

QSI Chisinau Parent and Student Handbook

2022-23



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Welcome to QSI International School of Chisinau

QSI International School of Chisinau welcomes the students to Chisinau and to a new school year.

The QSI International School of Chisinau believes in a personalized approach to instruction leading to mastery within a positive and enjoyable learning environment. Founded in 1996, its fundamental goal is to prepare students not only for successful further schooling, but also for the difficulties that will be encountered in the changing social, economic and political environment of the modern world.

QSI Chisinau offers the students a challenging academic curriculum that includes a full complement of courses for students from pre-school (2 years-old) through the fourth-year secondary class that prepares the students for university entrance or the world of work. Studies are tailored to meet the needs of everyone. We want the students to work at a level at which the students can achieve success and at the rate the students can achieve mastery.

This handbook is intended for both new and continuing students and parents of QSI International School of Chisinau. We especially welcome our new families and hope this handbook will offer the students adequate information about our program. Although our returning students and parents may be acquainted with much of the handbook's information, we ask the students to review it in preparation for the coming year.

We hope that students and their families will always feel welcome at QSI. Many of the students may find QSI International School of Chisinau to be different from the type of school they last attended. If the students have questions, we encourage you to ask. It is helpful for us to hear questions and concerns, as it makes it easier for us to do our primary job: to meet the educational needs of our students.

We want to stress that communication is the most important aspect of a successful school. Please help us ensure that ours is an open and honest environment.



COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL: QSI International School of Chisinau is a private, non-profit pre-school - Grade 12 co-educational, college preparatory institution. The school was founded in September 1996 in order to provide a quality education for the diplomatic and expatriate communities living in Chisinau, Moldova.

ACCREDITATION: QSI International School of Chisinau, 3 year old through Secondary IV, is accreditation by The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA). The school holds membership in The Central Eastern European Schools Association (CEESA) and is affiliated with The Department of State Office of Overseas Schools (OAS)

ENROLLMENT: The school encompasses 2 years old through 18 years old. Our enrollment for the 2021-22 school year will be approximately 160 students.

CURRICULUM: The school follows an American college preparatory curriculum including Advanced Placement classes. In addition to its scholastic goals, the school endeavors to provide its students with a specialized program including Russian, Romanian and French language studies.

FACULTY: The school employs 27 full-time staff members and 6 part-time. This includes 11 overseas-hired teachers, 7 local teachers, 3 administrative staff members including a school doctor, and 6 support staff (guards and maintenance).

Communications Between School and Home

The administration produces a newsletter and maintains an up-to-date web site to keep students, staff, and parents informed of the things happening at school. The newsletter is sent to parents and friends of the school by email and is posted on the QSI Chisinau website. Five times per year students are given a provided status report to be given to their parents. Personal Narratives written by the teachers are sent home 2 times a year, and at least two parent / teacher conferences are held during the year.

Philosophy

QSI International School of Chisinau was founded in order to provide a quality education in the English language for expatriates living in Chisinau. Moldovan citizens and citizens of other countries residing in Chisinau who want their children to be educated in English are also accepted. The school recognizes that most of the students are enrolled for only two or three years and may bring diverse educational backgrounds with them. The school's philosophy includes the following:

1. Attitudes Toward Learning - We believe that more learning will occur if the student has a desire to learn, has positive feelings concerning his/her school environment, and succeeds in his work. A comfortable atmosphere of caring and acceptance established by the school is considered important, so that each student is encouraged to strive for excellence and to be creative. An aesthetically pleasing environment with a view to appreciation of beauty and order enhances this. Each student's possibility of success increases when s/he works at the appropriate level of difficulty and senses positive expectations from his/her teachers.
2. Areas of Learning - Mastery of basic skills is considered a vital part of education, essential for success in studies of other subjects as well as most situations in life. A broad and varied program of physical education, fine arts, and other activities is also considered important to enhance the interest and education of the students.
3. Social Behavior - For a useful and meaningful life we encourage the development of personal qualities leading to acceptable values and harmonious relationships.
4. Cultural Awareness - An understanding and acceptance of the different cultures represented in the school are considered important. We believe emphasis should be placed on gaining an appreciation and knowledge of Europe and the Moldovan Republic specifically.
5. Environmental Awareness - We believe it is essential to have an awareness of the value of protecting and improving our environment.

The School Day

This is how the student's time will be spent on a typical school day:

Normal School Day

The normal day for secondary students is from 8:15 A.M. to 2:54 or 3:42 P.M.

The normal school day for pre-school – 11 year old is 8:15-2:55, with after school activities being offered during period 8.

A New Student Arrives

QSI Chisinau staff and students want to help make the student's adjustment as a new student as smooth and happy as possible. QSI CHISINAU students and staff accept as a routine fact of life a steady flow of newcomers from many different countries and school systems, each making a unique contribution to our multi-cultural school society. The students may be new now, but in a short time the students will be the one greeting the newcomer!!

Important Documents to Bring

Please bring the following materials to assist with student placement:

Prior scholastic records: Please bring copies of the student's prior school records, including evaluations and special testing data. These records are useful in the first placement in the academic program of QSI CHISINAU. Otherwise, the releasing school should mail the records to: QSI International School of Chisinau.

Evidence of date of birth: Please bring the student's passport.

