

Dear Parents & Students,

Last year we introduced, for the first time, a Learning Management System (LMS) by the name of Canvas, for grades 9 - 11. We have found it to be an effective tool for both, teaching and learning and will be continuing with its use in the upcoming terms.

Canvas is an online LMS used to complement face to face instruction by connecting all the digital tools and resources teachers use into one simple place. It integrates seamlessly with hundreds of apps, empowering teachers and students with countless tools to make teaching and learning easier and more fun. It is a platform that provides a framework and tools to facilitate online learning both inside and outside of the school building.

Canvas is currently being used in over 1200 educational institutions worldwide.

Some features of canvas for students are:

- Student will be able communicate directly with teachers within and outside of the school.
- Students enrolled in a course (subject) will be able to access and view course content, assignments, educational resources, power points, audio file, videos, apps which will allow for more effective teaching & learning.
- Students will electronically send and receive assignments and can electronically receive feedback in the form of auditory, video or written feedback on their assignments from their teacher.
- Students will automatically be notified of assignment/assessment dates and deadlines through a calendar which they can view within their course subject. This will allow for better organization and meeting of deadlines.
- Students can receive class wise announcements by teachers informing students of an upcoming event.
- Students can collaborate with peers on projects and group assignments virtually and complete required tasks without needing to be in the same physical space.
- Students can view their grades and progress on an ongoing basis.

To effectively use canvas, Haque Academy students will be required to bring a laptop to school for regular use in school and at home. Students are free to use a current laptop which they may own or may purchase a new laptop for this purpose.

Below is a list of basic computer system requirements to use Canvas. Canvas and its hosting infrastructure are designed for maximum compatibility and minimal requirements. However, it is always recommended to use the most up-to-date versions.

COMPUTER LAPTOP SPECIFICATIONS:

Students should purchase a windows computer and should not purchase/use an apple computer.

1. Screen size:
 - a. Approximately 15” screen
 - b. Smaller screens may make viewing difficult
 - c. Larger Screens may make the device heavier
2. Operating System:
 - a. Windows 7 or 10
3. Processor:
 - a. Minimum: Intel Core i3
 - b. Intel Celeron may face issues of slow processing due to multiple software
4. Hard Drive:
 - a. Minimum: 500 GB
 - b. 1 TB is preferable
5. RAM:
 - a. Minimum: 4 GB
6. Additional Features:
 - a. Wi-Fi Connectivity
 - b. HDMI port
 - c. VGA port
 - d. RJ45 port
 - e. USB port
 - f. Bluetooth connectivity
 - g. Built-in Speakers, Mic, Camera
 - h. Power Charger

Software Requirement at the start of the year:

1. Microsoft Office suite
2. Adobe Acrobat Reader and Writer
3. Flash Plugin
4. Java Player
5. Up to date - Google Chrome browser
6. VLC media player
7. Antivirus Software

Software which may be required to be installed at a later date

8. Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, Adobe Dreamweaver
9. Video Editing Software: Camtasia

Additional Items:

1. A laptop bag with lock
2. A 16 GB USB stick
3. Wireless mouse optional for ease