Policy for Student Participation in Distance Learning

Updated: March 31, 2020

In these weeks of stay-at-home learning, your child will continue his or her classes, following the Divisional Distance Learning Plans shared in previous communications and available on The Bryn Mawr School website. As our plans evolve, we will keep this documentation up to date as a general student/parent guide to distance learning.

Students will continue their education through both asynchronous and synchronous instruction. Specific instructions will be exchanged via students’ school email or parents’ email, SeeSaw, Canvas, Zoom, Google’s G Suite for Education, and various other programs vetted through the school’s IT department. A current list is available on our website. Synchronous instruction or one on one meetings will take place during regular school hours, 8am-4pm.

Students will participate remotely, using various technology platforms sponsored by the school to communicate with teachers, advisors, administrators, support personnel, coaches and other students. Teachers or school personnel may record group sessions, store for up to 30 days and share with other students or employees for educational purposes, such as to make up for an absence or to review material. Recordings may only be made by authorized school personnel or with the express written permission of a school administrator. Violators of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action. One on one sessions will not be recorded. Students should not record any classes or meetings.

Class sessions, break out groups, one on one meetings and individual work represent a continuation of the school program, and as such, will be subject to the rules and responsibilities set forth in the Bryn Mawr Student and Parent Handbooks and the Acceptable Use Policy, both which are accessible on the Bryn Mawr Parent Portal. Students are expected to adhere to the same guidelines regarding respect, responsibility and honor that exist in the on-campus community.

Since we are using the Zoom platform increasingly for synchronous learning, we want to specifically share the Privacy Policy and Terms of Use for Zoom here. In addition, teachers have reviewed the security settings on Zoom to ensure that our student experience is as protected as possible. While there is some risk, if students follow the links sent to them by their teachers, they should not encounter any issues. We advise students to use the Zoom accounts set up by the school, rather than their own personal accounts, and ask that students and parents do not share the links beyond our school community. Other platform privacy policies can be found on their individual websites. The online safety of our students is important.
During this period of distance learning, student work may be assessed in similar ways to our on-campus experience, which will count toward grades and progress. Students are responsible for the completion of work assigned to them and should discuss with their teachers if they are encountering any difficulty.

By participating in online learning at Bryn Mawr, you and child agree to uphold the policies and practices stated in this letter. Recognizing that recreating the exact on-campus school experience is not possible, we’ll strive to maintain as much consistency with our regular program as possible in a distance learning environment.