

Update on Distance Learning (Weekly Update – April 13th, 2020)

What is Teacher-led Distance Learning?

Distance learning is learning that takes place outside of a traditional classroom setting. While some of the instruction may be conducted through an online platform, students will not be expected to be on a device for all their learning. Our goal is to encourage students to read, communicate and engage in learning experiences.

It may look different for each class, but in general, distance learning:

- is flexible and can be done at any point during the day
- does not always require online access
- requires minimal parent/guardian support (This may vary depending on age/grade)

Hours of Work and Focus on Learning

The Ministry of Education has provided the following guidelines for hours of work and focus of learning.

Kindergarten-Grade 3 – 5 hours of work per student, per week - Focus of learning: literacy and math

Grades 4-6 – 5 hours of work per student, per week - Focus of learning: literacy and math, science and social studies

Grades 7-8 – 10 hours of work per student, per week - Focus of learning: core math, literacy, science and social studies

Hours refers to the approximate amount of time your child would spend on the work assigned by teachers. This does not mean the amount of time your child should be online or in front of a screen. Your child's teacher may engage with students in a variety of ways. As a Catholic school, our focus will also include Religion and Family Life, and our teachers will continue to integrate our faith and Gospel values in all subject areas.

Assessment at the Elementary school level - Your child's teacher will use **formative assessment** to gather evidence of how he or she is progressing in their learning. Your child's teacher will provide feedback on his or her progress, and he or she will receive a final report card. Please note, the current assessment during this distance learning period can only improve their final grades. This tracking of learning will be considered in addition to the actual classroom evidence collected and evaluated from the start of school year to the formal school closure.