

## The Learning Environment

Make a space for learning. If you are working independently, this space should be free from distractions so that you can work efficiently.

If you are taking part in a Zoom session, the space should be bright and quiet. Make sure there's nothing distracting or inappropriate in view behind you. Your space should be supportive of an academic environment.

Some of the people in your home may have their own schoolwork to do. If other people are at home, ask for respect and be respectful so that everyone can have an environment that supports their work.

## Behavior and Appearance

AFS expectations around behavior and appearance still apply. Refer to the US Student and Family Handbook for specific guidelines. Pay careful attention to expectations for online behavior and academic integrity.

When you are on camera for a Zoom session, dress appropriately.

Avoid rapid movement, dancing, or other physical gestures, unless your teacher asks you to!

No taking or posting images/video of your classmates or your instructors. Do not post images of others to social media without permission.

Show up! Teachers will take note of attendance and notify the Dean of Students of concerns.

## Upper School Student Expectations for Online Learning



## Useful Tips

Check Google Classroom frequently and work to get your assignments turned in on time.

Read your email and respond to your teachers promptly to keep communication open and clear.

Be a problem-solver. Ask a classmate and make a real attempt to get answers to your questions.

That being said, communicate your needs and ask questions! Your teachers want you to succeed and if you can't figure it out, they want to help.

Be a self-starter. It takes maturity and discipline to work independently, so use your time wisely.

## Discussion Boards and Chats

Online discussions for a class are not like message exchanges with your friends. Maintaining an academic tone to your posts to chats and discussion boards is important. This means that you shouldn't use slang, abbreviations, or emojis that often appear in our phone chats. This doesn't mean that you can't have fun and use humor from time to time!

Make a title for your post that has a keyword related to the topic. When writing your post, stick to 1 point, supported with evidence. Be concise. Long online posts are hard to read.

Just saying "I agree" does not move the discussion forward or count as real participation.

Contribute by responding to a classmate's post. You can refute their argument by providing evidence or support their argument by providing additional evidence.

Be specific when you give evidence. Include a page number or a small part of the passage.

Write about a real world application of a concept that will deepen understanding for the class.

Give positive feedback to your classmates to create a positive environment. Avoid comments that can be taken as an offense. Saying, "No offense, but.." does not make your comment okay.

Feel free to change your mind! Your post is not your thoughts forever and ever. Your views change based on Continuing Revelation.