

# Proposed Educational Plan at CTI for the 2020-2021 School Year

## Information for the parents and students

### Update



Welcome to another school year at CTI.

We share with you the prospects for instruction at CTI, given the coronavirus situation. Our concern is the education and wellbeing of our students.

May God bless the new school year!

#### When does the new school year begin?

Monday, September 28, 2020: Grades 7 – 12

Wednesday, September 30, 2020: Grades 1 – 6

Tuesday, October 6, 2020: KG – details to be given separately

#### What educational plan is CTI going to pursue?

CTI has studied the potential educational possibilities for the 2020-2021 school year. Several plans were prepared, for any possibility that may be followed. The CTI teachers were trained extensively for online and/or hybrid education.

As matters stand, we are going to start with a hybrid (blended) option. The procedure is liable to modification or updating or change.

#### What is hybrid education at CTI?

The students will be divided into sections A1, A2, B1 and B2.

On a single day, sections A1 and A2 will come to school, while B1 and B2 will be studying online at home. The following day, B1 and B2 will be at school, while A1 and A2 are studying online at home. This procedure goes on.

Instruction is divided between class and home. Students who are at home are expected to be studying, following uploads on Google Classroom and Online Academic.

Students need laptops/desktops and internet access at home, as was the case last year.

#### What technology is going to be used?

We have secured special permission to use G Suite, a wide-ranging platform that includes many applications, including Meet, Drive, Classroom, Gmail, Chat and much more.

#### What educational model is CTI going to use?

We will be using this instructional model:

interaction + explanation + application + activity + evaluation + feedback

A diagram showing a sequence of six components: 'interaction + explanation + application + activity + evaluation + feedback'. The text is enclosed in a rectangular box. A vertical line starts from the bottom of the word 'interaction' and goes up to the word 'interaction'. A horizontal line starts from the bottom of the word 'interaction' and goes right to the word 'feedback'. A vertical line starts from the bottom of the word 'feedback' and goes up to the word 'feedback'. This forms a U-shaped path that highlights the entire sequence.

Interaction is when the teacher and the student, or the student and the student, discuss matters, ask questions, and offer suggestions. There is actual “talk” between the protagonists, whether face to face, or online.

Explanation is a one sided affair from the teacher, with possible discussion with the students. Here, the lesson is outlined, expanded, and shared with the students.

Application: This is classwork. Students work on their own, with the teacher’s help, or with the help of peers (keeping a distance). Application could be homework, as well.

Activity: Activities can be done in class, at home as classwork, or as homework (overnight, or for a specified extended period). Students may film themselves here and send the teacher.

Evaluation: Have the students learned? Were the objectives met? The teacher can know through questioning, through sample exercises, or through exams (short or long).

Feedback: Was the lesson understood? If not, the teacher explains again. If all is OK, the session goes on with different material, using the same procedure.

Note: It is possible not to have all dimensions in the same session.

### **What will the daily schedule for hybrid education be like?**

There will be 7 full periods per day at school, of 45 minutes each.

Breaks are shorter. They are also staggered, with different groups of students going for breaks at different times. There will be no chapel sessions for the time being.

The school day starts at 7:30 and ends at 1:30 for all classes.

### **What are the coronavirus measures that will be taken at CTI?**

The following Covid-19 precautions will be taken:

- Smaller sections: at any day, one section will be at school, divided into two sections, unless a section is already smaller in number than the governmental recommendation.
- Social distancing: students will have to keep away from each other. There should be no communication within close range, as well as no hugging or shaking of hands.
- Wearing masks by students and teachers at all times
- Regular disinfecting of classrooms
- Constant washing of hands and sanitizing by gel
- Checking on the temperature of students. If a student is discovered to have fever, he/she will be sent home immediately.
- Change in format of lessons in subjects such as music, PE, art, library, and such.
- Parents need to deposit their children at the back gate and leave, in order to minimize contact with others.
- Students are expected to get their own snacks, sandwiches and water. There will be no snacks or food in the canteen. Only water will be available, if needed.

It should be of note that in case of coronavirus cases, CTI will follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health or Ministry of Education. CTI is not to be held responsible.

May God keep us safe!

### **What about textbooks?**

CTI is aiming to give instruction without books, to a large extent. As was seen last semester, CTI phased out of books.

At any rate, there will be a huge book trade during the first days of schools. Students are asked to get their books on the first days of school. They will give their books to the students of a lower class.

This will be of great assistance to the parents, given the current exorbitant price of books. But, we are bound to face problems in distribution, so the parents are kindly asked to bear with us. Parents may buy copybooks from CTI or from any bookstore. There is no obligation to buy from CTI. Also, parents may procure a minimal number of copybooks, and replenish as needed.

### **Will we keep hybrid (blended) education the whole year?**

It depends on several factors, mainly the coronavirus situation. Our hybrid program will keep being evaluated and modified. In case of need, instruction at CTI could go fully online. It is also possible, to have regular face-to-face education, if the coronavirus situation dissipates. All procedures discussed herein are liable to change.

### **What about fully online instruction?**

It is possible, if the need arises, to go fully online after having started otherwise. In this case, students study at home, via computer.

Students need computers and internet access. Students are familiar with the procedure from the second semester of last year.

Classes start at 7:30. Teachers follow the timetable of a regular school year, exactly. There are breaks in between the periods, and the 2 recesses (including chapels) are respected. The school day ends at 2:45.

Instruction is mainly live, via Google Meet. Students are expected to attend each session, and do the required work that is posted on Classroom. CTI has special permission to use Meet for large number of participants, and for an unlimited amount of time. It is a good idea for the parents and students to start practicing how to use Meet.

Attendance will be taken, and graded. Assignments are compulsory. Exams are online.

### **What is the honor code for online education?**

Students are expected to be able to pledge:

“I will attend Meet meetings in full. I will join the lessons on time. I will raise my hand, and ask questions as needed. I will not interrupt or disturb others in Meet sessions. I will do my assignments as requested. All exams I will do on my own, without help from my family or friends. In class settings, I will keep a distance from my friends, abide by coronavirus regulations and sit/interact as instructed by the school.”

**What about parental help in online education?**

Part of online education is technology skills. The CTI students learned many such techniques during the last semester.

Basically, most of the students can manage with Classroom and Meet. Parents of the lower grades should spend some time familiarizing their children with Classroom.

We pray for a good year, whatever the mode of instruction is. We pray for the safety and wellbeing of the CTI community. We pray for our beloved Lebanon.

Blessings for year!

*Liable to change or modification!*