



Academie Da Vinci FAQ's for the 2020-21 Reopening of School

Homework and Assignments

- For students with working parents will enough time, say the end of the night, be given so any assignments that were worked on during the day can be scanned and uploaded by parents?

It is absolutely the goal of the school to ensure families have support for their remote learning option. While each teacher and classroom may function differently, there will be multiple options available to families to ensure your student can do their work and turn it in in a way that is conducive to your family. The school will provide more information once the full faculty and staff are able to meet. However, options that may be offered are scanning worksheets and uploading or emailing them; dropping off completed assignments by a particular day, etc. Ultimately, we're committed to making it work for everyone and will make sure flexibility is offered.

- Will the online version be like the end of the year? They have to like and attend the zoom in the morning, but work can be done until the evening?

This year will not be like the end of last year. It is online, LIVE learning. The student must follow the bell schedule and be online all day to be counted present. Students will participate live with the class, just as if they were in the classroom. However, remote learners will be able to submit work later in the day or that evening.

- How will homework work since the students won't have book bags?

Elementary students will still have a daily communication folder, and middle school students will still have a binder. Any assignments will be easily transported within these.

- How will middle school students do homework without their notes/books?

All materials needed for assignments should be easily transported in their binders.

- Considering it has been asked many times in the past, and that both remote and in person families are going to be continually stressed we can ask if it is maybe time to end traditional homework. If not permanently at least until school operations return to normal?

Homework will not be eliminated. It is, however, up to individual teachers on what homework will be assigned. As always, if your child is having an issue with the homework, please reach out to the teacher to discuss solutions.

- Will workbooks be sent home to remote learners so they don't have to copy everything on the printer? It would be so much easier if they had their books and workbooks at home to complete assignments and upload them to the teacher.

Remote learners will be provided workbooks and any other school-provided learning materials they would receive while at the school to ensure their experience is identical to those in-building learners. Pick-up will be similar to supply pick ups held last year.

Classroom

- Are all virtual students going to be in their actual class room with their class teacher or will they be remoted into a shared virtual classroom?

This will be determined by the number of students attending in-building vs remote on a grade by grade basis. We hope to have this finalized by Friday, July 31.

- Should we still expect to hear what class our student is assigned to?

The survey specific to ADV learning options was due last Friday. Some families have not completed yet, so we will be reaching out to them. Until we finalize those results, we cannot finalize classroom assignments. It is imperative that we ensure all students of all need levels are assigned to the right classroom setting for them. We will be taking into account IEPs, 504s, current learning levels and other needs to ensure students are placed in the most ideal environment possible.

Specials/Recess/Social/ELP

- How are remote specials going to work?

Remote specials will work exactly as in-person learners will experience. Focus will be on technique. Teachers will ensure that students have the supplies needed to complete any in-class projects.

In-building learners will be using a clockwise path within the halls to ensure students are not passing by each other while transitioning to classes. Students must sanitize their hand when entering and exiting a room and wear masks throughout the day, but especially while moving from room to room.

- If the kids are logged in all day will there be a virtual recess process while the other kids are out at recess so the virtual kids can socialize and talk with each other?

This can be determined by each teacher.

- I didn't see information on dropping off and picking up procedures for ELP. Pretty much the same - but being reviewed.

These and other procedures are being continuously reviewed. At this time, we see no need to alter the current drop off and pick up procedures.

- For music it was mentioned they won't be singing but focusing on instruments, will this include the recorder?

The music teachers are discussing the best path forward on this. Students may use recorders to learn the finger placement for notes without actually producing sound. We will inform families when a decision has been made that adheres as closely to CDC and DOH guidelines as possible.

School Supplies

- When will school supply lists be released?

At this time, school supply lists will look very similar to those of years' past. We are working closely with teachers and staff to ensure lists will be updated and released by the end of this week.

- Since backpacks aren't allowed, can a lunch box be brought in or will a disposable bag be required?

