

Explanation of Google Classroom

Google Classroom is a 21st century distance learning platform. Google Classroom is your child's teacher's virtual classroom. The Chromebook laptops issued to students are specific to Google; however, Google Classroom can be accessed through any device with Internet access. Once accessed through a join code for each class, students can find all of their teacher's notes, assignments and at some points, assessments, on this platform.

Steps to access Google Classroom:

Once Internet connection is established, follow these steps:

1. Search Google Classroom in the Internet search bar.
2. Using the waffle symbol at the top right where the student's first initial pops up, choose the Google Classroom icon.
3. Two prompts will appear verifying the student's identity.
4. Next, choose the plus sign at the top right to join a class.
5. Obtain a join code from each teacher. These are specific to their classes, and only teachers can give them to you.
6. Once in the Google Classroom, use the three tabs **Stream**, **Classwork** and **People** at the top to navigate. This is where you can find assignments, participate in activities, take assessments and submit work.

NOTE: Not every teacher sets up his/her Google Classroom exactly the same, so take some time to understand where to find things in each classroom.

Uses of Google Classroom:

The main purpose of Google Classroom is to be able to fluidly transition to a distance learning situation should school shut down again. However, since the beginning of this school year our teachers have been using Google Classroom as a tool in conjunction with in-person teaching. Because of this, students are already well-versed in the Google Classroom platform. If any quarantine situation should arise, the transition to a full or part time at-home learning situation should be smooth.

Learning during Quarantine:

If your child has to quarantine for any situation, please have your child follow the following steps in an effort to continue learning:

1. Email his/her teacher to communicate his/her current situation.
2. Have your student attempt to keep up with all lessons, assignments and even assessments through Google Classroom.
3. Ask your child's teacher if she/he plans to use Google Meet for live streaming their class. Teachers are beginning to use this tool. They might even record the live stream for later viewing.

NOTE: If your child is able, we highly encourage your child to keep up as best as possible as to avoid a break in learning. Also, if quarantined for a length of time, make-up work for all 7 classes is daunting. Using Google Classroom for all classes, can alleviate much of the make-up work stress for your child. *Teachers will enter 0s for assignments as a reminder to your child to make up work.* These will be changed as soon as work is made up; however, it is completely possible to avoid make up work altogether using Google Classroom during quarantine.