# **A Parent and Carer’s Guide to Google Classroom**

**What is Google Classroom and the document suite?**

**Google Classroom** is a free web service, developed by Google for schools, that aims to simplify creating, distributing, and grading assignments in a paperless way. The primary purpose of Google Classroom is to streamline the process of sharing files between teachers and students.

Google Classroom is an online or virtual classroom for your child.

● **Google Docs** is a word processor similar to Microsoft Word

● **Google Slides** is a presentation software similar to Microsoft PowerPoint

● **Google Sheets** is a Spreadsheet program similar to Microsoft Excel

**How Does My Child Access Their Classroom?**

The process for setting up your child's account is pretty simple. Your child's teacher does most of the work. They will set up the classroom and provide a join code that is unique to your child. Teachers can also invite students by email.

Once access has been granted, your child can get into their classroom anytime by going to [classroom.google.com](http://classroom.google.com/).

For older students who have different teachers for different subjects, multiple classrooms will appear. From their dashboard, they can choose the class they want to view. Once they enter a classroom, students find three tabs at the top of the page.

* The **Stream tab** can be compared to an interactive workbook. It's an outline of the course and an announcement page with a full overview of homework, assignments, and any other posts the teacher adds.
* The **Classwork tab** stores all your child's assignments. Here, they'll see each assignment that's been added by their teacher. When they click on a task, they'll get the due date, details, resources needed, and status of the assignment. Students also can turn in their work here once it's completed. They can add files or create slideshows and images to be submitted.
* The **People tab** shows all the teachers and students in the classroom. It's also a place where students can communicate directly with one another or their teacher.

## **Can My Child Use a Mobile Device or Tablet to Access Google Classroom?**

Absolutely. Like all the other Google apps available, your child can access the full functionality of Google Classroom from virtually any device. Just be sure to add the other essential Google apps needed for success to their devices, like Google Calendar, Google Docs, and Google Drive.

**How Do I Stay on Top of My Child's Learning Progress With Google Classroom?**

Instead of looking over your child's shoulder to [check their grades](https://www.popsugar.co.uk/parenting/My-Parents-Were-So-Hard-Me-About-Getting-Good-Grades-45622512), parents have the unique option of being added as a student guardian. Be sure to ask your child's teacher to grant you access. You'll receive an email that requires you to accept the invitation. Once approved, you can choose between daily or weekly guardian summaries. Based on your preference, you'll get an email that details missing work, upcoming assignments, and classroom activity.

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