



the *King's* school

Study Support Policy

STUDY SUPPORT POLICY

Policy Statement

Study Support is one of the five services within the Extended Schools core offer. It is also a key contributor to the successful delivery of the other four elements of the core offer and other national key policies, agendas and initiatives, such as Personalised Learning and Every Child Matters.

“Study Support is learning activity outside normal lessons which students take part in voluntarily. Study Support is, accordingly, an inclusive term, embracing many activities - with many names and guises. Its purpose is to improve students’ motivation, build their self-esteem and help them become more effective learners. Above all it aims to raise achievement.” *Study Support: A National Framework for Extending Learning Opportunities (DfES 2006)*

The 3 fundamental components of Study Support are:

- Voluntary participation;
- Activities taking place outside normal lesson time;
- Learning in the widest sense of the word including non-curricular areas.

The King’s School aims to raise achievement by helping students to enjoy and value learning, develop life skills and become lifelong learners. We believe that providing a wide range of exciting and engaging activities beyond the taught curriculum is integral to this aim.

Purpose

At The King’s School we aim:

- To provide opportunities for students to develop their learning beyond the curriculum in a supportive environment;
- To provide stimulating and purposeful activities which students will enjoy and which will raise their self esteem;
- To encourage students to believe in themselves and their own ability to succeed;
- To provide opportunities for students to become enthusiastic and well motivated Learners;
- To help students develop the skills to learn effectively, think more creatively and study more systematically;
- To provide activities which enrich and extend students’ knowledge and experience whilst giving them a sense of enjoyment;
- To enable students to succeed by taking part in extra-curricular activities.

Scope

This policy will be used by all staff and will apply to all students regardless of age or ability. Study Support provision will be targeted to provide opportunities for all students but in particular those who may

- Have limited opportunities outside of school e.g. access to new technologies, home learning;
- Benefit from working within a more informal environment;
- Gain from developing social and emotional aspects of learning;
- Benefit from extension and enrichment e.g. Gifted and Talented.

Responsibility

The School will:

- Consult with key stakeholders to find out what Study Support is wanted, what is needed and what can be offered;
- Audit study support provision in the school and monitor its effectiveness and impact;
- Develop a marketing and communication strategy for study support to ensure that all students are aware of the opportunities available;
- Ensure that the students who would most benefit from extended learning opportunities are encouraged to attend;
- Explore ways in which study support can enhance the School's commitment to improve the quality of Teaching and Learning;
- Ensure that staff working in Study Support have the necessary CRB clearance to allow them to work with students;
- Ensure that staff working in Study Support have the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to undertake the role;
- Liaise with the wider school community to maximise opportunities for partnerships and joint community learning programmes;
- Use the school rewards and incentives policy and procedures to ensure that students are recognised for achievement within a Study Support context;
- Work with students to explore ways in which they can take a full and active part in the planning, delivery and evaluation of Study Support;
- Ensure that the Study Support programme reflects, supports and enhances whole school targets for school improvement;
- Investigate opportunities for funding out-of-hours learning programmes;
- Ensure that the achievements of the Study Support programme are celebrated, well publicised and maintain a high profile in school;
- Seek recognition for its quality in Study Support through the QiSS kite mark.

Publicity

All staff and students will be made aware of the Study Support policy. The policy will be posted on the shared area of the school network and the school web site.

GUIDANCE

Students have the opportunity to choose from a wide and varied menu of Study Support activities. These may be offered on an open access basis or targeted at specific groups, for example Gifted and Talented. They may also have a specific outcome such as improving self esteem.

Study Support often takes place at times when students are not in normal lessons, before and after school, during breaks in the school day, at weekends and during school holidays. Residential experiences and exam revision sessions may also constitute Study Support, as long as the students themselves have chosen to participate. Some Study Support does not necessarily have to take place on a school site: a variety of other venues including libraries, museums, sports centres, youth clubs and places of worship may also be suitable. Sessions can be regular or one-off activities. Some Study Support activities happen within the timetabled curriculum and are integral to Teaching & Learning at the school e.g. Learning 2 Learn (L2L)

Study support focuses on learning in the widest sense. The range of study support activities can include: Sport and physical activity; Arts and Crafts; Design Technology and ICT; special interest groups or clubs, such as Scouts or Guides; Breakfast Clubs, Homework Clubs and drop-in sessions; revision sessions; Gifted and Talented provision, curriculum based activities e.g. L2L, 'catch up' and 'stretch'; creative and Performing Arts; peer mentoring and peer tutoring schemes; summer schools; residential experiences; visits to museums and galleries and heritage sites; Modern Foreign Languages; environmental projects; and volunteering.