Lunch boxes will be allowed for students, but they will be kept at the student's desk rather than in a communal basket or bin.

- Can young ladies bring a purse to school?

Purses will not be allowed.

- What will middle school young ladies be allowed to carry from class to class holding their personal necessities?

Personal hygiene products will be available via Mrs. Dick or Ms. Julie at the front desk.

- How and when will we send in school supplies?

We will use a schedule drop off process similar to last year's end-of-year pick up process. This will be scheduled closer to the start date of school.

- Will distance learning students need the same supplies from the list?

At this time, we anticipate that remote students will need the same supplies. We are working closely with teachers and staff to ensure the lists are simple and cover all the bases.

Teacher Feedback

- I am wondering if you'll have representation from our teachers at your meeting (PTA/Admin call)?

Last week, teachers and staff spent several hours in virtual meetings discussing the upcoming school year, processes, safety and concerns. Their feedback and counsel has been essential in creating a plan that will work for our school community. They have graciously given up time off over the summer to help create a safe and effective learning environment for all of the ADV family, and we just honestly couldn't have done it without them.

- I am curious what they want from parents and students and how we can help as a community?

We are in need of affordable, clear plexiglass dividers. As needs arise for either donations or volunteers, we will reach out to the PTA/PTO.

Middle School

- How is middle school going to flow?

Students will transition from class to class in a clockwise path through the halls to minimize passing other students. This may result in students having to walk a little more to get to class. As lockers will not be used, there should be no impact in their ability to reach classrooms in plenty of time.

- Will the kids log in to a different Zoom for each class change or stay put and rotate teachers?

This is still being determined. We are working to simplify this process as much as possible.

- How will sibling pick up work if the middle schoolers are supposed to remain in their classrooms?

The solution for this will depend on the number of students it impacts. However, we will work to ensure that parents will still be able to do a single pick up for all of their children.

- For remote and brick families, will each student still have the opportunity to specialize in their choice of elective, or will this no longer be available? If so, how will this plan work for students specializing in electives remotely such as dance, musical theatre, etc?

Students will still select an elective. Live remote electives will be technique based, exactly like in the live classroom.

Uniforms/Masks

- Will remote learning students be required to wear uniforms or school appropriate casual like the end of last year?

Remote learners should wear their ADV polo or ADV t-shirt.

- Are there restrictions/limitations on type of masks ie: colors, designs?

Masks are a mandatory part of the dress code. All masks should be school appropriate, i.e. nothing scary, no curse words, etc. Although the school will have masks it can provide to students, it is a limited amount of masks that have been provided. Families are encouraged to provide their children with masks to the best of their ability. Please reach out to us if your family is in need of assistance.

- For middle school dance elective students who wear a leotard, ADV shirt and leggings to school, they will have outdoor PE in these clothes, since it states no dress out for PE?

We are currently discussing and working on a simple solution for this.

- Can face shields be worn instead of masks?

No, face shields do not provide adequate coverage and cannot be worn without a mask underneath of it. This is based on information provided by the CDC.

- The county stated that they will be providing masks of appropriate sizes to all students. Is that applicable to charter schools? Will masks be provided to our community?

Yes, masks will be provided by the county. Again, this is a limited amount provided for students and staff. We will ensure all teachers, staff and students are equipped with appropriate masks, but we do encourage families to provide their children with masks.

- How will we ensure that masks are being appropriately worn by students and staff?

Teachers and staff will go through required trainings to ensure masks are being used appropriately at all times.

- Are there any changes to the dress code based on the current circumstances? Many of us have been financially affected and a strict uniform policy may be a burden now for many families.

Not at this time, but reach out if you are in need of assistance.

Other

- Will there be a virtual meet-the-teacher?

Yes. Dates and times will be scheduled after classroom assignments have been completed and closer to the start date of the school year.

- It states mask breaks are designated by the teachers . May I ask what that will look like distance, frequency and time wise?

