

SPECIAL EDUCATION/ ◆ SUPPORT PROGRAMS

LIFESKILLS PROGRAM

SUPPORTED ACADEMIC(S) PROGRAM

LEARNING ASSISTANCE SENIOR:
GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12

SUPPORT PROGRAMS

LIFESKILLS

The Lifeskills program at Carson Graham is a modified program designed for designated students as an alternative to regular classes. Students who could benefit from Lifeskills are usually identified at the elementary level and spend some time during their Grade 7 year visiting the program on a regular basis. In consultation with their counsellor and the Lifeskills program teacher students will choose a schedule based on their academic, social and vocational needs from the following Functional Skills classes and regular electives.

Program Fee: \$10.00

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS ENGLISH: (Grades 8-12)

This course helps students to communicate effectively through reading and writing. Materials will be functional and of high interest/low vocabulary. (Reading levels are usually from Pre-K through 3rd grade). Teaching units will include phonetic skills, sight word recognition, listening, auditory comprehension, stories read aloud, introductory grammar and parts of speech, vocabulary building, spelling, dictionary skills, alphabetizing, reading directions, reading the newspaper, reading and writing complete sentences, composing paragraphs, note-taking, report writing, and oral presentations.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS MATHEMATICS: (Grades 8-12)

This course helps the students to learn basic arithmetic skills and concepts that are useful in daily life. Emphasis will be on math activities that are meaningful rather than rote or memorized facts. Teaching units will include numeration, computation, calculator skills, place value, decimals, fractions, percent, measurement, time telling, money banking, and purchasing. Math manipulative and concrete materials are used to teach concepts. After demonstration and guided practice, some students will be able to work independently on individual assignments that target their math needs.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS SOCIAL STUDIES: (Grades 8-12)

This course helps the students to learn about their community, province, country, and the world. Teaching units will include geography, maps, local, provincial and national government, Canadian history, world events, wars and understanding other cultures. Concepts will be taught in a thematic way through visuals, novel studies and community trips.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS LIVING SKILLS/SCIENCE: (Grades 8-12)

This course helps to prepare the student for living independently and responsibly in the future. Emphasis will be practical education rather than traditional science. Teaching units will include family life/sexuality education, relationships, health and safety, clothing and grooming, First-Aid, aging and death, meal planning, shopping, cooking, and disability awareness, self advocacy, values/character education.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS COMMUNITY SKILLS: (Grades 8-12)

This course provides real life application and practice of the skills taught in the classroom. Students learn to take public transportation to businesses, to private homes, to the Public Library, the Animal Shelter, the Recreation Center, area restaurants and shopping malls. This course of study is discussed and recommended through the IEP process for students who would benefit more from a practical life skills curriculum and who have much difficulty tolerating the demands of a full academic day.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS ART: (GRADES 8-12)

Using a directed approach for students, this course reinforces concepts taught in other classes such as colours, numbers, size, shape and texture. Students produce a portfolio of artwork using a variety of mediums.



SUPPORT PROGRAMS

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS COMPUTER KEYBOARDING (GRADES 8-12)

This course provides students with self-paced instruction and practice in practical computer skills.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS PHYSICAL EDUCATION (GRADES 8-12)

This course focuses on developing skills needed for a healthy lifestyle. Students will take part in fitness activities, sports skills and learn how to use community leisure and fitness facilities.

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS CAREERS/WORK EXPERIENCE: (Grades 8-12)

This course follows the “Steps to Success” curriculum developed by North Vancouver School District 44 Work Experience coordinators. Areas of study include prerequisites for the work place, such as social and communication skills, career exploration, decision-making, job applications, job interviewing, and job tours. The class also covers keeping a job and making connections with adult service providers for continued support after high school graduation. During the first 2 years of high school the student will learn about a variety of jobs through classroom presentations, speakers, video cassettes, and by doing in-school work experience. During grades 11 and 12 the students will be placed in a non-paid work experience for approximately 2 to 4 hours one day per week. A different job will be tried for each semester. School personnel will provide the training and job coaching to support the student in learning how to use transportation, and how to meet the requirements of the job. The Work Coordinator will develop the job placement, assist the student with the interview, provide overall supervision, and communicate with the business owner/manager.

SUPPORTED ACADEMIC(S) PROGRAM

In Supported Academics, both modified and adapted instruction is offered in Math, Science, Social Studies and English. Supported Academic classes offer a more intensive level of support than the Learning Assistance Centre for designated Special Needs students. Suitable candidates will be referred to Supported Academics by classroom teachers and counsellors in consultation with the School Based Resource Team. For all Supported Academic classes, the goal of mainstream integration is pursued to the extent that is consistent with the individual student’s learning profile.

The goal of Supported Academics is to deliver key components of the mainstream curriculum at a slower pace in a smaller class setting. Modified and adapted programs are differentiated and individualized with the added support of Special Education Assistants. Beginning in grade 10, students make the transition from Supported Academic classes to mainstream classes usually with the support of the Learning Assistance Centre.



LEARNING ASSISTANCE COURSES

LEARNING ASSISTANCE CENTRE

Learning Assistance is a support service where students can learn the skills necessary to achieve academic success. Each student's program will be determined based on individual need, and includes the following three strands:

- a) Curriculum Support: tutoring in current academic subjects and assistance with assignments.
The emphasis is on assisting students with initiating, polishing, or completing an assignment. Learning Assistance is NOT a homework block.
- b) Learning Strategies: time management, organizing notes and class work, locating information, note taking, preparing for tests, listening skills, agenda/homework record-keeping, and self-advocacy skills.
- c) Remediation of Skills: direct instruction to improve reading, writing, math, and study skills.

Students are referred to the Learning Assistance Centre by classroom teachers, parents, counsellors, or by self-referral.

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Each student's program will be determined based on individual need.

LEARNING ASSISTANCE SENIOR

(LACSR)

Learning Assistance Senior is a support service provided for students in grades 9-12 who require curriculum support in their academic classes. Students will be given direct instruction in study skills, test taking strategies, self-advocacy support and time management skills. Students will work on a self-paced program depending on their individual needs. Placement in Learning Assistance Senior is based on the recommendation of classroom teachers and counsellors in consultation with the Learning Support Teachers.

