

DALAT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Security Statement regarding Zoom Video Communications, Inc.

Updated April 8, 2020

Zoom has been receiving quite a bit of media attention now that it is so popular. Much of this attention has been negative as news agencies are looking for stories to write that interest people. For a current comprehensive list of issues, you can read an article from Tom's Hardware [here](#). The Dalat IT Department has been following many of these same stories and evaluating them from a cybersecurity perspective. We have also been in touch with many other International Schools in Malaysia and having active discussions with them about this product. Even with all of the negative press that we have been hearing, Zoom is being used by hundreds if not thousands of top tier universities in the US as well as primary and secondary schools around the world. Some of these are Stanford, Columbia, Duke, MIT, University of Washington, Brown, University of Melbourne, to just name a few. One article stated, "The upside is that if lots of flaws in Zoom are found now and fixed soon, then Zoom will be the better -- and safer -- for it."¹ According to tech journalist Kim Zetter, "Zoom will soon be the most secure conferencing tool out there."²

It is the current stance of the Dalat IT Department that Zoom is safe and secure for educational conferencing purposes. As one credible source stated, "For those using Zoom to keep in touch with friends, hold social events, or organize courses or lectures that they might otherwise hold in a public or semi-public venue, our findings should not necessarily be concerning."³ Zoom Video Communications, Inc. is actively working on security issues as they arise and have been very responsive⁴. Many of the issues being reported have been fixed by the time they are posted or soon after. For example, it was reported that a "New Zoom Hack Lets Hackers Compromise Windows and Its Login Password" but if you carefully read the article which was posted on April 2nd you will see that the issue was fixed on April 3rd⁵. As new information comes we will continue to evaluate this product and if a credible issue arises, we will determine what steps we need to take. At this point, we are not looking at changing to a different video conferencing platform because we like the functionality that Zoom is providing, it is free of charge, we deem it to be safe and secure for our needs and doing so would cause additional stress on all of our teachers and students.

¹ <https://www.tomsguide.com/news/zoom-security-privacy-woes>

² <https://www.tomsguide.com/news/zoom-security-privacy-woes>

³ <https://citizenlab.ca/2020/04/move-fast-roll-your-own-crypto-a-quick-look-at-the-confidentiality-of-zoom-meetings/>

⁴ <https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2020/04/01/a-message-to-our-users/>

⁵ <https://thehackernews.com/2020/04/zoom-windows-password.html>