The impact and benefits of study support

Successive research studies have shown that participation in Study Support impacts on attainment, achievement, and attitudes to learning, self-esteem, attendance and behaviour. The benefits of Study Support are wide reaching and not confined to students taking part. There are benefits also for school staff, parents and carers, the community and the Local Authority. Study Support Contributes to each of the Every Child Matters - Five Principles:

- Be healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well-being

Strategies for Teaching and Learning, developed in Study Support settings, frequently transfer directly to compulsory education settings. Study Support settings provide a risk-free context for teachers to experiment with innovative techniques and to refine practice which they may adopt in the mainstream classroom.

The DfES reports that Study Support improves pupil behaviour and attendance by supporting practitioners through developing a consistent approach; reducing extreme and low-level behaviour problems and reducing bullying.

Study Support provides a vehicle for developing partnerships with other agencies, libraries, youth groups and local businesses.

Staffing

Leadership & Management - The school recognises its commitment to Study Support through the appointment of a Study Support Co-ordinator who works with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to ensure the effective delivery and development of Study Support in the School.

Any member of staff, outside agency or parent/carer (subject to CRB checks) can volunteer to organise a club that they are interested in. Planning, preparation and risk assessment, where

appropriate, will be monitored by school staff before any Study Support activity goes ahead. The quality of delivery will be assessed through observations and evaluations of activities.

Promotion of Study Support

Regular articles in Newsletters, Governors Reports, displays around school and the school website will raise awareness of Study Support activities. Publicity about Study Support activities will be sought through the media, presentation events, concerts and visits from school Governors and other outside visitors. Celebration is important to the success of Study Support. This will be achieved through assemblies, performances, presentations, newsletters, displays and activities encouraging students to share their successes with others.

Involving students

Study Support provides an excellent opportunity to consult students and involve them in decision making and in running the activities. Listening to students' views will help to ensure that the programme is appealing, engaging and relevant. It will also provide a very practical means of reinforcing the school ethos, success for all, as members of a wider learning community.

Involving Parents/carers

At The King's School we believe that when families are successfully engaged this can contribute greatly, not only to Study Support, but also to the quality and effectiveness of home-school relationships and the school's role within the community. Family learning sessions at the school provide opportunities for Parents/Grandparents/Carers to learn alongside their children. We aim to encourage parents to support their child's participation in activities and, where appropriate, help in the running of a club and sharing in the celebration of success. Feedback from Parents/Carers will be used as part in the evaluation process.

Monitoring and evaluation will be done through:

- Completion and monitoring of attendance registers for each activity;
- Evaluation sheets for staff and students to complete;
- Review meetings to evaluate and improve Study Support provision;
- Visits by staff/Governors to various activities to quality assure provision;
- Collection and analysis of data to measure the impact of provision;
- Use of the Quality in Study Support code of practice to provide a powerful tool for reflective evaluation of provision.

Funding

At present, the majority of clubs that we have in school are free. Sometimes a charge will be made for an activity to cover costs. School funds also used to fund activities run by external providers e.g. Junk Food Road Show. Monies from Intervention, Extended Schools, AimHigher and Curriculum budgets are also used to fund a range of activities.

Health and safety

Health and safety issues, which include Child Protection, are of prime concern to all activity organisers. Some activities, by their nature, can be more hazardous than others and particular care should be taken when organising certain forms of provision e.g. outdoor activities and the use of specialist equipment. (Refer to Health and Safety Policy). All relevant Risks Assessments should be in place. Behaviour and discipline issues will be dealt with in line with the School's PDL policy.