



## International School of Kenya Course Syllabus

**Course:** Learning Support

**Location:** Room O2

**Level/Grade:** 9-12

**Duration:** Year Long

**Teacher(s):** Jillian Nichols, Derek Pierce, Priya Shah

### Course Description:

Learning Support (LS) is part of ISK's Student Support Services (SSS). The primary purpose of the high school Learning Support model is to help discover and provide optimal **reinforcement** and **guidance** to our students who, for a variety of reasons, may require additional support. Students typically will use their time **reading** texts, **learning** concepts, **improving** skills, **completing** work and **evolving** as life-long learners. Some students are enrolled officially in the LS program while their counselors or administration may place others through a supervised study hall model. However, the overall goal is to help students develop consistent and successful routines that allow them to thrive within all the domains of the high school experience.

Because most students in our program are identified as needing **organizational** help, time to **process** their work, and a more **structured** environment, you will find us helping them develop and implement habits which allow them to flourish emotionally and reach their learning potential. We take time to understand and advocate for the child's academic and social needs as well as provide remedial assistance in any academic area that is especially challenging. Students typically exit the LS program on the recommendation of the Student Support Team, and placement varies according to student need.

\*Students enrolled in LS and supervised study hall classes must take all required subjects in the ISK curriculum in order to graduate.

\*During this time students may work individually or collaborate on upcoming long-term assignments.

\* Students may receive additional support in their regular mainstream classes through a co-teaching model that pairs a Learning Support facilitator with the subject content specialist.

Students officially enrolled in the LS class will typically have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Student Profile which is then shared with all their content teachers. These are intended to inform and suggest strategies for teachers to share in the classroom as well as make clear any assessment accommodations the student has qualified for. The IEP/Student Profile will also encompass additional areas such as:

- **pertinent educational and medical data**
- **strengths and challenges**
- **learning style**
- **program of support and a description of those services**
- **goals and evidence of learning or progress**

In addition, the LS staff will directly work in **collaboration** with teachers to provide further expertise and classroom strategies, as well as provide **guidance** to parents on home strategies. In partnership with the family, LS staff are dedicated to ensuring that your child feels respected and valued, not just as students, but also as individuals who can positively contribute to the community.

### Learning Outcomes:

Progress with Habits of Learning  
Progress on Individual Education Plan goals

- **Self-Awareness** — *Why should I TRY it?*
- **Organization** — *How will I TRACK it?*
- **Problem Solving** — *When will I TRANSFER it?*

### Assessments:

Refer to your Individual Education Plan on how your goals will be assessed

### Marking Systems: See the handbook for descriptors

#### Habits of Learning:

HOL's (*Collaboration, Engagement + Personal Responsibility*) are assessed on the following scale

- E: Exceeding
- M: Meets
- A: Approaching
- B: Below

#### Achievement:

Achievement progress will be assessed on an overall 1 – 7 grading scale. See handbook for descriptors.

### Grading/Reporting Categories (and Weighted Percentages)

Students receive no academic grades or credit for LS. However, a summary at the end of each semester on their report cards will be inserted, along with feedback on their IEP goals.

### Course Expectations:

Students will be encouraged to:

- **be CONSISTENT** in using effective academic habits and routines
- **be CHALLENGED** by both what they learn and how they learn
- **be CARING** of themselves and others as they make progress

### Course Notes:

Students need to bring the below items to class:

- **Personal Laptop and Class Notebook**
- **Student's class work and assignments and any related readings/texts for core subjects**
- **Lined paper and/or graph paper**
- **Pencils, Pens, Ruler and Erasure**
- **Scientific/Graphing calculators**
- **Highlighter and/or Post-It notes**

