



Learning Commons - Elementary School

The Need for a Learning Commons

The learning commons offers students ownership over a large, central educational space that they can freely use for study, group projects, after-school club meetings or socialization. The larger space accommodates a campfire arrangement, allowing even full-class activities to take place in a comfortable, informal space. Learning commons furnishings should feature flexible, comfortable furnishings that students can move and arrange into large or small group configurations as needed.

Requirements for a Great Learning Commons

For **students**, the learning commons should feature comfortable seating and workspaces spread out across an open, inviting space. The seating and workspaces should be mobile or lightweight enough for students to move them into groups when needed. Easy access to outlets or charging ports assists students with technology use since their devices remain charged and ready for use.

For **teachers**, the learning commons includes flexible furniture and comfortable seating to encourage students to spend more time there. Collaborative furniture should be flexible and easy-to-move so the student center can be used for group work or projects. Mobile writing surfaces assist teachers when using the learning commons for large, full-class presentations. Storage areas should be accessible and easy-to-use, so supplies can be distributed and collected quickly.

Administrators require a learning commons that's furnished to accomplish the vision for the space as well as encourage students to use the space. They need to know that all products are available at the time they are needed and that their order will arrive correctly and on time. Installations must be quick and efficient.

Learning Commons Solutions from School Outfitters

The School Outfitters' team designed a learning commons with furnishings that encourage students to both use and appreciate the space. The **Collaboration Area**, **Gathering Area**, and **Individual Study Area** are designed to work together to create an environment that accommodates independent and collaborative work, socialization, technology usage and large-group gatherings.

The **Collaboration Area** gives students their own space they can use to meet for group projects or participate in collaborative activities. This area includes the following:

- **Collaborative tables**
- **School chairs**

Collaborative tables feature spacious work surfaces that are still compact enough to allow group members to reach the materials that they need for projects. The table shapes are designed to let all students see each other, giving everyone an equal opportunity to participate. Thick tabletops withstand heavy use, and laminate surfaces clean easily.

School chairs constructed from durable, reinforced plastic support students as they lean back. The lightweight design makes it easy for students to pick them up and move them around the room.

A **Gathering Area** encourages students to spend more time in your learning commons, socializing with friends between classes or after school. This area is also an ideal space for after-school clubs to meet. This area includes:

- **Soft seating**

Soft seating is lightweight and easy-to-move, so students can quickly arrange themselves into groups as needed. Soft padding keeps users comfortable.

The **Individual Study Area** gives students a quiet place to work independently on assignments or study for an exam. This area includes:

- **Soft seating**
- **Soft seating tabletop**
- **Power-enabled table**

Soft seating works great for brainstorming or collaboration. Padded seats keep students comfortable for long periods of sitting, and a lightweight design makes it easy to pick up and move this seating as needed.

Soft seating tabletops gives students a place to write or prop open their study materials.

A **power-enabled table** gives students a place to charge devices as well as a work surface that's perfect for spreading out books, papers or other study materials.

Choosing Your Learning Commons Solution

School Outfitters makes it simple to outfit a great learning commons. Choose the option that best fits your budget and needs, and with just one click, you get an itemized quote for this classroom, including all three of our specially-designed stations. Our helpful representatives are happy to answer any questions about our stations and how you can put them to use in your learning commons. Just give us a call 1-800-260-2776.