



GIS NEWSLETTER

8 June 2021

Gjøvikregionen International School
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'Short' day next academic year

We are pleased to inform you that we have been allocated time at Tranberghallen swimming pool and classes will resume in August 2021. This is a temporary solution until the pool at Fjelhallen has been repaired. As we have been given a slot on Tuesday afternoon, it is Tuesday that will be our 'short' day next academic year, not Thursday. What it means in practice is that classes will end at 12:00pm on Tuesday and the students scheduled for swimming will have their session at Tranberghallen. (Please note we will use either a public or rented bus to go to Tranberghallen and back.) The students who require supervision until parents can collect them later during the day will be able to sign up for SFO. (Please see the next news item.) Thursday will become a regular school day with classes from 8:30am to 3:05pm.

SFO next academic year

Attached to this newsletter is a NEW application form for a place in SFO next academic year, **including the updates described above**. Please note that places will be guaranteed for all students in Grades 1-4 if the application is returned to Mr Thoresen at leif.olav.thoresen@gjovikis.no by 15 June 2021. All applicants will receive a confirmation email by the end of June 2021.

SFO fees

We have been informed by the Directorate of Education that from next year on the state will support families who use SFO if the SFO fees for a year exceed 6% of the family's annual income. Families will be required to submit an application form together with evidence of their income. Please contact Mr Thoresen at leif.olav.thoresen@gjovikis.no if you have any questions.

Teaching and learning through inquiry

In the center of the symbols for the IB programmes is a silhouette of heads representing students. This image is to represent the student centeredness of all the IB programmes. Student centeredness means that the programmes have been developed based on the best teaching and learning practices for the age group. The Primary Years Programme is for the youngest group of students who learn differently from older students and adults. They do not learn best within the structures of learning that adults have created and need. PYP students do not look at the world through the lens of mathematics, English, social studies, science, the arts or persona, social, and physical education. Our young students look at the world through areas they are interested in. It is the challenge for the teachers to find ways to include the disciplinary learning within an area of interest.

Learning and teaching in the PYP is referred to as transdisciplinary; it is meant to transcend the structures of the disciplines. Learning, teaching, and planning are done primarily through six transdisciplinary themed units of inquiry. The focus is on the students understanding the central idea, the lines of inquiry, key concepts and related concepts. Related concepts are taken from subject areas and meant to ensure that subject specific knowledge will be included in the unit. All concepts are an added baseline element to the structure of the learning and teaching in the PYP.

Students learn to understand the life around them through concepts. An example of conceptual learning might be through the concept of form. Students learn that form in reading could refer to the structural elements of the type of text they are reading or the structure of the writing they are focusing on as they research and record their learning in their unit work or the form they might use to present their learning at the end of the unit. Form can be addressed in the arts as a focus on the form of their drawing or the artistic element of their presentation. In mathematics the lessons on place value could focus on the various forms of explaining number, e.g., the word form, the standard form or expanded form. Then in P.E. the lessons may focus on their best form for executing a move in a game of soccer. All units of inquiry include learning from as many disciplines as can be included at a meaningful, deeper level. Not all subject areas can be included, however, at a meaningful level. In these cases, teachers plan stand-alone units of inquiry.

