



# Frequently Asked Questions

Regarding the Open Plan (2020-2021)

## **Will my student need to wear a mask?**

The policy of Sussex Montessori school is that all people, including children, need to wear a mask where safe social distances are not permissible. Please refer to our mask policy in our [Opening Plan](#) document.

## **How many students are in a class?**

Our classrooms consist of 26 children. Under our remote learning plan, no more than 13 children will be in a classroom at a time. Classrooms will be divided into A and B groups, and both groups of children will have remote and classroom access to all lessons and activities for that classroom. We will start our year in our modular classrooms. When our regular classrooms, currently under construction, are completed and receive their Certificates of Occupancy, we will move classes into the new buildings. The new classrooms will allow for more direct learning experiences for a greater number of students, and we will be able to re-evaluate our on-campus classroom sizes at that time.

## **The schedule has Exploration periods listed on it. What does that mean?**

Explorations is listed on the remote schedule as a block of learning time similar to what a student would have in the classroom. During this time, students can access live lessons and class meetings, as well as work on their follow up work at their own pace. Explorations are a suggestion, as we want families who chose the remote option to have the flexibility to schedule their child's learning time at times that work best for the whole family. Every lesson and classroom meeting will be recorded, and links to those recordings will be on individual classroom pages. All follow-up work will be available as either a link on the class page or be part of a student's Grab and Go bag. Grab and Go bags can be picked up and dropped off at school at the convenience of each family.

## **Do I have to pick up and drop off my Grab and Go bag every day?**

No. Grab and Go bags can be picked up and dropped off at your convenience. Ideally, we hope that families pick them up and drop off their bags at least once a week.

## **My child will be in day care and won't be able to attend many of the live sessions. How will their attendance be recorded?**

Every child will have a journal where they will keep track of their work that they have done each day. There will also be an online version that students and families can access. Attendance will be tracked using those tools.

## **What grading scale will my remote/hybrid child be graded on?**

Our assessment and progress reports are based on each individual child. Whether a child is schooling remotely or through our

hybrid model, they will be assessed using our common teacher assessment methods based on children's developmental growth.

### **My child has an IEP, what can I expect?**

IF your child has an IEP, Sara Poole ([sara.poole@sussexms.k12.de.us](mailto:sara.poole@sussexms.k12.de.us)), our Special Education Coordinator will be in touch with you. All services called for in an IEP will be provided, both virtually and in person. On campus services will be available to students, when needed, every day of the week.

### **How much time will be student be on-line?**

When your student is involved in virtual learning, they will have to spend some of their day on-line. However, we do not expect students to be in front of a screen for longer than thirty minutes at any single time. Typically, lessons for K/1 students will last no longer than fifteen minutes and 2/3 lessons are no longer than twenty minutes. Whole class meetings generally last for thirty minutes. Individual lessons can vary depending on the lesson and the child's understanding, but also should not last longer than twenty minutes. Of course, there may be exceptions, based on what children and their teachers discover during their time together.

Every lesson that children are given will usually have a follow-up, and those follow-ups may have an option of using the computer to do the work. However, every lesson will have non-screen related options as well.

### **We do not have a Chromebook, but we do have another device (a laptop or a tablet) that can access the internet. Should we ask for a Chromebook?**

All our online options are meant to be accessible by any device that can connect to the internet. Having the capability to access Zoom calls and playback videos is suggested.