

*Years 1 to 6*



*Pastoral Session*

*Weekday at 4pm*

# **Google Classroom: Google Meet**

## **Why Google Meet instead of any other video conferencing tool**

Google Meet, **previously known as Google Hangouts Meet**, has already proved that it's an Enterprise-ready and easy-to-use solution. With the stellar figure of 2 million new users connecting every day on **Google Meet**; Google is doing its part in making sure businesses, institutions, organisations and schools are keeping connection via video in these unprecedented times of COVID-19 confinement.

**But besides that, Google Meet is also one of the safest video conferencing platforms that you can use as a company.** That's the case for several reasons.

## **Google's Multi-layered security**

**First of all, Google Meet uses the same secure-by-design infrastructure, built-in protection, and global network that Google** uses to secure information and privacy as a standard for all its other enterprise solutions and products.

Specifically for Google Meet, Google has taken **other security measures** to ensure the privacy and security of your video meetings on Google Meet. Be aware that these measures are on by default when you start using Google Meet, so you don't have to take any action yourself to turn them on.

## **Online video conferencing in the browser or app**

**Meet has no need for frequent security patches, simply because the application works fully in your browser.** This means that conveniently, there is no need for you or your external meeting participants to install any software, extension or plugin. Working with an updated version of Chrome, Firefox, Edge or Safari browser, or the latest version of the Google Meet app on mobile, suffices to stay safe at all times!

Let's dive into a few of these protective measures that Google takes to secure your video meetings in Google Meet.

## **Privacy in Google Meet**

*Google Cloud customers own their data, not Google. The data that customers put into our systems is theirs, and we do not scan it for advertisements nor sell it to third parties."* - Google Cloud

**Google Meet supports the same robust privacy commitments and data protections as the rest of Google Cloud's enterprise services.** Your video meeting calls are confidential, as is any Google Cloud Enterprise service. The Google privacy team participates on every product launch to ensure that all products and services are in compliance with high privacy standards, and this is also the case for Google Meet.

**Google undergoes regular rigorous security and privacy audits** for its Cloud services, including Meet.

## **Data Protection**

**As a Google Meet customer or user, you can rest assured that you are the only rightful owner of your data.** Google ensures that your data will not be used for its own benefits: not for advertising or any other use, and it also promises it won't sell your data to third parties.

**In **G Suite Enterprise** and G Suite for Education, customers can use additional advanced security functionalities like Access Transparency.** With that functionality, all Google access to Google Meet recordings - if any - gets logged together with a reason for this Google access to your data. This can happen for support reasons that you requested, for example.

**With Google Cloud's data region capabilities**, your organisation can choose in which Google region in the world you want your data to get stored. For example, if your company requires all company data to be stored in Europe, that's something Google can arrange.

### **User attention-tracking**

**Meet doesn't have user attention-tracking features or software.** In other words: unlike other video conferencing tools, it won't tell your boss if you're paying attention during the meeting or not.

### **Encryption in Google Meet**

**All data in Google Meet is encrypted in transit by default between the client and Google for video meetings on a web browser**, on the Android and iOS apps, and in meeting rooms with Google meeting room hardware. Google Meet is compliant with the IETF security standards. There is a unique encryption key for every video meeting and for every person joining the meeting.

**You need to be aware that if you join a meeting by phone**, audio is carried by the telephone network and might not be encrypted.

**All Meet recorded meetings are stored in Google Drive** and get encrypted by default, like all data that you store in Drive.

### **Anti-intruder Measures in a Meet Meeting**

**To secure your online meetings further**, Google has taken several anti-intruder measures to make sure your video meetings are safe from unwanted guests. These include anti-hijacking measures for both web video meetings and telephony dial-ins.

**The way Google Meet works, guests can enter video meetings via a simple meeting link in the browser or Meet app.** Very convenient, but is this safe? Yes it is! Google makes it nearly impossible for external people with bad intentions to crack your video meeting IDs programmatically.

### **Avoiding unwanted guests with secure meeting IDs**

**Google Meet meeting codes** are 10 characters long, with 25 characters in the set. This makes it impossible for outsiders to "guess" meeting codes and join an internal video meeting that way.

**Pro tip: pay attention not to share your meeting links to externals** that don't need to get access to your video meetings. This could for example happen when you share a screenshot of your meeting room where the meeting link is visible in the browser. These days a lot of companies are sharing such screenshots on LinkedIn to show how they stay in touch with their employees.

**But even if this would happen**, there is additional security to make sure unwanted guests enter your video meeting even if they know one of your meeting links.

### **Mitigating External participants risk through identified meeting links**

**In addition to the multi-character link, there are additional security measures that will avoid having unwanted external guests in your meeting** - even if they know the meeting code for your Google Meet video meeting.

**External participants from outside the host's domain can join a video meeting directly** with the encrypted link. But they can do this **only if they are on the Calendar invite** for this video meeting, or if they have been invited by in-domain participants from the Google Meet session.