

P A R E F  
Southridge



# Frequently Asked Questions

Version 1 | 3 July 2020





# Introduction

Dear parents,

Thank you for your support during the Orientation and Q&A sessions we conducted. We hope that through these sessions, we were able to give you a clearer picture of what's in store for your son and your family this school year.

As promised, we compiled most of your questions from these sessions. We're answering them here in more detail. These FAQs supplement the Guidebook and address the concerns that were not thoroughly answered in it. Nevertheless, if you have other questions, please feel free to reach Tech Support at [techintegrationsupport@parefsouthridge.edu.ph](mailto:techintegrationsupport@parefsouthridge.edu.ph).



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## 1. What process did Southridge go through in developing its Learning Continuity Plan and the Guidebook?

The Learning Continuity Plan is the product of our research into online learning and our consultation with several experts. We also benchmarked within and outside the PAREF system for best practices here and abroad.

## 2. How different is Southridge’s online-learning model from a homeschool?

Our online-learning model builds on home-school collaboration. We capitalize on the expertise of our teachers in their design and delivery of the synchronous classes and asynchronous modules. We equip our parents with the necessary skills and support so that they can monitor their children’s education from home. We continue personal formation through online mentoring and other formative activities. Our aim is not simply to transmit content online, but to move the unique Southridge experience into a virtual campus. Homeschools may not have these features readily available.



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## 3. When is the deadline for enrollment?

The deadline for regular enrollment was last June 15. You may still enroll, however, as we have waived late enrollment fees. We encourage you to do so as soon as possible since we are finalizing the sectioning and mentor-mentee pairing.

## 4. When does school start?

The school year opens on August 17. However, the trial run, which is available to all students from SY 2019-2020, will run from July 21 to August 4. Please refer to slide 19 of the Guidebook v1 for more details on the trial run.

## 5. Will my young son need adult supervision during class and module hours?

An adult, who may be a guardian or older sibling, will have to help young students set up their devices at the start of the day. He/she will also have to help them access their modules in the afternoon and submit their work after. However, during the first two weeks of classes, teachers will train their students to develop routines so that they can navigate the online environment with more automaticity as the year progresses.





# CLASSES

## 6. How many students will there be in a section?

There will be 15 to 17 students in one section.

## 7. How long do synchronous classes last?

Synchronous classes last 30 mins for the Grade School and 40 mins for the High School. For sample class schedules, please refer to slides 9 to 11 of the Guidebook v1.

## 8. Will the synchronous classes be recorded and uploaded? How long will they stay uploaded?

Yes, subject teachers will record synchronous classes and upload them in their subjects' Google Classrooms. The recordings will be kept there until the end of the term or period. This is done so that students who experience poor internet connection or who want to review the classes may do so at a later time.



# CLASSES

## 9. Will my son have to log in and out of different Google Classrooms to access his subjects?

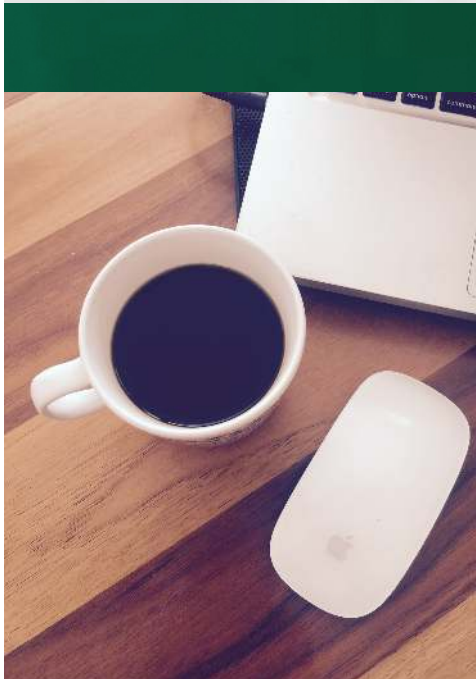
Grade School students will use only one link for their synchronous classes; this is the link of their Advisory Classroom. It is the subject teacher who will enter the Advisory Classroom. High School students, however, will switch Google Classrooms by clicking on the corresponding links. All class materials will be stored in the respective Google Classrooms.

