Blended Learning for Chung Cheng High School (Main)

What is Blended Learning?

• Blending of In-School Learning (ISL) and Home-Based Learning (HBL)
  ○ Students will carry out Home-Based Learning (HBL) on some days in a school term
  ○ Integration of HBL as a regular feature in the schooling experience

• Our school will start teaching using the blended learning approach from 2021 Term 3
Why Home-Based Learning (HBL) day?

- In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic showed us that it is important for our children to be able to plan their own learning and adjust to different modes of learning.

- One of the ways we will help our children achieve this is to introduce HBL days as part of our Blended Learning (BL) efforts in our Secondary Schools and JCs and MI.

What will students experience as part of HBL Day?

- MOE’s model of HBL day gives students different types of learning experiences:
  
  - Learn content that is within and outside of the curriculum
  - Be given opportunities to plan their own learning for the day
  - Use a range of resources for learning, e.g. print and digital materials

- This would allow for a seamless blending and continuity of learning in school and on HBL Day.
**When & how often will HBL Day take place?**

- As part of students’ schooling experience, HBL Day will take place on 3 to 4 days in a school term.
- For our school, it will take place on Thursdays during our Blended Learning Weeks which are Week 5, 6 and 9 of Term 3.
- Objective of HBL:
  - Enhance digital literacy skills and the use of ICT tools in learning
  - Nurture independent and self-directed learners

**Structure of Blended Learning**

- Students will have two sets of timetable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full School Week (FS Week) Timetable</th>
<th>Blended Learning Week (BL Week) Timetable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Students report to school for In-School Learning (ISL) for all days of the week  
  • Usual school arrangements          | • Students report to school for In-School Learning (ISL) on Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri  
  • Selected student cohort will stay at home for Home-Based Learning (HBL) on Thursdays  
  ○ Follow the learning schedule for the day  
  ○ Live check-in with teacher each lesson  
  ○ Time for Student-Initiated Learning (SIL) |
HBL arrangement during Blended Learning Week in Term 3

- The school has selected Term 3 week 5, 6 and 9 for Blended Learning week.

- For Home-Based Learning (HBL) on Thursdays,
  - **Sec 1 to 3 students will stay at home**
    - Follow the learning schedule for the day
    - Access HBL instructions from subject Google classroom
    - Have live check-in with teacher each lesson
    - Have time for Student-Initiated Learning (SIL)

- **Sec 4 students will report to school** for face-to-face lessons

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### HBL Timetable (Term 3 Wks 5, 6 and 9, Thursday)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Lesson Time</th>
<th>Sec 1 to 3</th>
<th>Sec 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8.30 – 9.15</td>
<td>HBL at home</td>
<td>Face-to-face lessons in school</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9.15 – 10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10.00 – 10.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10.45 – 11.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>11.30 – 12.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>12.15 – 1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.00 – 2.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>1.00 - 1.45 pm: Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2.00 – 3.00</td>
<td>SIL</td>
<td>1.45 - 3.15 pm: Face-to-face lessons in school</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Subjects featured on a HBL Day in Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sec 1</th>
<th>Sec 2</th>
<th>Sec 3</th>
<th>Sec 4 (F2F)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● English</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Higher Chinese</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Mathematics</td>
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<td>● Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>● History</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Geography</td>
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<td>● English</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Higher Chinese</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Mathematics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Science</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
<td>● English</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● Higher Chinese or Chinese</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>● Chemistry</td>
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<td>● Mathematics</td>
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<td>● Social Studies</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>● Higher Chinese or Chinese</td>
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<td>● Chemistry</td>
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<td>● Mathematics</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Subjects featured during HBL day may change on a termly basis.

### Student-Initiated Learning during HBL Day
What is Student-Initiated Learning?

Student-Initiated Learning is

• An opportunity for students to learn to be an independent, passionate and lifelong learner.

• A dedicated time during HBL for students to explore personal interests, both within and outside of curriculum.

