



Independent Study Statement

Dehesa Charter School is an independent study charter school. As a student-based program, the focus is each individual student's abilities, learning styles, available resources, and goals. Our Educational Facilitators (EFs) partner with parents and students to develop and monitor a personalized learning plan.

The process for enrollment at Dehesa Charter School includes submitting a completed application packet. Once the admission paperwork has been processed, the parent will be contacted by an Educational Facilitator (EF) to set up an initial enrollment meeting in which a learning plan is developed based on the child's dispositions, preferred modalities, interests, talents, preferred environment, and current levels of development.

Dehesa Charter School works with parents and students forming a collaborative team to provide educational resources for all students. Our aim is self-directed, independent learning. Working closely as a member of their child's educational team provides the opportunity for the parent to be closely involved with their child in the role of general education teacher at Dehesa Charter School. The parent accepts the role of planning lessons, providing instruction, evaluating progress, seeking and supporting educational opportunities, and modeling independent learning by learning alongside the student.

Our personalized approach to education is based on the following principles:

- Personalized objectives, methods of study, resources, and methods of evaluation
- Mastery – the desire and ability to continue improving
- Autonomy – able to self-direct
- Purpose – able to apply learning to bigger picture

While the parent is the primary mentor, students in our program are encouraged to have several mentors. Mentors can be family members, friends, specialized instructors, EFs, etc. The mentor's first objective is to prepare and organize the learning environment to meet the needs and interests of the child as well as promote independence. The mentor's ultimate goal is to intervene less as the student develops.

I understand that Dehesa Charter School is a public school of choice and feel the independent study approach and personalized learning is an appropriate placement for my child's skills and learning objectives. I will partner with an EF to develop and carry out a learning plan.

Parent

Signature

Date

Student Name(s)