## 10. Does my son have to keep his camera switched on during synchronous classes?

We prefer that students keep their camera switched on during classes. However, if this affects internet connectivity, they may switch it off after they show themselves to their teacher. Students should mute themselves during synchronous classes.

## 11. Where will teachers teach from?

We hope to ask our teachers to report back to school so that they can teach from a more conducive environment. However, we are also prepared to teach from home at any point during the school year if it is necessary to do so.



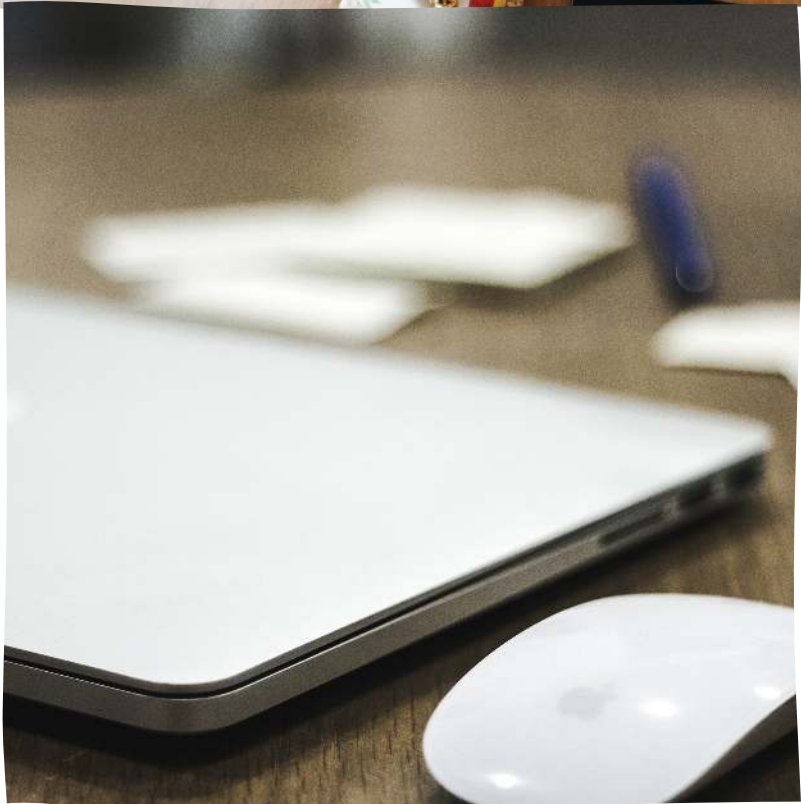
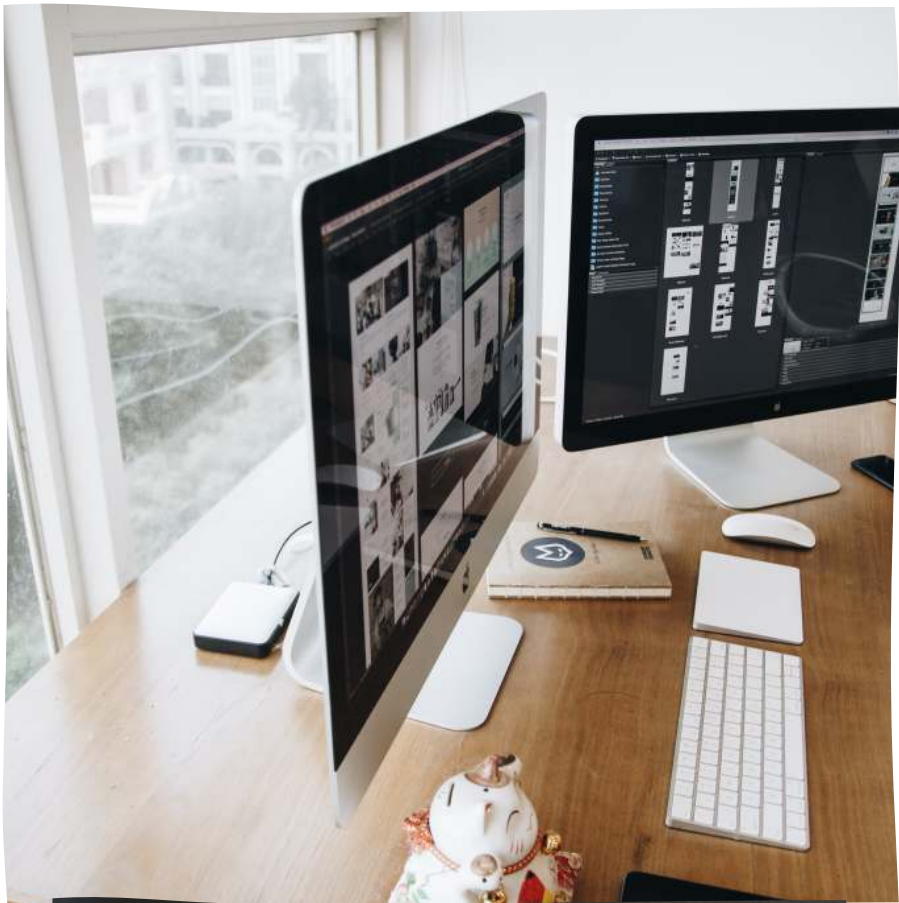
## 12. How long do asynchronous modules last?