Mode of Learning for Student-Initiated Learning (SIL)

• Developing new media literacies is essential in the highly connected world that we live in today. The mode of learning for the SIL will be the internet.

• This will allow students to hone the following skills in the New Media Literacies:
  • Curate: (our focus for 2021)
    o Search for relevant & appropriate info online
    o Discern the validity & accuracy of info online
Guidelines for Student-Initiated Learning

1. The learning must be done indoors, at home via the internet only.
2. It must be safe and should be stress-free.
3. It should not involve risky physical activities or the use of risky mechanical, kitchen or electrical tools.
4. Students can choose to focus on one learning area or a maximum of three learning areas to be completed within the duration of SIL during the term (i.e. 3 to 4 hours).
5. Students are to plan and submit their proposed SIL activity to their teachers. Teachers will read the plans and give guidance when necessary.
6. At the end of the term, students will be asked to submit a simple reflection to their teacher.

Digital Literacy Modules in SLS

To prepare our students to learn via the Internet during SIL, students will be tasked to complete the following modules in SLS during this June holiday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Title</th>
<th>Learning Objectives</th>
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| Determine reliability of information by the currency and accuracy of web    | 1. Identify publisher/author & date of publication of a web source to determine currency & accuracy  
| resources (LO4, Lesson 1)                                                  | 2. Learn the 5 fingers test: authority, accuracy, currency, coverage & objectivity                                                                                                                                     |
| Verify information to make discerning choice (LO5, Lesson 1)               | 1. Distinguish facts from opinions  
|                                                                             | 2. Determine accuracy & completeness of information by checking multiple web sources  
|                                                                             | 3. Apply S.U.R.E to determine accuracy and completeness of information, & to make a discerning choice                                                                                                             |
| Adopt a proactive stance to maintain online safety (LO6 Lesson 1 Part 1)   | 1. Implement procedures or guidelines for personal safety & security  
|                                                                             | 2. Recognise & avoid inappropriate content (socially or morally unacceptable)  
|                                                                             | 3. Report inappropriate content to a trusted adult or authority  
|                                                                             | 4. Respond appropriately when encountering disturbing online material  
|                                                                             | 5. Recognise ways to prevent & minimise security risks in various online situations                                                                                                                                   |
What would Student-Initiated Learning look like for our students?

• For her SIL, Student A wants to learn how to play the guitar.

• Using the SIL period, Student A watches YouTube guitar tutorials and practices with a guitar.

• At the end of the term, Student A submits a short reflection, capturing her learnings to her teacher via google form.

What would Student-Initiated Learning look like for our students?

• For her SIL, Student B has recently come across an article that talks about machine learning, and is interested to find out more about Artificial Intelligence. She logs on to SLS, and searches for resources on Artificial Intelligence.

• She goes through the SLS SIL lesson on Artificial Intelligence, watching the videos to better understand what it is. She attempts a quiz at the end to clarify her own understanding. She writes a short reflection, capturing her learnings and her excitement in this field, and submits it via the class Google Form.
How will the school provide feedback on students’ learning progress on HBL Day?

• Form teachers and subject teachers will follow up on your child’s learning during HBL Days when your child return to school on the following school day.

• Feedback on your child’s learning progress will be given to students through their Form teachers and subject teachers. Parents will be contacted should there be any issues/ concerns.

Can students return to school on HBL Days?

• The following groups of students may return to school:
  a) Students who require additional learning support from their teachers
  b) Student whose home situation is unsuitable to facilitate his/ her learning

• Any student returning to school on HBL days will need to explain to the Form Teacher at least a day before the reason(s) doing so;

• On HBL days, the returning student will need to report to Zhulin Building at 7.30am for attendance taking.
What avenues of support will be given to students on HBL Day?

If your child need any assistance during the HBL period, they can

- Contact their Form Teacher via email or Google Chat
- Call the school General Office at 6344 1393
- Call school ICT helpdesk at 6579 1395 (for any technical enquiries)

Will there still be CCAs on HBL Days?