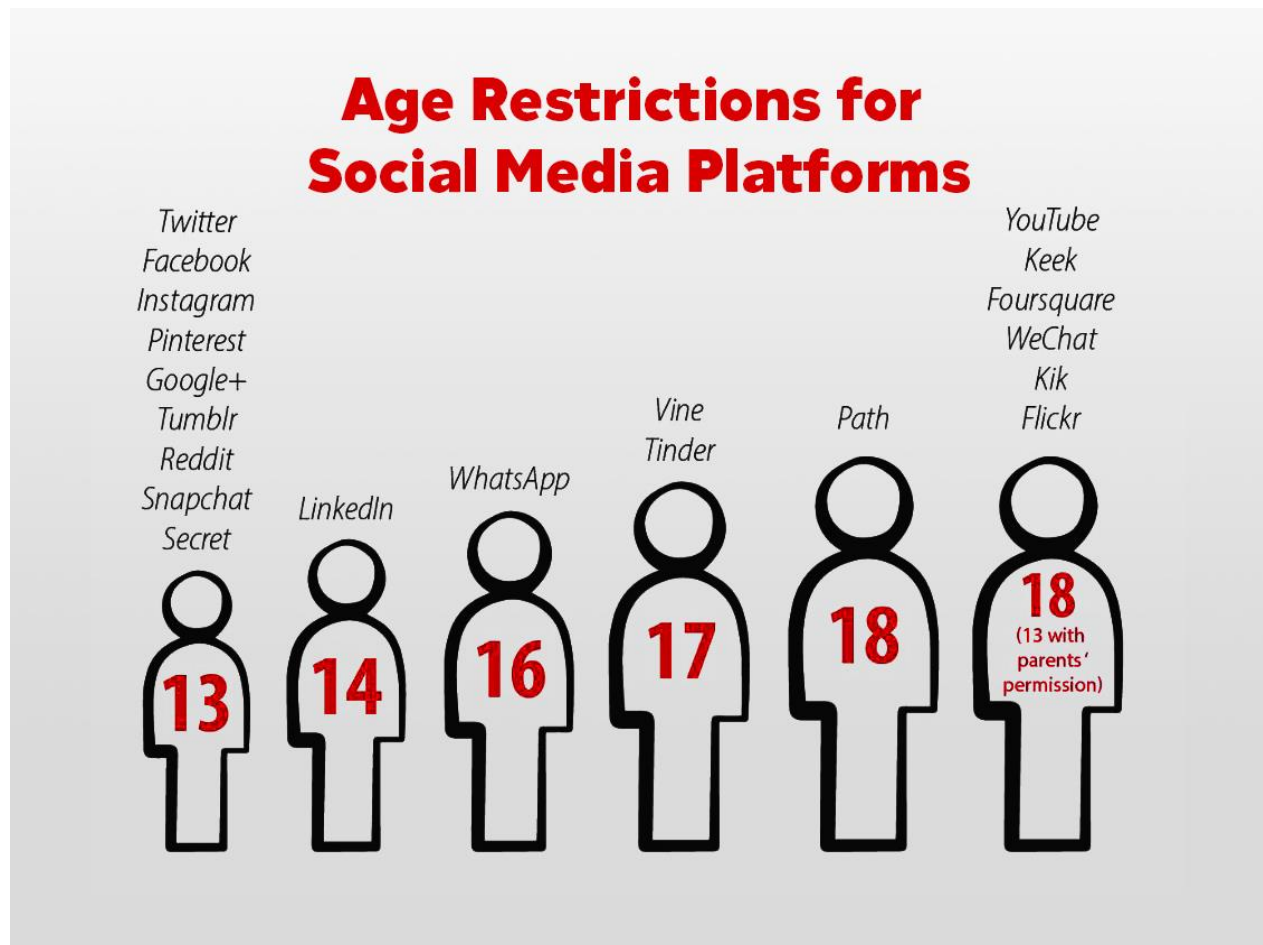
While the Programme of Inquiry for each grade level is the first curriculum document, PYP schools also have a scope and sequences for each subject area. These documents are dynamic and can be configured and created by a school to assure that we maintain high standards and cover all the strands and learning that other curriculums include. These documents must follow the guidelines of the standards and practices that the IB assesses us by. This is to ensure that schools keep to a high level of teaching and learning. Stand-alone units are planned and taught to ensure that all the learning set in the scope and sequence are covered. Teachers plan all units to include that the phase or grade level of learning required is covered. All the work of each discipline is checked to ensure that all the required learning and teaching for each grade level is included.

Service Age Requirements

As some lower PYP students at GIS have recently been involved in an inappropriate exchange on social media they should not have access to at their age, we would like to remind you about service age requirements for some social media services as well as games.

We hope you find it useful. Some general information can be found in this newsletters. More details can be found in a separate document attached to the newsletter.

Please find below an info graphic that shows you minimum age requirements for some popular social media as well as games.



(Source: <http://www.st-paulshigh.net/index.php/social-media-age-restrictions/>)

I have also visited a few selected services, as well as some games, and have read their Terms of Service document. The table below contains the name of each service, as well as the minimum age requirement to use that service as it is described in the Terms of Service document.

A more complete list is available in another document, which is attached to the newsletter. That list contains citations from the Terms of Services, explanation and advice, as well as links you may wish to follow to read up further on a specific service or application. If you know your child is using one of the services or games listed below, you can simply find that service or game in the document to learn more about it and what implications may the use of that service have for your child and for you.

Social Media Services	
Facebook	13
Instagram	13
Snapchat	13
TikTok	13
YouTube	13
WhatsApp	16
Gamer Chat Client	
Discord	13
Games	
Minecraft	10
Fortnite	12
Overwatch	12

World Of Warcraft	12
Clash Of Clans	13
Fifa 20	13
Roblox	18

We hope the information helps you have a better picture of what your child may be exposing themselves to when using some of the services described.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at ragnar.gorogh@gjovikis.no

Yours sincerely,

Ragnar Görögh (IT Consultant)

Wanted: supply staff

We are always keen to hear from people who can substitute for absent teachers and teaching assistants. This work can be day to day or for longer periods of time. If you know of a suitable person for this role, please encourage them to send their CV to employment@gjovikis.no

Contact details

If you have any questions about the matters below, please contact the relevant person:

Taxi (GIS)

Dennis Wanda

dennis.wanda@gjovikis.no

Taxi/bus (Kommune)	Ingrid Raasholm	ingrid.raasholm@gjovik.kommune.no
SFO	Deepika Senthilkumar	sfo@gjovikis.no
Nurse	Ingrid Julie Stadtler	Ingrid-Julie.Stadtler@gjovik.kommune.no
Covid-19 testing	Gjøvik Town Hall	Tel. 61 15 89 11