

ACPS Out of School Time LINK Club Support Components

NOTE: The following is to provide specific information regarding the LINK Club Support Components:

Current LINK Club Component	Details
Eligibility	While all eligible students are encouraged to apply for LINK Club, a rubric is used to ensure the highest need students are served.
Academic Support	A primary focus of LINK Club is “linking” the instructional services received during the school day to the support provided to students during after school hours. ACPS certified teachers facilitate “Power Hour” coaching and remedial support in small grade-level groups an average of three days/week.
Study Hall	Students are also offered additional time during LINK Club to work on homework, projects and/or study for tests with the support of program staff.
STEM Project-based Learning	Students are engaged in hands-on STEM projects each week using curriculum and supply kits. Weekly STEM projects emphasize creative problem solving, innovation, decision-making, communication and collaboration. Community partner staff has been trained to facilitate the STEM project-based learning activities, thus enhancing the skills of community partner out of school time program (OSTP) staff.
Social/Emotional	Students participate in weekly Character Clubs designed to teach compassion and empathy building, anger management, conflict resolution skills and empowerment. In addition, LINK Club begins each day with a community circle. All community partner OSTP staff are trained in PBIS and Restorative Practices.
Enrichment	Beyond academic support, LINK Club nurtures positive growth through social interactions and enriching opportunities for students. A variety of elective clubs offered weekly by over 20 different community partners promote physical, social, emotional and cognitive development, imagination and creative expression.
Health/Wellness	Students are also provided the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities focused on physical health/wellness each week. Recreational clubs facilitated by community partners

	include soccer, basketball, flag football, fitness, tennis, yoga, parkour, dance and creative movement.
Data-Based Learning	LINK Club staff are provided benchmark data at the beginning of the program year for each student within their group. Depending on grade level, this includes: Fountas and Pinnell reading level; the Scholastic Reading Index; Think Through Math score; PALS outcomes; and/or previous year SOLS scores. LINK Club staff are provided student report cards and additional academic data benchmarks quarterly in order to assess needs and accomplishments.
Family Engagement	To further promote optimal student development, LINK Club is grounded in respectful and reciprocal relationships with the families of students served. In partnership with ACPS Family and Community Engagement (FACE), LINK implements culturally competent practices to build trust and engage families in a variety of activities and workshops.
Nutrition	ACPS Nutrition Services provides snacks/dinner through the Child and Adult Care Food program at all LINK Club sites. Weekend food bags are also offered through community partnerships at several sites.
Transportation	ACPS Pupil Services provides busing home after LINK Club for all sites serving students that reside outside of the immediate location where programming is offered.