teacher.

- If more than 12 hours have passed without a response, please then email again.
- Please note that we ask families not to email teachers on Shabbat (Friday sundown through 1 hour after Saturday sundown). School staff will send responses within 24 hours after Shabbat ends.

### **What does my teacher mean when he/she says there will be “office hours” one of the class periods?**

- Think of this like Resource / Working Lunch. Your teacher will be live on Zoom, waiting for any students who join the Zoom call to ask questions, get extra help, etc.
- Your teacher will tell you if you are required to stop by the Zoom Office Hours just to check in, even if it's just to say that you don't have any questions.

### **Is Wednesday Tefillah required?**

- Yes. Please have a siddur with you. Boys (and girls who wear one) should wear a kippah.
- The Zoom link for your grade's Wednesday tefillah is listed on your schedule. Please go to that link on time.

### **Is Recess required?**

- No - but you are welcome to call in and see what Shannon/Dan have planned for Recess via Zoom!

### **The schedule says stretches and say Shema/Amidah between 8-8:55am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Is this part of a Zoom call or on our own?**

- On your own. It's our strong suggestion to help you get in the right frame of mind and body for the day of learning.

### **Is Friday Ta'am Shabbat via Zoom required?**

- It's not required, but we HIGHLY encourage you to participate - it's pretty amazing to be on a Zoom call with 100s of other KSDS families!

**\*\*\*\*\*NEW ITEM: My schedule has “Study Hall” listed for a particular day/period. What do I do during Study Hall?**

- This is a “free” period on your schedule for you to use to get work done for other classes (classwork or homework). If you have finished everything you know about that is due, then it is free time for you to relax (move around, get off screens, read a book, relax!)

**I am in MS Choir. What should I do when the schedule says Choir is meeting?**

- Be on the lookout for an email from Mrs. Schon about a Choir Zoom session for Monday at 12noon.

## **Zoom Questions**

**Does this schedule mean that I will have a live Zoom class every time each of my classes meets?**

- Maybe. We expect teachers to hold a live Zoom class, during their assigned day/time, at least once per week for each subject. A teacher might choose to meet live via Zoom EVERY class during a week, or just once or twice.
- Remember - even if you don't have a live Zoom class scheduled, you still will have work to complete and submit for that class.

**Does a live Zoom class have to meet for the entire 55-minute period?**

- Not necessarily. Teachers might meet the whole period via Zoom. Teachers might do Zoom for 15-30 minutes to teach new lessons and then send you to finish the work independently. Some teachers might stay on Zoom through the whole period as “office hours” (like Working Lunch when you know your teacher will be there if you have questions).

**Will my (English, Spanish, Hebrew, Social Studies, etc.) class meet via live Zoom every week on the same day of the week?**

- Not necessarily. Teachers might create a consistent Zoom day/period for every week, or teachers might change that from week to week depending on what you need to learn and how they want to teach it!

- Teachers will always notify you via Google Classroom about the days/times you will have live Zoom classes in the coming days/week.

**The schedule says the whole grade has the same subject at the same time. Will the whole grade be together on the same Zoom call?**

- Maybe. If your grade has different teachers for different subjects, they will have separate Zoom calls for their classes.
- If your grade has the same teacher for all of the sections in that subject (like 7th Grade Social Studies or any grade's Science classes), then you might have the whole grade on one Zoom call so the lesson can be taught to all of you at once (you are all doing the same material with the same teacher)

**How will my teachers tell me that we are having Zoom live class(es) during certain day(s)/time(s) this week?**

- Teachers will post in the assignment details for the class BEFORE the Zoom day that you will have a Zoom class on \_\_\_\_\_ day at \_\_\_\_\_ time.

**How should I keep track of when my Zoom live classes are scheduled during a week, so I don't miss any?**

- Print out a copy of your block schedule and write Zoom in any box when you have a scheduled Zoom class. Make sure you check your schedule with these Zoom notes at the beginning of every period.
- Or, keep a calendar noting the Zoom classes you have each day.

**Will a teacher send me a new Zoom link for every new class meeting day?**

- Maybe. If a teacher has set up a recurring Zoom meeting, the teacher might tell you to use the same Zoom link each time.
- If a teacher is using the same Zoom link each time, then the teacher will post that in your Google Classroom assignment AND will post it as a separate "Topic" in Google Classroom, so it will show up on the left-hand side of the assignment page permanently.

**What if a problem occurs and I cannot join the live Zoom class?**

- If you know in advance that you cannot join the live Zoom class, please email your teacher to explain (my mom needs the computer for a work call, I am sick and won't be doing schoolwork, etc.)
- If you have a technical problem during a live Zoom class (wifi goes out, Zoom is down, other problem), email the teacher to explain.
- You are still responsible for making up any work that you missed. Please ask a classmate and the teacher for what you missed.
- It is POSSIBLE that the teacher will be able to send you a recording of a Zoom class that you missed, IF you asked them in advance to record the call because you would be absent.

## What rules and settings should students and teachers follow on a live Zoom class?

- [Review the Student Zoom Behavior Rules here](#)
- Follow any of your teacher's instructions during the Zoom class time.

# Google Classroom

## When and how will teachers post assignments for me to see?

- This is the same as it was last week.
- All assignments should be posted to Google Classroom
- All assignments (classwork and "homework") should be posted before 8am on the day they are assigned.
- Assignments should be posted ONLY on days that class meets according to the new MS Block Class Schedule

## How can I see all of my assignments, with due dates, in an organized way?

- On Google Classroom, you can go to the "To Do" button ([see the video tutorial here \(thanks, Mrs. Nesky!\)](#) to see items listed by due date
- On Google Classroom, you could also go to the "Calendar" button (accessed from the same three lines menu button as the To Do list) to see items listed in a calendar grid by due date

## **When will assignments be due?**

- This is the same as last week.
- ALL assignments are due by 8am on the next day that this class meets.
- EXCEPTION: if a teacher wants to give LONGER for a particular assignment, it can be due by 8am on some upcoming date that the class meets.