



August 26, 2020

At-Home Learning Program

Dear Calgary Arts Academy Community:

The Art of Learning At-Home Learning program has been created in response to meeting the needs of our families who choose to have their children remain at home from September 1 to December 18, 2020. Please note that Kindergarten students and Year 10 students are not part of this program. Year 10 students are attending school. As Kindergarten is an optional program and CAA has one teacher, we are not able to provide At-Home Learning for this group. At the beginning of each month, however, registered Kindergarten families who choose not to have their children attend school will receive a list of activities that parents can facilitate at home.

This temporary support allows registered students to receive course instruction and to complete individualized learning contracts. In December, CAA Administration will re-evaluate programming requirements.

This learning approach requires parent supervision and engagement as a partner with CAA. We will be using Zoom, MS Teams and FreshGrade for delivery. CAA will strive to provide our students with technological support, resources and materials required to complete this program. Pre-recorded videos and printable resources will be used.

As we now have our baseline numbers of At-Home Learners, we can assign the required staff to provide the At-Home and in-school learning. We are able to provide some flexibility for families to enter into the At-Home Learning program and to move to in-school learning based on staff/student allocations. Requests may be submitted to kloftus@caaschool.com and will be approved based on availability.

This requires us to make changes to our in-school Year 1 to 5 homerooms. **Student homerooms may be reassigned to balance our in-school student numbers and to release Learning Leaders to facilitate At-Home Learning. This reassignment will take place on Thursday August 27th.** Staff have worked hard to ensure student placements are successful, keeping in mind that our first priority is safety and security. We appreciate your support with this required change.

Superintendent Dale Erickson and Principal Michelle Stonehouse will be hosting our third Question and Answer session on Zoom on Friday, August 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to answer questions you may have. The Zoom link will be sent out shortly.

We are pleased to provide the following information regarding At-Home Learning:

1. Staffing for At-Home Learning is based on the number of students registered.

2. Teachers assigned to deliver the At-Home Learning program are the Learning Leaders who are responsible for curriculum planning and delivery on each Team.
 - Year 1 Jessica Maye
 - Year 2/3 Amanda Bonnell
 - Year 4/5 Alyson Moore
 - Year 6/7 Rob Lewis
 - Year 8/9 Juleta Severson-Baker

Learning Leaders are currently planning online instructional times for students. You will receive this information on September 4, 2020.

3. The number of students currently registered for At-Home Learning are:
 - Year 1 14 0.5 Teacher
 - Year 2/3 20 1.0 Teacher
 - Year 4/5 19 1.0 Teacher
 - Year 6/7 12 1.0 Teacher
 - Year 8/9 18 1.0 Teacher

4. Current vacancies for At-Home Learning are:
 - Year 1 1
 - Year 2/3 5
 - Year 4/5 6
 - Year 6/7 13
 - Year 8/9 7

Year 1 to 9 instruction will focus on core subject areas as defined by Alberta Education. These include Math, Science, Language Arts and Social Studies. The Arts will be immersed through the use of learning contracts. Pre-recorded videos providing arts instruction and physical education may be provided throughout the semester. These videos will be available through Zoom, MS Teams and will provide additional instruction to facilitate both real-time online learning and independent work.

All students will meet with their At-Home Learning Facilitator at the beginning of the school day for attendance. During the day, students will engage in real-time instruction, pre-recorded video instruction, small group instruction, individual instruction and individual work time. At-Home Learning Facilitators will also be available to meet with families during the day.

The first three days, September 1, 2 and 3 will focus on building culture, ensuring technology is available and working, digital citizenship and reviewing the pillars of CAA.

In addition, students will be expected to complete reading and assignments for the following periods of time:

Years 1 to 3 30 minutes per day

Year 4 to 6 45 minutes per day
Year 7 to 9 1 hour per day

To Support Learning

- Learning Facilitators will provide engaging, curriculum-based lessons that require active student participation.
- Learning Facilitators will assess assignments and report progress to parents.
- Students will complete the same learning contracts that students complete at school.
- Students will have access to individual or small group instruction. Teachers will check progress and provide feedback to students and parents.
- Teaching will follow provincial learning outcomes.

Parent/Guardian Learning Support

Parent engagement is required to ensure that students are available for real online learning, are actively participating and are completing and submitting assignments. The amount of time required will depend on the age of your child, the learning style of your child, their level of independence as learners and your personal availability to provide additional learning support. Clear communication between the parent/guardian and the Learning Facilitator is an expectation.

Thank you!