



CHP VIRTUAL ACADEMY

Synchronous Learning and Social Engagement for Preschool – Grade 8 Students

FAQ

What is the difference between Synchronous Learning and Asynchronous Learning?

(Source: elearners.com)

Synchronous 	Asynchronous 
Students learn at the same time.	Students learn at different times.
Communication happens in real time.	Communication is not live.
Possibly more engaging and effective.	Possibly more convenient and flexible.
Allows for instant feedback and clarification.	Allows students to work at their own pace.
Examples Video conferencing, live chat, live streamed videos.	Examples Email, screencasts, Flipgrid videos, blog posts/comments.

Synchronous learning is when classes occur on set schedules and time frames. Students and instructors are online at the same time in synchronous classes since lectures, discussions, and presentations take place at specific hours. All students must be online at that exact time in order to participate in the class.

Some students like synchronous courses because they want to feel involved, in real-time, with the class experience. They might find it rewarding to ask a question or offer a comment, and to receive instant feedback. For some people, real-time communication could provide them with the educational experience they need to thrive.

Asynchronous classes let students complete their work on their own time. Students are given a time frame – usually a one-week window – during which they need to connect to their class at least once or twice. In asynchronous courses, you could hit the books no matter what hour of day (or night). When studying asynchronously, students could work at their own pace.

This format is much easier to manage from a school administrative perspective and more fiscally efficient for educational institutions in terms of capital investment. Additionally, this model does not require teacher training or pedagogical knowledge, and needs less staffing.

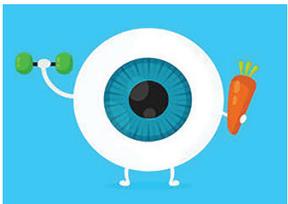
Why is the Cedar Hill Prep School model synchronous?

As an educational institution, we realize that schools provide spaces for children to learn academic content, express their creativity with classes in art, music, drama, learning new languages, and physical education. In addition, the most important aspect of schooling is the social engagement and peer to peer connection. Researchers have clearly demonstrated that learning in a school with students improves the cognitive, cultural, and social well-being of children. Learning in a group is critical from Preschool – Grade 8. However, by high school some students can exist in asynchronous learning environments, but it is optimal for self-motivated students.



Our goal is the social emotional well-being of every child. The design of the Cedar Hill Prep School Virtual Academy was based on scientific and empirical evidence provided by a sound theoretical framework.

How will Cedar Hill Prep School address the concerns related to Screen Time and eye strain?



Cedar Hill Prep School administration and teachers work closely to monitor student engagement online and have open communication with the students about their health. The schedule is organized to provide a healthy balance of screen and off screen activities despite being synchronous. Additionally, students are given opportunities to stretch, blink their eyes, and do brain break activities to support their well-being.

Students also engage in “social hour” during lunch and recess. More importantly, the administration and teachers are pedagogically proficient to use instructional strategies that support synchronous engagement and curricular needs.



Why are we confident with our Virtual School?

The School Founder is an educator and an active member of an international cohort of educators at Johns Hopkins University which includes teacher educators and heads of schools in both platforms, e-learning and brick & mortar schools. There is a constant exchange of best practices among the cohorts to facilitate student learning during these unprecedented times.

What is the Mission and Vision of the CHP Virtual Academy?

The mission and vision of the CHP Virtual Academy is to integrate the goals of the regular school, providing a rigorous education in a nurturing environment with social interaction, helping to maintain the sense of community in the virtual school.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!