

Approved Methods of Internet-based Teaching

Approved by Rinpoche on 6 May 2017

1. Using the internet to connect for teachings and instructions is normal in modern society, so we should try to move forward using it in the correct way. What is essential is that these sessions are led by an Authorised Teacher / Instructor.
2. The internet can also be used to link more than one location together, such as several Lings linking to a Gar where the Authorised Teacher / Instructor is teaching, and therefore more people are able to participate in the course without travelling.
3. It is also possible for Authorised Teachers / Instructors to teach private lessons one on one, both in person and by internet. This activity should be self-managed by Authorised Teachers / Instructors.
4. In all cases, what is most important is that teaching via internet is about practicing, learning or deepening a Teaching that has already been received live from an Authorised Teacher / Instructor.
5. Still, all exams and Instructor supervisions must be live, in front of an Authorised Teacher.
6. All of these points also apply to SMS Instructors and practice teaching sessions.
7. Prices for courses taught by 4 International Teachers will be determined in the normal way by International Gakyil (IG). Prices for private lessons are a private matter between student and teacher, this aspect is not managed by IG.

Approved in discussion with 4 International Teachers 20 April 2017

Expanded text of 7 essential points agreed with Rinpoche . . .

1. Using the internet more to connect for teachings and instructions is normal in modern society, so we should try to move forward with this, using it in the correct way. In general, Authorised Teachers / Instructors can use skype or similar technologies to offer various types of teaching clarifications, refresher courses or to discuss with other Instructors, etc. What is essential is that these skype sessions are led by an Authorised Teacher / Instructor.
2. The internet can also be used to link more than one location together, such as several Lings linking to a Gar where the Authorised Teacher / Instructor is teaching, and therefore more people are able to participate in the course without travelling. This method can also be used to connect individuals to groups or individuals to an Authorised Teacher / Instructor. What

is essential is that these remote Lings and students are connecting to a person that is an Authorised Teacher / Instructor for that specific practice, or a place where the Authorised Teacher is teaching.

3. It is also possible for Authorised Teachers / Instructors to teach private lessons one on one, both in person and by internet. The 4ITs will establish 'guide prices' for this and IG will publish these guidelines. Local instructors will use these 'guide prices' as a benchmark to determine local prices in their region and considering all relevant circumstances. This activity will be self-managed by Authorised Teachers / Instructors.

4. In all case, what is most important is that teaching via internet is about practicing, learning or deepening a Teaching that has already been received live from an Authorised Teacher / Instructor. What is important always is for each student to have an authentic transmission as the base, and some live interaction with the Teacher / Instructor in order for this Teacher to understand what is the capacity of each student. This may not be as easily done via internet. Ultimately, as each student develops and learns various Teachings and methods, it will be important to not depend too extensively on remote, internet learning. However, mixing the two together can be an effective method to perfect, deepen and help correct misunderstandings.

5. Also, it goes without saying that all exams and Instructor supervisions must be live, in front of an Authorised Teacher.

6. All of these points also apply to SMS Instructors and practice teaching sessions.

7. The prices for courses taught by the 4 International Teachers (4IT) will continue to be determined in the normal way by the International Gakyil (IG), but the overall event will of course be cheaper for the Gar or Ling hosting, if the 4IT do not have to travel, but instead offer the course via an internet method. Prices for private lessons offered by the 4IT are a private matter between student and teacher.