Asynchronous modules last 40 mins for the Grade School and 50 mins for the High School. To learn more about modules, please refer to slide 5 of the Guidebook v1.

## 13. How will consultations be done during module hours?

The teachers will block off time in their schedules for consultations during module hours. Students will sign up for consultation so the teachers know who to expect. Younger students will consult their teachers via Google Meet, while older students may use other platforms within the Google environment. Once the consultation procedure is drafted, we will include it in the Guidebook v2.

# MODULES





**14. Will modules require my son to access the internet?**

Yes. Students need to access the internet to get their modules which will be uploaded in Google Classroom. However, the modules themselves will often require offline activities, e.g., working on practice exercises from the textbook, reading some pages from a novel, etc.

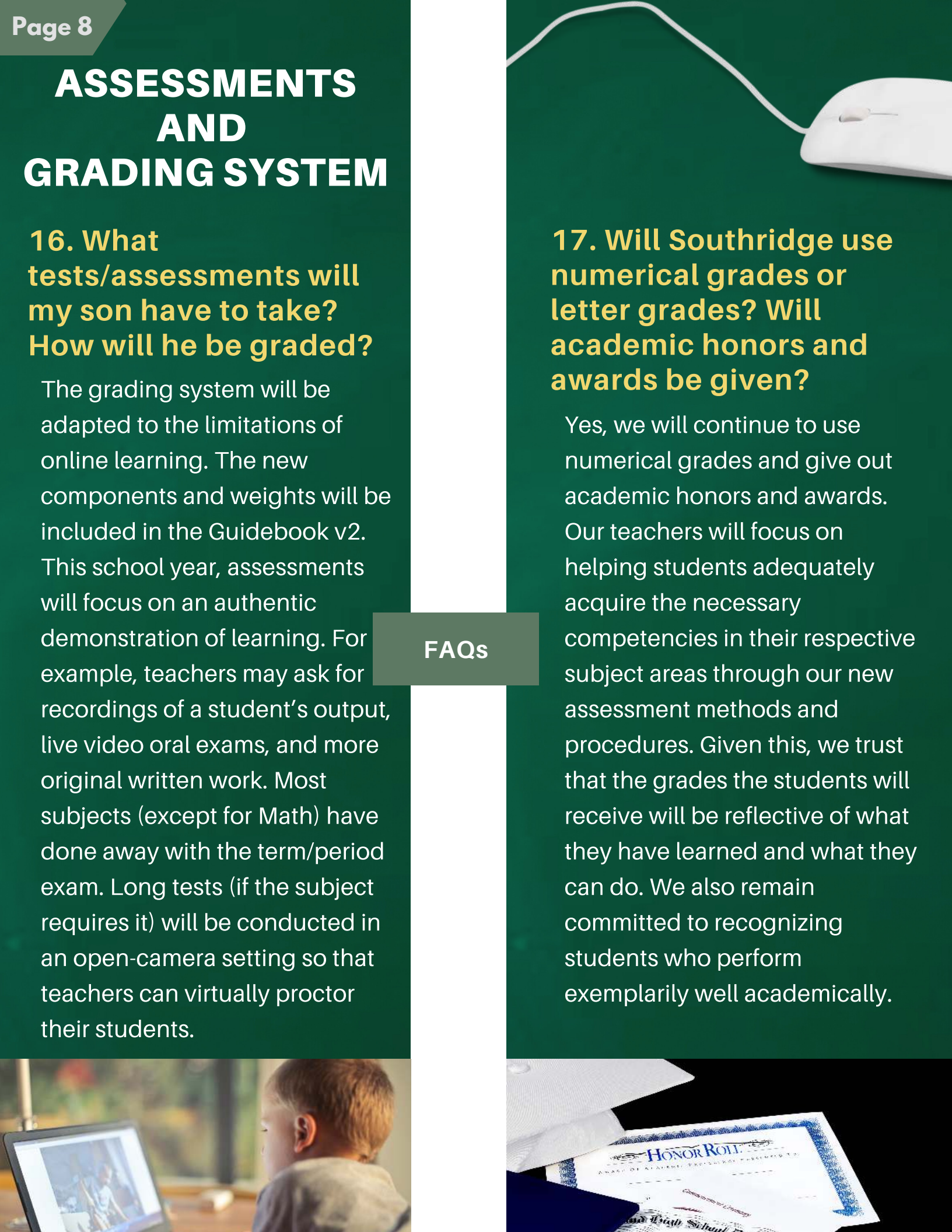
**15. Will modules require my son to print handouts? How will he submit his work?**

