



Dear Parents

The aim of this document is to share with our community what our CIS learning model will look like after the 3rd October. The reason for this change on this specific date is due to the announcement earlier this month made by Dubai's Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management team (please see Infographic on right).

In addition to this announcement, the KHDA has given schools guidance as to which students are exempt from face to face learning, and as a result, can continue with remote/distance learning past October 3rd. The criteria for exemptions are outlined below, from communication CIS received from the KHDA:

KHDA Communication with all Private Schools:

We are currently preparing for a return to full-time face- to-face learning at all Dubai private schools from Sunday October 3. There will be instances when families ask to continue with distance learning, or when schools are required to provide it. Distance learning may be offered in specific circumstances only. These are:

- 1. A student has a medical condition which prevents them from accessing face-to-face learning.** In this case, the student must provide a medical certificate from Dubai Health Authority, stating the reason they cannot attend school.
- 2. A student is outside of the UAE and is unable to return due to international Covid restrictions.** In this case, the student must provide a certificate from the relevant government authority as applicable.
- 3. A student has tested positive for Covid-19 or has been identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19.** In this case, the student must have the appropriate certificate from Dubai Health Authority.

**DUBAI'S SUPREME COMMITTEE OF CRISIS & DISASTER MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCES GRADUAL RETURN TO FULL IN-PERSON LEARNING IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**GRADUAL RETURN TO FULL IN-PERSON LEARNING**  
Private schools in Dubai to continue offering students in-person learning while also providing the option for remote learning. Starting **3 October, 2021**, all private schools will return to full in-person learning

**96% OF TEACHING STAFF ARE VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19**  
More than 96% of teaching staff and 70% of children aged 12-17 in Dubai have been vaccinated

**ADHERENCE TO ALL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE**  
Schools must maintain strict adherence to all precautionary measures.

المكتب الإعلامي  
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GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI  
MEDIA OFFICE

If your child meets the criteria in circumstances 1 and 2 above, it is vitally important that the correct documentation is provided to the school to ensure we can approve remote learning provision.

- For medical exemption students, please can parents obtain a DHA medical certificate and submit this to our school medical team (email: [doctor\\_cis@gemsedu.com](mailto:doctor_cis@gemsedu.com))
- For students unable to return to the UAE due to travel restrictions, please provide evidence to the school as to why you are unable to travel. Submit this directly to either Head of Early Years ([l.yarwood\\_cis@gemsedu.com](mailto:l.yarwood_cis@gemsedu.com)), Head of Primary ([p.yates\\_cis@gemsedu.com](mailto:p.yates_cis@gemsedu.com)), or Head of Secondary/VP ([l.franco\\_cis@gemsedu.com](mailto:l.franco_cis@gemsedu.com)).

- For circumstance 3, the below guidance will support our families with the process for remote learning.
- **It is only under the circumstances mentioned above that remote learning exemption will be given, other reasons cannot be approved.**

### Primary (FS1 to Year 6)

Primary have categorized remote learning into 3 Types. It is important that our community understands the difference between each one as the provision on offer will differ dependent on the type. For almost all of our pupils who are attending school face to face, the following three types of remote learning are still likely to occur at some point during the academic year.

	Type A	Type B	Type C
Criteria What determines which Remote Learning my child gets?	<p><b>Student is absent for less than 5 days due to either:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having covid like symptoms</li> <li>• Awaiting a covid test result</li> <li>• Precaution due to positive case in class</li> </ul> <p>Almost all students from the class are still accessing learning face to face</p>	<p><b>Student is absent for 5 days or more due to either:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• being a close contact</li> <li>• contracting covid</li> <li>• Student medical exemption (DHA certificate)</li> <li>• unable to travel due to covid restrictions (Government documentation)</li> <li>• Approved emergency leave</li> </ul> <p>Almost all students from the class are still accessing learning face to face</p>	<p><b>All students in the same class are learning remotely due to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• positive cases within the class group</li> <li>• Corridor or School moving to 100% remote</li> </ul> <p>No students from the class are accessing learning face to face</p>
Request Procedure	<p>Parents must request this through informing the class teacher/ learning manager via email or Phoenix Classroom as early as possible. Teachers will initiate remote learning within 24 hours of a request.</p>	<p>Parents must request this through informing the class teacher/learning manager via email or Phoenix Classroom as early as possible. Teachers will initiate remote learning within 24 hours of a request.</p>	<p>Automatic, the class teacher/ learning manager will initiate a move to Type C remote learning at the earliest convenience</p>
Provision	<p><b>Years FS – Year 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asynchronous (recorded) lessons provided via Phoenix Classroom activities</li> <li>• No live Zooms</li> </ul>	<p><b>Years FS – Year 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asynchronous Curriculum provided via Phoenix Classroom activities</li> <li>• Three additional live sessions during the week (academic or Wellbeing focused)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Years FS – Year 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning welcome for registration (live)</li> <li>• Asynchronous lessons provided via Phoenix Classroom activities.</li> <li>• 2-3 connect times (live) throughout the day</li> <li>• Specialists lessons on the timetable will be live</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Year 3 – Year 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asynchronous lessons provided via Phoenix Classroom for students to access independently.</li> <li>• No live sessions provided, however There may be exceptions where class teachers/ Learning manager deem it necessary to provide a zoom for remote students at their discretion.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Year 3 – Year 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asynchronous lessons provided via Phoenix Classroom for students to access independently</li> <li>• 3-5 live sessions during the week (academic or Wellbeing focused)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Year 3 – Year 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning welcome for registration (live or pre-recorded message)</li> <li>• Specialists lessons on the timetable will be live</li> <li>• 2-3 connect times throughout the day (e.g. core subjects, well-being check-in, break times)</li> </ul>

## Secondary (Year 7-13)

Secondary have categorized remote learning into 3 scenarios. It is important that our community understands the difference between each one as the provision on offer will differ dependent on the scenario. For almost all of our pupils who are attending school face to face, the following three scenarios of remote learning are still likely to occur at some point during the academic year.

