



Success in Distance Learning

A TIP SHEET FOR PARENTS

1.



CREATE A SPACE

Set up a dedicated learning space in a quiet area where your student will sit and engage in online lessons and independent work. Ensure that any materials needed for learning are on hand. Have only what is needed for learning in this area to reduce distractions. A space facing a wall will ensure greater privacy, especially when on camera.

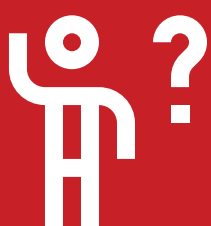
2.



CREATE A SCHEDULE/TO DO LIST

Outside of the live online learning, your child will have work to complete independently. This may include Art, Physical Education, Health, or completing assignments. It is beneficial to have a checklist of tasks that need to be completed along with due dates. This will help with time management and task completion.

3.



ENCOURAGE COMMUNICATION AND SELF-ADVOCACY

Encourage your child to ask questions during live lessons (by raising a hand, using the chat or reactions within Zoom), using the virtual classroom platform, or even by email. Continue to rely on your classroom community by messaging peers as well. Parents are also encouraged to email questions or concerns so that they can be answered outside of teaching time.

4.



HELPFUL TECHNOLOGICAL TOOLS

There are many accessibility features that might help your child. Features such as speech-to-text and text-to-speech can help struggling readers and writers. Using predictive text can also help with editing work and correcting spelling and grammatical errors. When viewing videos in YouTube, you can slow the speed and turn on closed captioning to support viewing.

5.



ENCOURAGE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

During live lessons, it is important to be actively engaged. Encourage your child to participate as appropriate, by raising their hand to answer a question, showing a reaction as requested, participating in the chat box or contributing during in-camera discussions. This not only helps with understanding, but helps the teacher monitor the learning. When not participating, keep the microphone muted, to minimize background noise and ensure greater privacy.

6.



TAKE SCREEN BREAKS

During break times, encourage your child to step away from the screen and incorporate some movement and if possible some fresh air into the day. This is also a great time to refuel with a healthy snack.

7.



ONLINE SECURITY AND PRIVACY

To ensure greater privacy, set a digital background in Zoom. To protect the privacy of others, we ask that no videos or screen shots of live learning be shared. Parents are also encouraged to monitor screen time by verifying in the settings. You can also check the browser history on the iPad. For safer browsing, set a safe filter on Google searches, or use kiddle.co as a search engine. We also suggest disabling the location tracking in camera settings.