Modules may require students to print materials, but printing requirements will always be announced ahead of time. Not all module materials will need to be printed because modules are a mix of online and offline activities. All student submissions will be done online. There will be no need to come to school to submit anything.

# MODULES







# ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING SYSTEM

## 16. What tests/assessments will my son have to take? How will he be graded?

The grading system will be adapted to the limitations of online learning. The new components and weights will be included in the Guidebook v2. This school year, assessments will focus on an authentic demonstration of learning. For example, teachers may ask for recordings of a student’s output, live video oral exams, and more original written work. Most subjects (except for Math) have done away with the term/period exam. Long tests (if the subject requires it) will be conducted in an open-camera setting so that teachers can virtually proctor their students.

### FAQs

## 17. Will Southridge use numerical grades or letter grades? Will academic honors and awards be given?

Yes, we will continue to use numerical grades and give out academic honors and awards. Our teachers will focus on helping students adequately acquire the necessary competencies in their respective subject areas through our new assessment methods and procedures. Given this, we trust that the grades the students will receive will be reflective of what they have learned and what they can do. We also remain committed to recognizing students who perform exemplarily well academically.



# ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING SYSTEM

## 18. Will there still be homework?

No. Homework, as we traditionally understand it, will be incorporated into the modules. The only possibility of doing homework is when students don't finish their assigned task during the synchronous classes and will, therefore, have to spend some time after class finishing it.

## 19. Will there be group work?

Yes. Group work is an integral part of basic education and Southridge formation. The online-learning environment makes available several opportunities for students to collaborate with each other using online apps, such as Google Docs, Slides, Jamboard, etc. Our teachers will maximize these opportunities while ensuring that activities are properly graded and regulated by rubrics.

### FAQs

## 20. Will Southridge require printed textbooks and other materials? How can we purchase them?

We will continue to require some printed textbooks and other materials, e.g., notebooks, pencils, pad paper, etc. because they provide good opportunities for offline learning. Even if learning materials will be made available online, e.g., through videos, articles, podcasts, etc., teachers will design classes and modules so that the prescribed textbooks are maximized. These textbooks and materials can be purchased through the bookstore or you may procure them on your own. The procedure for ordering from the bookstore will be communicated in a bulletin.

