

The Cherwell School

Extended Day Programme

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School



A Centre of Opportunity

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the program?

The Extended Day Program for students in Years 7 and 8 has been running since January 2015. Starting in September 2015, it will take place two nights a week (Mon-Tue) at The Cherwell School, between 3:20pm and 5:20pm. The first hour consists of sports and games, with a second hour devoted to supervised homework and academic study. Refreshments are provided after the first hour.

Why does the school offer this program?

The Extended Day Program provides an environment where students can enjoy some physical activity and then approach their homework / academic study with refreshed minds and bodies. We run it after school in recognition that the school day finishes early enough for students to be able to benefit from this program. There are also well-known benefits from physical activity and peer group-guided academic study.

Does my child have to attend all the sessions available per week?

No. Students can register for as many or as few weekly sessions as they wish. At this stage we are not able to offer flexible weekly attendance and would ask students to commit to at least one one-hour session per week for all six weeks of the term (e.g. every Monday, or every Monday and Tuesday, etc.)

Which sports and activities are included?

During colder months, activities are indoors and include basketball, dodge ball, and indoor football. Outdoor activities such as football and tennis are popular choices for the warmer terms! We hope to offer a selection each session (some options are of course weather-dependent.)

What happens during the homework hour?

Students sit in a supervised classroom, completing homework individually or in small peer groups as appropriate; supervisors offer support. If students are present in these sessions without specific homework for that evening, additional material to develop their Key Stage 3 learning will be provided.

How much does it cost?

We are asking for a parental contribution of £5.50 per 2-hour session. There will be four sessions available per week. If students attend only one hour of the two available there will be a cost of £3 per session.

What if the fee is too much for our family, but I still want my child to participate?

Some students may be eligible for a reduced fee. If your child is a Cherwell Scholar the reduced fee is explained further on letters available from the south site reception as well as from the Year 7 and 8 head of year offices.

What about other after-school clubs that don't charge?

Students who participate in free after-school clubs, and who represent the school at sports which practice after school for free, are very welcome to continue attending those programmes. You can find out about these clubs on the school's website and we will inform students of the activities available via form tutors.

Can I go to a free club and then the extended day homework/study session, and pay less?

Yes, but you will need to indicate that you wish to do this from the beginning of term. As outlined above, the cost would be £3 (Cherwell scholars refer to alternative letter).

How is the money collected?

Students are registered after completion of Extended Day Program form available from south site reception, the website, and the head of year 7 and 8 offices. Payment is made by cheque when returning this registration form.

Can I cancel my child's attendance at any given session if necessary?

In emergencies, a child's attendance can be cancelled by emailing the Extended Day Coordinator, but we will not be able to refund the money for that session. Supervisors hold an attendance list for each session, and they will be notified of your child's absence.

What are the arrangements for supervision?

We offer a ratio of approximately one supervisor for every 10-15 students (so 30 students would have two staff). Supervisors are appropriately trained and this year the supervisors are qualified PE / Science Teachers.

Does my child need to bring any special equipment to school?

We offer a range of sports/activities each session and, given that some will take place outside (football, for example), suitable PE kit will be required. At minimum, children need to have appropriate footwear (i.e. shoes that fasten securely and allow for freedom of movement).

What about refreshments?

Biscuits, squash and fruit when available are provided between sessions, but children are advised to bring an additional snack if they want/need it. They are also strongly encouraged to bring their own water bottle.

How far in advance do I need to register?

We ask parents to register one term in advance. Reminders about re-registration are sent to parents in the middle of each term, to ensure timeliness.

Whom do I contact if I want to know more? The Extended Day Coordinator works out of the Alumni and Development Office, and can be contacted at extendedday@cherwell.oxon.sch.uk.