



## Is Independent Study Right for My Child?

**Pivot Charter School** is a non-classroom-based independent study program. This model works very well for some students — and is very difficult for others.

Please review the questions below carefully.

### 1. Can My Child Work Independently?

- Independent study requires students to:
- Log in and work on coursework **every school day**
- Stay focused without a teacher physically present
- Complete assignments on time
- Communicate regularly with their teacher

Ask yourself:

- Does my child stay on task without constant supervision?
- Does my child complete work without being repeatedly reminded?
- Has my child struggled in online learning before?

If your child needs continuous in-person supervision to complete work, independent study may not be the best fit.

### 2. Can Our Family Provide Daily Support?

Especially for elementary students, parent involvement is essential.

Families must:

- Monitor daily progress
- Ensure schoolwork is completed each day (check portal)
- Communicate with teachers within 48 hours of their reaching out

- Attend required meetings and trainings

Ask yourself:

- Do I have time to check my child's work daily?
- Can I provide structure and accountability at home?
- Am I prepared to serve as a daily learning coach?

If consistent daily support at home is not possible, success in independent study is difficult to achieve.

### **3. Does My Child Need a Traditional Classroom?**

Independent study does NOT provide:

- Daily classroom instruction
- A teacher lecturing in person all day
- Built-in structure from a school bell schedule

If your child thrives on constant classroom interaction and teacher-directed instruction, a traditional setting may be more appropriate.

### **4. Can My Child Meet Attendance Expectations?**

In independent study, attendance is based on:

- Work completed
- Daily engagement in coursework

If a student does not complete sufficient work each school day, they may be marked truant.

Students must:

- Work every school day
- Meet weekly with their Educational Coordinator (and once a month with parent/guardians)
- Communicate weekly (or more) with their teacher

## 5. Important Considerations

Before enrolling, please understand:

- Independent study is often more challenging than traditional school
- Optional workshops and site-based programs are supplemental and not guaranteed
- Reliable internet and computer access are required
- Parent training is mandatory
- Students currently in the process of expulsion, recently expelled, or under an expulsion order may not be eligible for enrollment

### When Independent Study Is Often a Good Fit

- ✓ Students who are self-motivated
- ✓ Students who need flexibility
- ✓ Students who can work independently
- ✓ Families able to provide daily structure
- ✓ Students who benefit from a quieter, safe learning environment

### When It May Not Be a Good Fit

- ✗ Students who refuse to work without constant supervision
- ✗ Students who need daily live instruction
- ✗ Families unable to monitor daily progress
- ✗ Students who struggle significantly with self-discipline

Independent study requires responsibility, consistency, and family commitment.

*Before enrolling, ask:*

**Am I confident my child — and our family — can meet these expectations every school day?**

If yes, we look forward to partnering with you.

If you are unsure, we encourage you to speak with our Enrollment Coordinator before proceeding.