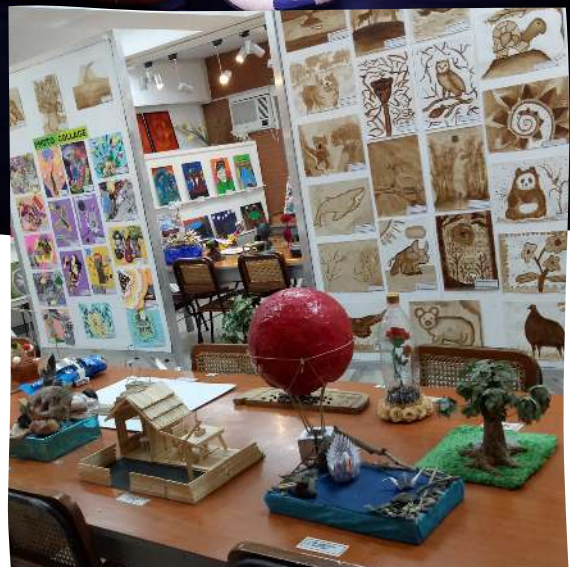




# ASSESSMENTS AND GRADING SYSTEM

## 21. How will PE, Music, Art, and Work Ed be taught?

PE will be taught using modules. Music, Art, and Work Ed will be taught using classes. The competencies that will be covered will likewise be adapted to the online-learning environment. For example, PE will not cover team sports, but will focus on personal physical activities and health. Work Ed will not cover carpentry, but will include drafting.





# PERSONAL FORMATION

## 22. Who will my son's mentor be for this school year?

The mentor-mentee pairings for this school year will depend on the number of students and teachers we have. They will be announced prior to the opening of school.

## 23. Can my son go to Confession online?

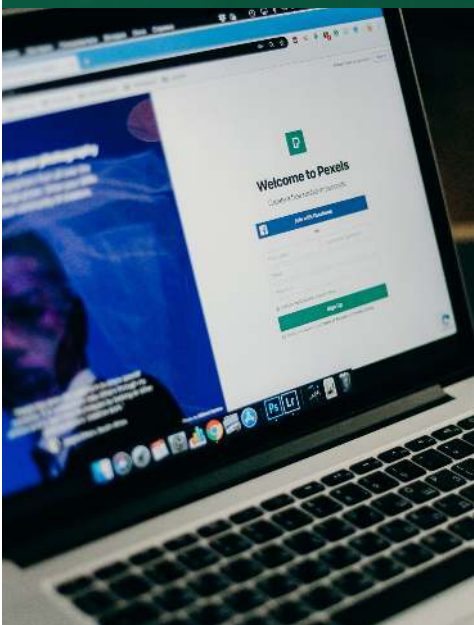
No. The Church has always taught that the Sacrament of Confession can only be received in a face-to-face setting. However, students may set a spiritual direction session with the chaplain online.



# ACTIVITIES

## 24. Will my son have opportunities to interact with his classmates outside of the synchronous classes?

Yes. The advisory periods (which are twice daily, except on Wednesdays) will be designed in such a way that they encourage the students to interact with each other. It will replicate the informal banter our students have in their live classrooms. Parents may also organize virtual meet ups among their sons to encourage camaraderie.



## 25. Will we still have our hallmark activities, e.g., Father’s Day, Family Day, Father and Son camping, Buwan ng Wika, English Week, etc.? How about the year end Recognition and Graduation ceremonies?

We will not have these activities in their usual form, but we are presently brainstorming on how we can possibly hold these activities online. If restrictions are eased towards the latter part of the school year, we can determine whether it is possible to have the year end activities in a face-to-face setting.





# ACTIVITIES

## 26. Will we still have interest clubs?

Yes. While there will be fewer clubs, we will adapt them to the online environment and have them conduct activities on Wednesdays. They will complement our academic program and provide our students with opportunities to enhance their skills and interact with their peers.



## 27. Will there be varsity teams this year?

Yes. The various varsity teams are currently doing trial runs of their online activities. Their immediate goal for this year is to keep our student athletes fit and healthy for their eventual participation in competitions. The specific details of the program will be communicated through a bulletin during the first week of classes.



