



THE KNOX SCHOOL  
*of* SANTA BARBARA  
*For Gifted and Talented Children*

## Distance Learning Expectations

The Knox School of Santa Barbara is using distance learning to reflect our commitment to providing a quality learning experience for every student. The Knox School's shift to distance learning begins with ensuring our students' social, emotional, and academic needs are aligned with The Knox School's Mission and Philosophy.

The mission of The Knox School of Santa Barbara is to provide a stimulating and nurturing environment where, alongside an engaging and challenging curriculum, the social and emotional needs of gifted and talented students are respected and compassionately supported.

The Knox School's guiding philosophy comes from the idea that learning is optimized when (1) the individual feels safe, appreciated, and supported, (2) when the environment recognizes and respects both gifts and differences, and (3) when the curriculum is interesting, stimulating, and meaningful.

As always the curriculum will continue to be connected through inquiry-based projects that allow for multiple entry points and multiple ways of knowing. Throughout this time we will continue to have open lines of communication between the school, teachers, students, and parents to ensure that every student receives the highest level of attention to meet their needs. Please be aware of and follow our guidelines for video conferencing. We are using Google Apps for Education for our Learning Management System (including Gmail, Docs, Slides, and Google Classroom) to house all assignments and subsequent assessments.

The administrative team is available by zoom, email, phone to help support everyone in this process. Teachers are available by zoom, email, phone, and Google classroom to support students and parents.

## Expectations for Distance Learning

For Teachers	For Students	For Parents
<p>Daily check-in with students to assess students' physical, social, and emotional wellbeing. Create a safe emotional space by being kind to each and every student so students can share what is happening with them and to find ways to support their needs.</p>	<p>Daily check-in with family and teachers and share how you are doing with them so they can support you in your learning. Be kind to classmates so that they can share their needs with everyone in the class.</p>	<p>Begin and end each day with a kind and caring check in with children/child. What resources do they require? What support do they need? This brief grounding conversation matters. It allows children to process the instructions they've received from their teachers. It helps them organize themselves and set priorities. We are working to help your students increase their independence.</p>
<p>Provide engaging lessons with many ways of sharing learning and assessments. Activities may include virtual field trips, videos, articles, mini-projects, and podcasts, with opportunities to design interdisciplinary experiences for our students as facilitators of students learning.</p>	<p>Find a comfortable and quiet space in your home where you can work effectively and successfully. Participate in your learning by being present with your teachers and classmates. Participate in activities and complete activities by doing your best work. Please eat before or after your zoom class.</p>	<p>Take an active role in helping your children process and own their learning and monitor how much time your child is spending online. What resources do they require? What support do they need? This brief grounding conversation matters. It allows children to process the instructions they've received from their teachers. It helps them organize themselves and set priorities.</p>
<p>Create opportunities for collaboration and connection among students. Find ways to incorporate quiet, reflective times as well as physical activity or exercise when designing learning experiences</p>	<p>Collaborate with other students and share your knowledge and learning with others. Be willing to take a break from screen time to have a quiet, reflective time as well as physical activity or exercise</p>	<p>Establish times for quiet and reflection and times for physical activity or exercise</p>

<p>Organization is key and teachers will work to create opportunities for students to set daily and weekly goals. Teachers will post lessons, resources, and extension activities in their Google Classroom so that everyone can have access.</p>	<p>Create, with your parents and teachers, a way to organize your learning with daily and weekly goals for your learning. Be willing to work with your teacher and parents on your goals and keep track of what they are and what you need to be able to accomplish them.</p>	<p>Remain mindful of your children's stress or worry. Do your best not to transfer your stress or worry to your children. One way to help reduce your child's stress is to help them organize themselves with daily routines and organizational tools to keep on track with their learning. Please make sure they sign into their teacher's classroom on time to help reduce their fear of missing out on important information.</p>
<p>Communicate in kind and clear ways with students, other teachers, parents, administrators so that everyone understands what is needed to support their learning.</p>	<p>Communication with parents, teachers, and students (and administration if necessary) that is kind and calm so they can work with you to support your learning.</p>	<p>Communication with children/child, teachers, and the administration that is kind and calm so everyone works together to create a supportive learning environment.</p>

# VIDEO CONFERENCING *etiquette*

## 1 lighting

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE GOOD LIGHTING SO PEOPLE CAN SEE YOU!

• **DO** USE LAMPS OR WINDOW TO LIGHT YOUR SETTING

• **DO NOT** HAVE LIGHTING BEHIND YOU- THIS WILL CAUSE YOU TO BE A DARK FIGURE



## 2 sound

SPEAK CLEAR AND NOT SUPER QUIET!

• **DO** USE A SNOWBALL MIC, AIRPODS, HEADSET, HEADPHONES WITH MIC, ETC FOR A CLEAR SOUND

• **DO NOT** STICK THE MIC SO CLOSE TO YOUR MOUTH THAT THE SOUND BECOMES FUZZY



## 3 angle

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ANGLE, NO ONE WANTS TO SEE UP YOUR NOSE!

• **DO** USE TRIPODS, BOOKS, STANDS, ETC TO SHOW YOUR WHOLE FACE AND SHOULDERS

• **DO NOT** SHOW UP YOUR NOSE, JUST YOUR FOREHEAD, OR A RANDOM SPOT ON YOUR WALL



## 4 chatting

USE HAND SIGNALS, RAISE YOUR HAND, AND BE RESPECTFUL

• **DO** MUTE YOUR MIC UNLESS YOU ARE TALKING, RAISE YOUR HAND TO ASK A QUESTION, OR USE THE CHAT FEATURE

• **DO NOT** INTERRUPT TEACHER OR CLASSMATES, SPAM THE CHAT, OR USE STRONG LANGUAGE

