

Brummana High School



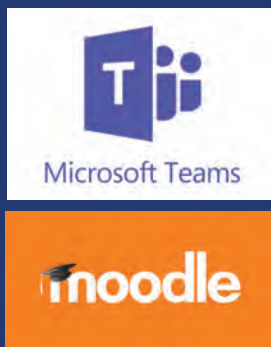
Digital Campus



The school is pleased to be able to offer e-learning through virtual classrooms to our students during times of crises. Although we would all prefer to be able to continue with regular, face-to-face classroom instruction, the school's remote learning provision is a very valuable and worthwhile offering, in place for only very specific times. Crises could include medical or political situations, both of which the school and country have experienced during the academic year of 2019-2020.

E-Learning Platforms

We use Microsoft Teams for virtual classrooms and Moodle to communicate online, setting tasks and work for students. We also communicate school work set via email regularly, particularly for the youngest age groups. This e-learning provision is made available to all grade levels, from KG1 to Grade 12, and all programmes, such as our Lebanese and international programmes, the latter of which includes IGCSEs and the IB Diploma. In addition, the school has relationships with many of the world's leading online library resource providers and, due to these relationships, we are able to offer an e-library with multiple platforms available for both Lower School and Upper School students.



Intensive Staff Training and In-House Produced Training Guides



Workshops were held for selected teachers in late 2019, after MS Teams had been selected as the school's virtual classrooms application in September, with those teachers being trained substantially. This selected group of trained teachers then acted as leaders, training other colleagues (all teachers and administrators). The school kept in contact with Microsoft throughout the whole process. In-

deed, BHS established a Question & Answer shared document which the Microsoft representative was so impressed with then shared with other schools too, in order to support their own learning and application. E-learning training is very much ongoing with different activities and shared learnings taking place regularly.

The school took the initiative to produce training guides for the use of MS Teams and Moodle, available for students and parents to better understand and gain the maximum from each platform. There is also an MS Teams Support Group for Questions guidebook produced.

Provision of E-Learning During Covid-19 Pandemic

The school's E-Learning provision during the pandemic has been continually evolving in line with global best practices.

Infant Section students receive Online Pastoral Sessions (OPS) as well as academic classes each day. OPS classes allow them to connect with their teachers and classmates for two short 20-minute periods each day. Activities include meet and greet, story time, French and Arabic activities, show and tell, circle time and songs. Parents of students in the Infant Section are emailed appropriate amounts of academic work on a weekly basis by their teacher. Academic classes began

after the OPS classes and expanded to include a breadth of subject material keeping students working on the skills and acquiring the knowledge necessary to complete the year successfully.

Students in **Lower and Upper Elementary** have OPS classes with their teachers and the pastoral care is complemented by academic work to be completed, also shared via email. OPS are about the students' well-being, providing consistency and maintaining relationships with their teacher. Students have timetabled virtual classrooms with their teachers and we have kept the lessons short and to 2-3 lessons per day. E-learning uses a range of material to support the teaching. The virtual classrooms are supplemented by academic work that is set on Moodle for the Upper Elementary students. The activities on Moodle are varied and include more traditional activities along with videos, online games and problem solving for example.



Intermediate and Secondary students follow an abridged timetable, using the same virtual classroom platform of Microsoft Teams, and Moodle for the scheduling of work. This means that all subjects from Maths and English to Biology and Social Studies are still able to be offered to BHS students on all the Lebanese and international programmes available. Also, in many Upper School courses (Intermediate and Secondary), online assessment through Moodle is often taking place.



Attendance across the whole school (Infants, Elementary, Intermediate and Secondary) for our virtual classrooms is currently at 90%. Active participation within the sessions is high, as students take it in turns to vocalise their thoughts and ideas within the virtual classrooms.



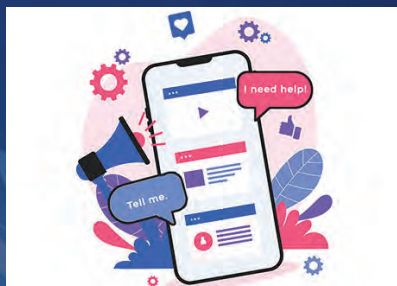
The school also promotes different **creative challenges via social media** to students such as drawing, painting, creating drama videos, designing board games and crafting a rolling car, as we promote families to set up a **'makerspace'** area in their homes. Fitness workouts and challenges are also set weekly by the school's PE Department. In addition, an art competition in collaboration with the famous British Artist in Lebanon, Mr Tom Young has been an exciting development, with the winners due to spend a whole day alongside the artist in his studio or on

site post-lockdown. One of the main drivers for providing these creative and physical outputs to students (and families) is knowledge acquired from the UK Government's Division of Educational and Child Psychology and the British Psychological Society.

Online Counselling Service (OCoS)

Continuing the school's structured and worthwhile provision of counselling, BHS is very pleased to be able to offer a continuation of this service online through OCoS.

Students (and parents of students in the youngest grades) are able to communicate with their section's counsellor, first by writing and booking an appointment, and then speaking via an online conference tool (typically Teams) with their trusted adult.



Communications and Experiences

Parents are kept continually updated on services being offered by the school, as well as advice and tips of how to manage during the time of Covid-19. Information is sent regularly from the Principal, the school's two Vice Principals, the Heads of Section as well as of course from teachers.

Diala and Mouin Khanafer

"We would like to thank you for starting the virtual classes of the Infant Section. Our daughter XXX is very excited about it, it really changed her daily routine and she waits for those classes impatiently every day. We really hope that you will keep those classes running and even expand them during the current lock-down, as they give some relief from the psychological stress our kids are enduring nowadays."

Serene Musallam Farah

"I would just like to commend you all on the great work you are all doing....we appreciate your efforts and the efforts of our teachers."

Wafaa Saliby Nakleh

"I have to express to you how pleased we were to see how quickly the BHS team was able to adjust to this "new normal", ramping up online delivery of educational content to the children. We know of many schools where this did not take place..."



BHS In The Press

As the school was one of the first to kick-off with this remote learning, with the onset of Covid-19 in the country, BHS has often been asked by the press to provide information on its e-learning platforms, sessions and experiences. The school's overall digital campus provision was detailed extensively in an Annahar article on April 11th and the Online Pastoral Sessions offered to the Infant Section were some of their kind in the country and were featured in a Daily Star article on March 31st.

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