



Lake Orion High School

Dragon Virtual 2021 – 2022

Dragon Virtual, Lake Orion High School’s fully online educational offering, has undergone a significant reconfiguration for the 2021-2022 school year. Initially, LOHS’s virtual programming was designed in response to the COVID pandemic and relied extensively upon an outside provider as the primary instructional platform. In response to the lessons learned over the past year, as well as feedback from our stakeholders, it has become evident that enhanced student support, emphasis on engagement, and meaningful learner interactions are necessary components of a sustainable virtual program. Administration at Lake Orion have carefully planned a redesigned Dragon Virtual option for the 2021-22 school year and beyond. As students make their scheduling preferences, it is essential that families are familiar with the configuration and characteristics of the new Dragon Virtual program.

LOHS Dragon Virtual Characteristics

- **Instruction:** Lessons and instruction will be designed and delivered by LOHS teaching staff. Course options will be available for a student to fill their entire schedule with LOHS-owned classes. Only in specific situations will a third-party instructional platform be offered as an alternative for specialized classes or electives.
- **Curriculum:** The curriculum delivered in Dragon Virtual classes will closely parallel the corresponding in-person (traditional) courses. To accommodate learning in the virtual environment, lessons and activities will be adjusted appropriately.
- **Course Structure:** Each class will meet two or three times per week with live, virtual classroom sessions facilitated by their LOHS teacher. To compensate for less formally structured class time, students will be assigned routine independent (asynchronous) assignments and tasks.

	Remote Learning	DRAGON VIRTUAL 2021-2022 	Fully Virtual
Class meetings (each week)	 20 (5 per week x 4 classes)	 10 (2 or 3 per week x 4 classes)	 0
Course Structure Independent work (asynchronous) vs. synchronous learning	 Teacher-provided instruction with many learning assignments accomplished in a whole-group format. Key tasks assigned for independent demonstration of knowledge	 A balanced blend of teacher supported instruction and independent tasks / learning	 A LARGE volume of videos, task, projects, and assignments that are completed independently

- **Student Schedule:** Counselors will arrange student schedules based on course availability and the preferences that the student has selected. Courses that actually run will be contingent upon overall student enrollment in the Dragon Virtual program as well as student requests.

[List of Courses – Dragon Virtual 2021-2022](#)

LOHS – Dragon Virtual 2021-2022 – Student Schedule Sample:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30 am – 8:45 am ELA 9 A	Asynchronous – Independent Work	Asynchronous – Independent Work	Asynchronous – Independent Work	7:30 am – 8:45 am ELA 9 A
Lunch and Asynchronous – Independent Work	9:15 am – 10:30 am Drawing 1	9:45 am – 10:30 am ELA 9 A	9:15 am – 10:30 am Drawing 1	Lunch and Asynchronous – Independent Work
11:30 am – 12:45 pm AP World Hist. A	Lunch and Asynchronous – Independent Work	12:15 pm – 1:00 pm AP World Hist. A	Lunch and Asynchronous – Independent Work	11:30 am – 12:45 pm AP World Hist. A
1:00 pm – 2:15 am Algebra 2A		1:30 pm – 2:15 am Algebra 2A		1:00 pm – 2:15 am Algebra 2A

DV Student Sample Schedule – A student’s live, class meeting with their teacher will directly coincide with the LOHS in-person schedule. Depending on the course, a class may meet two or three times each week. Ample time is reserved for independent work, lunch, and screen breaks. Note that Wednesday’s class meetings are adjusted to match those of the LOHS late-start bell schedule.

- **Student Support:** All assigned courses will offer weekly, scheduled office hours that will give students an opportunity for individualized support. For students with IEP’s, associated support classes will also be embedded directly into the weekly routine.
- **Athletics and Extracurriculars:** Students are eligible to participate in all LOHS after-school opportunities.

Dragon Virtual Considerations

The Dragon Virtual program offers a unique learning arrangement that balances elements of both remote learning and fully virtual learning. Students must realize that virtual programming has advantages as well as disadvantages, which often correspond to the student’s learning characteristics and academic goals. Although Dragon Virtual is less rigid than traditional schooling, it does not provide the full freedom or independence of virtual learning. Rather, it balances enhanced flexibility with ample student support. Since scheduled classroom meetings only occur a few times each week, the program’s arrangement places great emphasis on consistent student attendance and effort.

Additionally, LOHS Dragon Virtual provides a reduced menu of courses. Assuming the program grows and develops, the ability to expand course offerings in the future will be further evaluated. Course offerings for Dragon Virtual are ultimately dependent upon student request; not all courses can be offered without

sufficient student interest. Also, it is important to understand that many of the specialized electives (Art, Music, Physical Education) do not translate very well in a digital environment, and therefore will not be offered.

For students who have struggled in virtual learning or during the remote learning phase, Dragon Virtual should not be considered a viable option. When making the decision, parents and students must consider both the structure of the program, as well as the characteristics of the learner.

Requirements for a student to be successful in Dragon Virtual – Is this a good choice for me?

- **Self-motivated / Independent Learner:** Even though students have ongoing teacher support, individuals must have the capacity to understand expectations, submit work, and request assistance when needed.
- **Time Management / Discipline:** To maximize the potential for learning, students are expected to attend all live, virtual class sessions. Recordings of class sessions will be made available for students with unexpected absences, and to allow for needed review of crucial concepts. In addition to class meetings, students must manage their time and keep pace with the independent learning tasks.
- **Computer Literate:** Virtual learning is dependent on the ability to navigate the digital environment proficiently.
- **Willingness to actively participate:** A passive presence is an ineffective means of learning, regardless of the mode of delivery. In virtual learning, students will be expected to share thoughts orally, or by submitting responses by other means. Asking questions is even more important in a virtual environment because the instructor often will have challenges determining if all students are understanding a concept. Students will be expected to have their computer cameras on during virtual class meetings.
- **Self-reflection:** The delivery of feedback is more limited without face-to-face interaction. Self-assessment and reflection are important whenever detailed feedback is provided by the teacher.
- **Personal “Fit”:** The Dragon Virtual program offers far fewer choices than the courses that are available in- person. Many of the specialized electives (Art, Music, Physical Education) do not translate very well in a digital environment, and therefore are not offered. Students must realize that virtual programming has advantages as well as disadvantages, which often correspond to the student’s learning characteristics and academic goals.