

## **Why TxMSAS Requires a Virtual Site Visit**

A virtual site visit is a critical step in ensuring that every school we accredit meets the high standards Texas families deserve. Because microschools vary widely in size, structure, and instructional models, a virtual site visit ensures fairness, accuracy, credibility, and a high standard of quality across all Texas microschools — while keeping the process accessible and respectful of each school's time.

### **1. A Virtual Site Visit Confirms the Reality Behind the Application**

Paperwork can tell us what a school *intends* to do. A virtual visit shows us to meet the *people* who will turn those *intentions* into *education*.

### **2. Ensures Consistency Across Diverse School Models**

Texas microschools range from hybrid homeschools to co-ops to full-time private programs. However, some of the microschools we accredit will be indistinguishable from traditional private schools. There is no “one size fits all” in education. The virtual visit allows us to evaluate every applicant with the same lens, ensuring fairness and consistent application of our standards.

### **3. Protects the Integrity of the Accreditation Itself**

Families rely on accreditation as a trustworthy signal. Without a live observation, we can't verify key quality measures such as classroom culture, instructional practices, or student engagement.

### **4. Minimizes Burden on Small Schools**

A virtual visit gives us what we need without requiring a large on-site disruption, which can be especially helpful for microschools with limited staff, small facilities, or nontraditional schedules.

### **5. Allows the Review Team to Interview School Leadership Efficiently**

Live conversation allows us to:

- Ask clarifying questions
- Ensure the people and practices align with the application

### **6. Provides Documentation for Audit, Renewal, and Transparency**

Virtual visits are recorded and stored securely. This allows:

- Multi-reviewer scoring
- A clear record for renewals and appeals

### **7. Helps Us Identify Strengths and Areas for Growth**

Our goal isn't just to verify compliance — it's to support school improvement. The visit helps us give meaningful feedback that schools can use, regardless of whether they pass.