## 28. Will Southridge still have First Holy Communion and Confirmation?

Depending on the restrictions in the succeeding months, we may or may not have our own First Holy Communion and Confirmation rites. Regardless, we will continue to prepare our students to receive these sacraments. It might be possible for them to receive these sacraments from parishes, or we may defer them altogether to next school year. We have to wait for the government and diocesan regulations to develop to decide on this.





# DISCIPLINE

## 29. Does my son have to wear the official Southridge uniform? How about the pants? How about the gala?

Students should wear a collared shirt for synchronous classes. They may or may not use their Southridge green or blue polo shirts. They may also purchase new polo shirts from the bookstore. We do not have a dress code prescription for the pants. The gala uniform will not be used this year.

## 30. What happens if my son cannot get the prescribed haircut?

If students cannot get the prescribed haircut because of quarantine restrictions, they or their parents should inform their class adviser. They should fix their hair for them to look presentable at all times. Older students should be cleanly shaven.





# DISCIPLINE

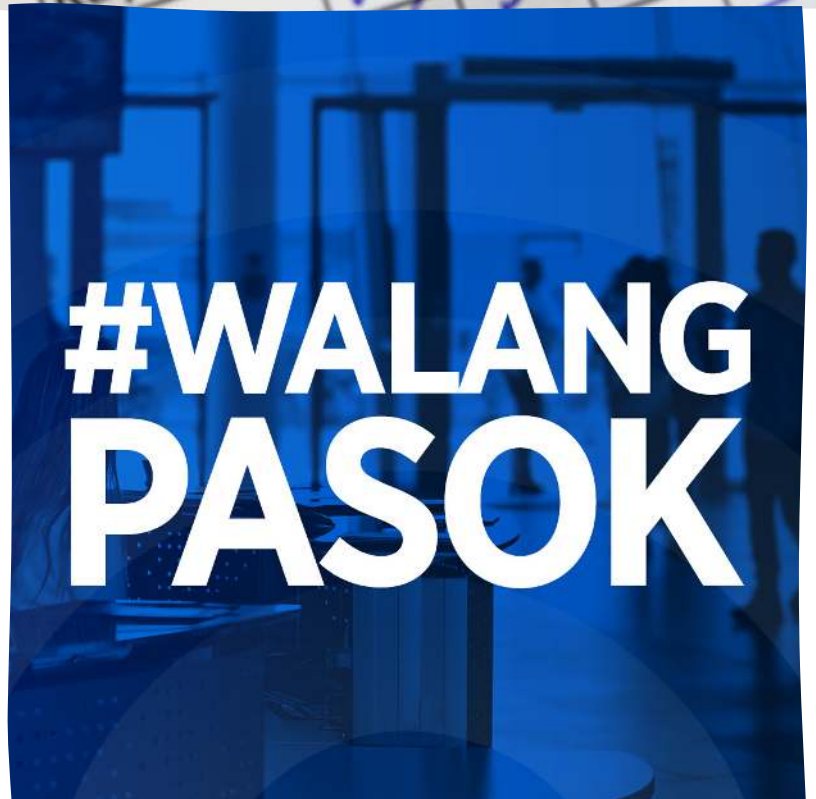
**31. Will my son be marked absent if he fails to show up for a synchronous class because of a power outage or unstable internet connection?**

No. However, students should inform their subject teacher why they were not in class. they should likewise access the recorded synchronous class at a convenient time.



**32. Will we suspend classes when the government suspends them due to typhoons?**

We are awaiting the government indications regarding this.



### 33. How can parents learn how to navigate Google Classroom and the other Google apps?

We will release a series of tutorial videos for the parents to help them learn how to navigate Google Classroom and the other Google apps. This will be especially helpful for the parents of younger students. Tech Support is also ready to answer any queries parents might have throughout the school year.

### 34. Do each of my sons need to have his own laptop?

It is not absolutely necessary for each student to have his own laptop, but that would be ideal. If you have several high school sons, you may write to your principal to request that they be placed in sections in such a way that their class and module days are different.

# SUPPORT

### 35. Is Southridge pursuing a partnership with telecom or computer companies?

No. We recommended the ideal internet connection bandwidth and computer configurations.

### 36. Can my son borrow books from the library?

Yes. Once the procedure for this is finalized, we will communicate this to you through a bulletin.

