



BACK TO SCHOOL

WHAT TO EXPECT WITH HYBRID LEARNING



OURPLANET
International School Muscat

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As part of our Back to School Plan, we would like to explain more in detail about the Hybrid learning and what to expect with teaching and learning at school and home. This is applicable to students of PYP 2 to PYP 6 only.

1. What is hybrid learning or blended learning?

Hybrid or blended learning combines face-to-face and home teaching and learning. Approximately half of the class sessions are on-campus while the other half has students working from home.

2. How will OurPlanet hybrid programme be organised?

Students in each class will be part of a small class size (bubble) with a maximum 12 students, and attend face-to-face classes with the same peers until the Ministry of Education allows the full reopening of the school. The school timetable will be set on a two-week rotation to ensure 5 days of face-to-face and 5 days of home learning for all students. See below for details:

Bubble 1						
	Week A			Week B		
(Face-to Face)	Sunday	Tuesday	Thursday	Monday	Wednesday	
(Home learning)	Monday	Wednesday		Sunday	Tuesday	Thursday
Bubble 2						
(Face-to Face)	Monday	Wednesday		Sunday	Tuesday	Thursday
(Home learning)	Sunday	Tuesday	Thursday	Monday	Wednesday	

3. What happens in class?

Class time is reserved for discussion, collaboration, problem solving, experimentation, clarification of the conceptual (big ideas), procedural (skills) and factual (content) knowledge that students are exploring and developing in the context of the units of enquiry. Face-to-face sessions provide opportunities for students to exchange ideas and show understanding of the new knowledge they are gaining. It is also an opportunity for teachers and students to discuss progress, clarify doubts and set new goals.

4. What happens at home?

To enhance learning, tasks set for students to do at home will combine two approaches:

- **Traditional approach:** tasks provide further practice to help consolidate knowledge and skills introduced in class;



- **Flipped classroom:** students are introduced to content at home and practice working through it at school with the support of the teacher and in collaboration with students.

5. Will the students need an adult to complete the tasks at home?

No, all the tasks set to do at home will be explained to students the day before in class. The role of the parent or guardian at home is to ensure that the student has a quiet place at home to work.

6. Will the students need extra materials to complete the tasks at home?

No, all the materials needed to complete the tasks will be provided by the teacher the day before. This will include jotters, readings, worksheets, books, manipulatives, games, and anything else students will need to complete the tasks successfully.

7. Will there be any changes to the IB pedagogical philosophy of OurPlanet?

No, concept-based enquiry remains the leading pedagogical approach used at OurPlanet and is the basis of all learning and teaching of the school's programme of enquiry. Both home learning and face-to-face experiences will have an explicit focus on agency - voice, choice and ownership - to encourage active, enquiring students to take responsibility for their own learning.

8. Will there be a focus on student wellbeing?

Yes, very much so. Lack of social interactions, school closure and intense media coverage on coronavirus can lead children to feeling overwhelmed, anxious, scared, uncertain or stressed. Our goal is to support students to regain a sense of control and normality, and to develop strategies for maintaining their wellbeing. The school has put in place a series of measures and procedures to ensure that students feel safe and comfortable at school:

- Small class sizes and set up of the classroom will provide a home feeling to both teachers and students;
- Teachers will encourage students to express how they feel, share their ideas and offer strategies to help them feel better about themselves;
- Pedagogical lunches: Teachers and students will eat together in the classroom and go through the meals routine together as a family, i.e. wash their hands, set up the table, have conversations while eating, and tidy up together afterwards.



9. How can parents support their children?

- Be involved! Ask questions and talk about what happened in class that day and what was set to do at home the following day.
- Help your child manage their workload and develop healthy daily routines in a suitable learning location.
- Create a schedule for home learning days and include breaks throughout the day while at home.
- Set up a working area for your child at home with all the stationary resources needed and a reliable internet connection.
- Be mindful of your child's wellbeing by talking about their challenges or concerns. If you need support, please inform your child's homeroom teacher.
- If you have multiple children engaged in hybrid learning simultaneously, help each child have their own working space to avoid distractions.

10. What will students be encouraged and supported to do both at school and at home?

- Establish a consistent daily routine to support their learning.
- Identify a comfortable, quiet space so that they can work effectively and successfully with minimal distractions.
- Engage in all tasks with academic honesty and integrity.
- Check relevant platforms for communication (email, Google classroom, Mathseeds/ Mathletics, BrainPop).
- Seek clarification from peers or teachers when unsure of expectations.
- Complete tasks as instructed by teachers.
- Collaborate with peers.
- Complete all tasks and assessments on time.
- Take breaks, play often, be active, and get plenty of rest.
- Be mindful of workload and wellbeing.
- Communicate with the teacher and/or parent if need support.

For further information on subject specific learning outcomes and programme of enquiry for each grade level click [here](#).

