

# Some Tips For Virtual Learning

As students return to school in the coming weeks, most of them will be learning virtually, through a computer, a tablet or even cell phone. While most schools have been teaching virtually since the first lockdown in March, this is still a new, and for many, uncomfortable and frightening situation. However, it's a new reality and we must adjust. Here are some tips for students to get the most out of virtual learning.



Find a comfortable, quiet and well-ventilated area from which to engage in class and from which to study and work. It should be free from tempting distractions like a television or a game console.



Be sure to have all your materials ready. Textbooks, notebooks, pens, pencils, etc, should be within arm's length to avoid having to get up in the middle of class.



Come to the virtual session prepared. Complete your readings and assignments ahead of time. Remember, this is “real” school. Treat it that way.



Avoid trying to multi-task. Many young people believe that they are inherently good at doing several things at once. Do NOT attempt to watch movies or listen to music while classes are in session. Focus on what is being taught.



Dress for success. While uniform rules for virtual learning vary among schools, dress as if you are going to learn, even if your school does not require you to wear a uniform. Dress in such a way as to put you in a frame of mind for learning. No pyjamas. No durags. No bonnets. No singlets. Dress comfortably, but appropriately and respectfully. If you dress like you're in school, you're more likely to act like you're in school.



Take short breaks as time allows to use the bathroom, stretch, get a snack or go outside for a breath of fresh air.



Participate in class. Show the teacher that you are interested in what is being taught and engage with your classmates.



Don't be afraid to let your teacher know when you do not understand something. Set up an online appointment, if necessary, for extra help.

The Bible tells us to 'Study to show thyself approved.' Whether we study online or face to face, it is important to remember that education is important if we are to fully develop our God-given gifts. Take it seriously.

Have a successful school year.

*Mr. Terrance Pratt*  
*Head of the English Department - St. Augustine's College, Nassau, Bahamas*