	Remote Learning Scenario 1	Remote Learning Scenario 2	Remote Learning Scenario 3
	KHDA approved remote learner Covid Positive or Close Contact Approved Emergency leave	Absent due to non-Covid related illness	Absent due to Covid-related symptoms
<b>What determines which remote learning scenario my child receives?</b>	Parents have applied to HOS for remote learning in line with KHDA and DHA criteria for the specified time frame and request has been granted.  Or, student is absent from school due to testing positive for Covid OR Student is a close contact & is isolating.  Or, Parent has applied for emergency leave via Phoenix leave request, emailed the Learning Manager and HOY	Student is absent from school due to non-Covid related symptoms.	Student is absent from school for up to 48 hours due to Covid related symptoms.
<b>Procedure</b>	Request has been granted via one of the 3 points above.	To return to school, parent to provide doctor's note to student's Learning Manager in advance of returning.	To return to school, parent to provide negative PCR test OR doctor's note to student's Learning Manager in advance of returning.
<b>Provision (Years 7-13)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Component of recorded/ live Zoom call to every lesson.</li> <li>• All lesson resources uploaded to Phoenix Classroom for all students to access.</li> <li>• Opportunities for collaboration, independent learning and feedback integrated into lessons.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No compulsion for students to access learning</li> <li>• Staff will not include student in synchronous Zoom call however asynchronous lessons are available via Phoenix Classroom for students to access independently.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No compulsion for students to access learning.</li> <li>• Staff will not include student in synchronous Zoom call however asynchronous lessons are available via Phoenix Classroom for students to access independently.</li> <li>• Students can contact their teachers &amp; request to be included in a synchronous Zoom call.</li> <li>• Teachers will action this request within 24 hours.</li> </ul>
<b>Exam/ Assessment Requirements</b>	Students to attend school for practical elements of GCSE and/or Post 16 subjects when these directly inform marks/grades submitted to exam boards- (Such as the Pre-Mock/ Mock and assessment which will be part of the 'Portfolio of evidence')		

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: I've requested for my child to have remote learning as I meet the criteria mentioned above. When will teachers start this from?**

A: Once you have the correct approval, the relevant teachers will action this by the next day at the latest. Due to other responsibilities such as planning and preparation (especially in the mornings for the younger years), it may not be possible immediately. It also depends on what time of day you have requested this. Teachers will ensure remote learning provision is active within 24 hours of parents informing them.

**Q: (Primary) There is 1 positive case in my child's class however the whole class has not moved to Type C Remote Learning (all students learning remotely). Can I choose to keep my child at home as a precaution and still gain access to remote learning?**

A: Yes, we understand that some families may feel more comfortable doing this. The class teacher/ Learning manager would provide Type A/B Remote Learning in this scenario for a maximum of 7 days (isolation period).

**Q: Can I move between face to face learning and remote learning frequently?**

A: No, remote learning is only available when the criteria mentioned for each type is met. This will differ from family to family depending on individual circumstances. We are following the guidance from the relevant authorities to be face-to-face in school wherever possible.

**Q: If there is an emergency and my child needs to be off school for 2 days or more, what do I do and can they access remote learning?**

A: Students can have up to 10 additional days approved leave per academic year for emergency purposes. The reason for the leave request should be clearly stated, along with the information of your child's name, class, the dates required and the emergency contact phone number for the family during this period. If during this emergency period of leave, your child can continue to learn, they can access remote learning Type B for Primary and Scenario 1 for Secondary.

**Q: What are the major changes to CIS's remote learning provision after October 3rd?**

A: There will be many similarities for families who have been with us over the past 2 years. Platforms such as Phoenix and Zoom will continue to be used. Additionally, when a whole class goes to remote learning (Type C), the provision will remain in line as to how learning took place previously. The biggest changes to our provision are that when the majority of the class are in school learning face-to-face, there will be less live elements of learning for students learning remotely. Teachers will still provide feedback on any asynchronous learning completed to ensure our students are still progressing. For longer term absences from school, live sessions will still be available as this is extremely important to stay connected with teachers and their peers.

**Q: If my child is absent for 1 day, do they still need a negative PCR test or doctor's note to return to school?**

A: Yes, if your child is absent from school due to a Covid related or non-Covid related illness, we require either a doctor's note (stating not covid) or negative PCR test within 48 hours prior to returning to school to confirm this. In both incidences, the doctor's note or negative PCR test must be emailed to the class teacher/Learning Manager in advance of your child returning to face-to-face learning at CIS.