All mask breaks are taken outdoors with social distancing in place. This will be done in groups, led by teachers. Individual children can also be escorted outside for a break. Wearing a mask is part of the dress code.

- I know it's tough to say before knowing how many people are opting for attending in person however do we have an idea on what class size will look like and what type of space the kids will have while in the classroom?

Class sizes will not be larger than they currently are, but we have not determined yet what actual in-person vs virtual learner ratios will be yet. ***Please complete the ADV survey ASAP if you have not yet already.** Based on reports from the CDC and other credible medical sources, social distancing by 3.5 feet while wearing a mask is appropriate. We will adhere to that standard, if not more, when possible for each class.

- Also, can we please have a more specific contingency plan for remote families on what their daily schedule will look like from logging on to logging off for the day?

Students will follow the bell schedule. Teachers will be required to create and provide a daily and weekly schedule based on specials and in-class instruction periods. They have been advised to stick closely to these schedules to make a schedule easy to follow for parents and learners.

- Hypothetically, if half of students are choosing face to face and half are choosing remote, how will grade level teachers be assigned? Since K-5 only has two teachers per grade, will one teacher be face to face and the other be remote? My concern is rather than having two classes of 10 or so students (with the rest learning remotely) you would have one class of 20 learning face to face, which would inhibit social distancing.

Classes are being determined and assigned based on the number of remote vs in-building learners, as well as based on their individual learning needs. It is our goal to ensure balance in the assignments for teachers while adhering to social distancing guidelines.

- Will a school nurse be hired or will Ms. Julie continue with Admin and nursing responsibilities?

At this time, we have 5 on-call nurses to consult, as needed. Administration or a designee will be responsible for remaining with anyone in quarantine, should such an event arise.

- Will anyone suspected of being COVID positive that leaves school to be tested have a deadline on how long they can take on testing/getting the results? Asking to ensure families from the classroom are notified in a timely manner so they can quarantine ASAP.

This process is the responsibility of the Department of Health. The school will be placed in contact with the Department of Health if a person on campus is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. The DOH will head any investigation, tracking, and communication concerning suspected COVID-19 cases.

- Will students be able to take their bike to school?

Yes.

- Is ADV considering pushing back the start date of school to allow numbers of cases to decrease and/or more time to transition and understand our options?

We are looking at and will align with Pinellas County as it makes sense to do so. Their vote is Tuesday, July 28 at 5PM.

- Are teachers going to be teaching virtually and in person simultaneously?

This will be remote live learning. So, students at home will see exactly what students in the classroom see. Per the Emergency Order by the Florida Department of Education, schools must provide a remote learning solution that offers students a full panoply of services, including interacting with their teachers and peers.

- Will the teachers have microphones? It can be challenging to hear in a mask and that plus on a screen, investing in mics might be a good idea?

The use of microphones has been discussed, and they are available to teachers, as needed.

- If a teacher gets sick, what is the plan for substitutes? My child has been sent to another grade when their teacher got sick before and that clearly isn't ideal or would work in this scenario.

It is our goal to minimize any additional staff on-site and staff appropriately. We are considering options including an on-site sub, as well as Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Dick filling in for ill teachers.

- If a student who usually attends school is sick or in quarantine, do they then have an option to transition to online? And if so, do they return to the classroom afterwards or stay virtual?

Yes, as long as they are healthy enough to do so. They would need to attend the full day, otherwise it would be treated like an absence.

- As we all transition to this totally new process are there plans to support our children and staff emotionally and socially? A guidance counselor? Teaching about stress and coping? Perhaps implementing a mindfulness program, as has been discussed in the past?

Yes, Sarah Meyers, LMHC, will be present a couple days a week for free mental health counseling. Our new Spanish teacher has her master's in guidance counseling. We also will continue to have peer mediators.

- Is there going to be any restrictions on access to bathrooms?

Classes have regularly scheduled restroom breaks to ensure they do not overlap with other classes and minimizes the number of students using the facilities at once. Individuals can use the restroom with permission from their teacher, as it has always been.