- As CCAs are held on Wednesdays and Fridays, there will not be any CCAs or physical sessions conducted by teachers on HBL Days. HBL Days are set aside for our students to be engaged in self-directed and student-initiated learning.
Three tips on how you can support your child in taking greater ownership on HBL Day

Source: Parent Kit on “My Independent Learner”

**TIP #1**

A self-directed learner takes ownership of his/her own learning. A resilient learner reflects on mistakes and always strives to do better.

In school, we guide our students to take charge of their learning by getting them to keep track of their assignments and schedule.

At home, encourage your children to follow up on their assigned tasks and take care of their belongings independently.

*Don’t rely on teachers to give daily updates about your child, homework instructions, login details to online learning portals or test and exam preparations.*

*Let your children get ready for school on their own, and don’t deliver forgotten items to school. Making mistakes is part of learning.*

Source: Parent Kit on “My Independent Learner”
**TIP #2**
An intrinsically-motivated learner does not give up easily and isn't afraid of learning something difficult or solving complex problems.

In school, teachers assign homework to understand students' learning progress and the areas they do not understand.

At home, let your children attempt homework on their own and seek help from others if needed.

*Support them by creating a conducive space to complete their homework. Encourage them to approach their classmates and teachers when in need of help.*

*Source: Parent Kit on “My Independent Learner”*

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**TIP #3**
A curious learner often goes beyond the textbook to explore the world and derives a sense of fulfillment and deeper learning in the process.

In school, we nurture our students to be self-directed learners by providing opportunities for them to pursue areas of interest and to take the lead (e.g. through projects, courses, CCAs).

At home, let your children have a say in what they want to do, to give them space to discover new things and take charge of things they are interested in.

*Involve your child in decisions like the amount of screen time they can have and the kinds of meaningful activities they can do during free time. For example, let them try out new mini projects, pursue their hobbies and help out at home.*

*Source: Parent Kit on “My Independent Learner”*
Q1. Does HBL Day = E-Learning Days (that are already implemented in schools)?

No. HBL Day does not = E-Learning Day for the following reasons:

1) E-learning days focus solely on leveraging technology for the learning of curriculum content.

2) HBL Day can leverage technology for students learning, as well as through pen and paper assignments. HBL Day will also provide dedicated time (termed as “Student-Initiated Learning”) for students to learn outside the curriculum and pursue areas of interests.
Q2. Must parents be physically present to guide their children during HBL Day?

You are not required to take leave or time off from work to be physically present to coach your child or to oversee his/her progress during HBL Days. If you require support for child supervision you can approach any of our Year Heads at 63441393.

Parents are not expected to function as academic coaches during HBL Days. Rather, they can support their children in developing curiosity, self-directedness and independent learning by allowing them to take ownership of their learning, seek help from the right sources, plan their own HBL Day schedules and reflect on their learning.

Parents may also wish to check in regularly on their children’s progress and well-being by having conversations with them about their learning experiences and encouraging them to maintain an optimistic and positive outlook in their learning.

Q3. Must my child be on their learning device for the duration of HBL Day?

HBL Day will consist of a mix of online and offline learning. This can include both technology- and non-technology mediated modes of learning. For example, students can be given a mix of reading materials on the SLS platform as well as written assignments for their English lesson.
Q4. Can I schedule tuition/ enrichment activities for my child during curriculum time on HBL Day?

HBL Day is not meant for more enrichment or tuition classes, but for your child to exercise self-directedness and self-discipline in his/ her learning. It will be missed opportunity for the child if they attend enrichment or tuition classes instead.

Additional Resources for Parents

To support you in keeping your child safe online, you may refer to these additional resources:

- Parent Kit on [Cyber wellness](#)
- Parent Kit on [My Independent Learner](#)
- Secondary Student- Initiated Learning Guide
- [CNA documentary](#) – Life after COVID-19 (the education segment runs from the 20-33 min mark)
Thank you!