



**Southern
Ontario
Collegiate**

SOC Update

School Newsletter

Educating Students from Around the Globe for Over 40 Years

Update from Principal January 2022

Happy New Year to you all from all of us at SOC. We hope all of you are well. As we prepare to begin Semester 2, we are once again dealing with unexpected – and manageable - changes.

Remote Learning

This week, the government of Ontario has announced a return to remote learning in all schools as a result of rising Covid numbers. This change is one of many, including: closing indoor dining at restaurants, limits of 5 people in indoor meetings and limits of 50% of capacity in shops and malls; libraries, gyms, theatres and galleries are closed. These changes are in place to limit exposure to potential infection, so that life can return to a more regular routine in the near future.

During this time, schools are closed, and staff will work remotely from home. Please contact catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca for any email addresses or information you may require.

This week our teachers and administrators are completing plans for the change to remote learning; classes will begin on Monday, January 10th. Teachers are contacting students with schedules and instructions on how to join remote classes.

We will continue to use the learning platform, Canvas, to share teaching and learning materials, including assignments, due dates, upcoming assessments and other teacher/student communication. Students will connect to classes using Teams. Teachers are available to support students and answer questions. Students will be given a copy of SOC's remote learning policy to keep them fully up to date on their responsibilities and rights.

The following are requirements to participate in online learning:

- laptop or desktop computer with access to consistent internet connectivity
- computer must have camera, speakers and microphone
- mobile phones are not acceptable for remote learning

Students are reminded that remote learning requires:

- daily attendance and participation in all classes
- completion of all assessments and tests on the scheduled dates
- completion and submission of all assignments and homework on the scheduled dates

Students who do not meet these expectations are subject to disciplinary action.

Please contact SOC with any questions regarding remote learning, class schedules, textbooks, health and safety and any other issues that occur.

Vaccination Policy

SOC continues its policy that all staff and students must be fully vaccinated to attend classes and live in residence/homestay. For those who have already received their first two vaccinations, we will assist them to obtain the third (booster) shot. As new students arrive, once their quarantine is complete, we will assist them to begin the vaccination process. Covid vaccination is provided at no cost in Ontario.

OUAC Applications

The deadline for students to apply to universities in Ontario for September 2022 remains January 13, 2022. This is crucial for highly competitive and in demand programs. While most students who will graduate have completed and submitted their applications, some have not. Our guidance counsellor, Molly Mignault will continue to meet with these students remotely. She can be contacted at molly.mignault@mysoc.ca. Students should check on deadlines for universities outside Ontario. Graduates should continue to contact universities and colleges regarding onsite/remote learning plans for September 2022.

Looking Forward

The provincial government will provide updates and changes to this and other Covid policies regularly, and we'll update you as soon as we hear from them. Updates will also be posted on the SOC website as they arrive. We look forward to a return to onsite learning soon; in addition, we look forward to a continuing number of students receiving their study permits and arriving in Canada in the near future.

Southern Ontario Collegiate's strong team is working hard to support students and parents through this time. We know that you will do your part to make your remote learning valuable and worthwhile. Please keep in touch.

We wish you all a healthy January. If you have any questions, please contact us:

Principal, Alison Currie	alison.currie@mysoc.ca
Guidance Counsellor, Molly Mignault	molly.mignault@mysoc.ca
Admission and Visa Information	admin@mysoc.ca
Travel & Residence, Nabil Alkilabi	nabil.alkilabi@mysoc.ca
Administrative Office, Catherine Mcfarland	catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca
Accounts, Katie Cox	katie@mysoc.ca

For additional information:

<http://www.southernontariocollegiate.ca>

<https://news.ontario.ca/en>