

Study Skills

Study skills has been taught as a separate subject at St. Andrew's for many years now. At the time of its inception the subject had a pioneering feel to it: most schools were not yet thinking about learning styles, emotional intelligence, mind mapping, metacognition or multiple intelligences. Now it is becoming commonplace, but more so in senior than in junior schools. We believe in the importance of learning how to learn from an early age and we believe that when children give thought to ways of improving how they learn all school subjects should benefit.

Study Skills is, therefore, taught as a separate subject in the senior part of the school. It is usually taught in half classes once every other week from Year 5 to Year 7. Workshops are sometimes arranged in addition for Year 8. The skills taught include thinking skills, library skills (information retrieval), memorising, speed reading, note-taking, mind mapping, revising and examination techniques. There is no examination in this subject, but in one sense every exam is partly a test of these skills and it is probably true to say that this small corner of the curriculum has had a disproportionate influence on the very successful results St. Andrew's has generally enjoyed in recent years.

