



1135 Westridge Parkway, Salinas, CA 93907 T: (831) 424-9003 F: (831) 424-9005 [www.oasischarterschool.org](http://www.oasischarterschool.org)

## **INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY**

Oasis Charter Public School (“Charter School”) may offer independent study to meet the short or long-term educational needs of pupils enrolled in the Charter School. Independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no pupil may be required to participate and is designed to teach the knowledge and skills of the core curriculum. The Charter School shall provide appropriate existing services and resources to enable pupils to complete their independent study successfully. Independent study will not be granted on a short-term basis for students the week before or the week after a Charter School break (thanksgiving, winter, or spring break). Requests for independent study must be submitted to [info@oasischarterschool.org](mailto:info@oasischarterschool.org) at least three (3) school days before the requested independent study and must be approved by the teacher and Principal or designee before a student can begin independent study. In extenuating circumstances, independent study can be approved by the Principal with less than three (3) school days’ notice.

The following written policies have been adopted by the Under Construction Education Network (“UCEN”) Governing Board for implementation at Charter School:

1. For pupils in all grade levels and programs offered by the Charter School, the maximum length of time that may elapse between the time an assignment is made and the date by which the pupil must complete the assigned work shall be five (5) school days.
2. The Principal or designee shall conduct an evaluation to determine whether it is in the best interests of the pupil to remain in independent study upon the following triggers:
  - a. When any pupil fails to complete three (3) assignments during any period of five (5) school days.
  - b. In the event Student’s educational progress falls below satisfactory levels as determined by the Charter School’s Student Success Team (“SST”) Policy which considers ALL of the following indicators:
    - i. The pupil’s achievement and engagement in the independent study program, as indicated by the pupil’s performance on applicable pupil-level measures of pupil achievement and pupil engagement set forth in Education Code Section 52060(d) paragraphs (4) and (5).
    - ii. The completion of assignments, assessments, or other indicators that evidence that the pupil is working on assignments.
    - iii. Learning required concepts, as determined by the supervising teacher.

- iv. Progressing toward successful completion of the course of study or individual course, as determined by the supervising teacher.

A written record of the findings of any evaluation conducted pursuant to this policy shall be treated as a mandatory interim pupil record. The record shall be maintained for a period of three years from the date of the evaluation and, if the pupil transfers to another California public school, the record shall be forwarded to that school.

3. The Charter School shall provide content aligned to grade level standards that is provided at a level of quality and intellectual challenge substantially equivalent to in-person instruction.
4. The Charter School has adopted tiered reengagement strategies for all pupils who are not generating attendance for more than three (3) school days or 60% of the instructional days in a school week, or who are in violation of the written agreement pursuant to Education Code Section 51747(g). These procedures are as follows:
  - a. Verification of current contact information for each enrolled pupil;
  - b. Notification to parents or guardians of lack of participation within one school day of the absence or lack of participation;
  - c. Outreach from the Charter School to determine pupil needs including connection with health and social services as necessary; and
  - d. When the evaluation described above under paragraph (2)(b) is triggered to consider whether remaining in independent study is in the best interest of the pupil, a pupil-parent-education conference shall be required to review a pupil's written agreement and reconsider the independent study program's impact on the pupil's achievement and well-being. This conference shall be a meeting involving, at a minimum, all parties who signed the pupil's written independent study agreement.<sup>1</sup>
5. The following plan shall be in place in accordance with Education Code Section 51747(e) for synchronous instruction and live interaction:
  - a. For pupils in transitional kindergarten through grade 3, inclusive, the plan to provide opportunities for daily synchronous instruction for all pupils throughout the school year by each pupil's assigned supervising teacher shall be as follows:
    - i. Each student will be assigned a credentialed supervising teacher who will offer daily classroom style, small group, or one on one synchronous instruction opportunities each school day through a video conferencing platform.

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<sup>1</sup> The tiered reengagement strategies shall not apply to pupils who participate in an independent study program for fewer than 15 schooldays in a school year.



- e. The duration of the independent study agreement, including the beginning and ending dates for the pupil's participation in independent study under the agreement. No independent study agreement shall be valid for any period longer than one school year.
  - f. A statement of the number of course credits or, for the elementary grades, other measures of academic accomplishment appropriate to the agreement, to be earned by the pupil upon completion.
  - g. A statement detailing the academic and other supports that will be provided to address the needs of pupils who are not performing at grade level, or need support in other areas, such as English learners, individuals with exceptional needs in order to be consistent with the pupil's individualized education program or plan pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794), pupils in foster care or experiencing homelessness, and pupils requiring mental health supports.
  - h. The inclusion of a statement in each independent study agreement that independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no pupil may be required to participate. In the case of a pupil who is referred or assigned to any school, class, or program pursuant to Section 48915 or 48917, the agreement also shall include the statement that instruction may be provided to the pupil through independent study only if the pupil is offered the alternative of classroom instruction.
  - i. Each written agreement shall be signed, before the commencement of independent study, by the pupil, the pupil's parent, legal guardian, or caregiver, if the pupil is less than 18 years of age, the certificated employee who has been designated as having responsibility for the general supervision of independent study, and all persons who have direct responsibility for providing assistance to the pupil. For purposes of this paragraph "caregiver" means a person who has met the requirements of Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 6550) of Division 11 of the Family Code.
8. The Charter School shall comply with Education Code sections 51745 through 51749.3 and the provisions of the Charter Schools Act of 1992 and the State Board of Education regulations adopted there under.
  9. The Principal shall establish regulations to implement these policies in accordance with the law.