Completed QSI enrollment forms: All information should be completed on the enrollment form including address and contact information. Of utmost importance is the information about the student's medical history, including allergies, physical limitations, etc. If any of this information should change after the time of enrollment, please inform the school.

Placement

In order to better meet the student's individual needs, placement will be determined by the results of tests administered by the QSI CHISINAU administration, previous school records, and a conference with the director, student, parents, and teachers.

Due to the fact that our instructional program is delivered in English, some students whose English language skills do not allow successful mastery of the defined outcomes will be placed in an Intensive English program until ready for "mainstream" classroom programs. It is our experience that such an intensive introductory preparation provides students with necessary skills and assures success when combined with hard work.

The Academic Program

QSI International School of Chisinau has a strong belief that all of our students can succeed. We depart somewhat from traditional schools in that we are not as much concerned about time as being the "defining" factor of the student's learning. In most schools the students are given a certain amount of time to complete learning in a subject and then the students are assessed on the student's performance. At QSI CHISINAU we want to use time as a resource so the students can master the outcomes that are designed to make the students into a well-educated and well-adjusted person. In our model of learning the students either master the outcomes in each area, or the students are simply not finished. When the students achieve mastery level the students

are immediately rewarded by receiving credit for the outcome. Thus we have only mastery grades of "A" or "B," or still "in progress". We recognize that not everyone will master outcomes at the same rate. Many of the students will be able to finish an outcome rather quickly--the students will be allowed to work on a selective outcome and gain credit for doing so. Others will take longer to achieve mastery level--the students will be given time to do so. In other words, the students have more than one chance to be successful. The outcomes the students will need to learn to a mastery level are clearly defined and clearly stated. No tricks! We believe in teaching what we test and testing what we teach.

It is important to learn more than the "academics." We feel it equally important that the often hidden part of the curriculum, what we call Success Orientations, be a vital part of the student's school experiences. Therefore QSI International School of Chisinau has designed EXIT OUTCOMES that are the bases of the whole curriculum. These EXIT OUTCOMES fall into three categories: *Success Orientations, Competencies, and Knowledge*. Although these categories are related and are in many ways interdependent, the following three verbs give definition to the Exit Outcomes:

'To be'	Success Orientations
'To do'	Competencies
'To know'	Knowledge

Success Orientations

SUCCESS FOR ALL is the motto of QSI International School of Chisinau. We want this to be more than just a slogan. Research indicates and our experience confirms that successful people have developed personal orientations that lead to success. Personal habits, the ability to interact successfully with others, reliability, responsibility, diligent work habits, promptness, keeping the student's word, kindness, and other factors in this realm are at least as important as the knowledge the students learn and the competencies the students gain. Responsibility for success in these orientations rests first and foremost in the home; however, they are actively encouraged and taught in virtually all areas of the school curriculum, with the view of making them a vital part of the student's life pattern. The role of QSI CHISINAU is to reinforce the efforts of the home.

Success orientations are evaluated independently. Academic evaluations are given solely on the basis of the student's performance in the specified outcomes in the academic areas. Evaluations of the success orientations are limited to situations within the jurisdiction of the school and are made by a consensus of the professional staff members.

*** RESPONSIBILITY * TRUSTWORTHINESS ***
*** GROUP INTERACTION ***
*** AESTHETIC APPRECIATION * KINDNESS / POLITENESS ***
*** INDEPENDENT ENDEAVOR * CONCERN FOR OTHERS ***
SUCCESS IN THESE AREAS LEADS TO SUCCESS IN LIFE!!

Competencies

In recent times there has been a tremendous information explosion along with scientific and technological advances. It becomes increasingly important for the students to develop competencies, which will give the students the tools to cope with this present age. To become productive participants in modern society the students will need to gain skills related to these advances.

Particularly important are the higher order thinking skills. Skills related to the arts and physical fitness are important with a view to beauty and quality of life.

QSI International School of Chisinau considers mastery in each of the seven competencies listed below as essential to the student's success.

- 1. NUMERACY AND MATHEMATICAL SKILLS ***
- 2. VERBAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION SKILLS ***
- 3. THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS ***
- 4. DECISION-MAKING AND JUDGMENT SKILLS ***
- 5. COMMERCIAL SKILLS ***
- 6. PSYCHOMOTOR SKILLS ***
- 7. FINE ARTS SKILLS ***

Knowledge

In the modern world there has been a vast increase of knowledge, which continues today. It is impossible to know everything. We have to choose carefully the things that are considered essential for a person who is educated in modern society. We believe it is better to engage in the study of less information and gain mastery rather than cover large amounts of information superficially without mastery.

In order for the students to develop competencies, the students must have a firm foundation of facts and knowledge. Certain facts must be memorized and used as tools in gaining other knowledge and in developing competencies. Other knowledge is gained by building upon and combining fundamental facts and bits of knowledge. This happens by hearing, seeing, and experiencing in learning situations, followed by practice and repeated exposure. No one knows all the ways it happens; however, some of the ways are by dialogue, questioning, experimentation, risk-taking, and group activities.

In the realm of ledge QSI CHISINAU has identified seven areas. Mastery of these Exit Outcomes will lead to a successful school experience in QSI International School of Chisinau.

- * MATHEMATICS *
- * ENGLISH / LITERATURE *
- * CULTURAL STUDIES *
- * SCIENCE *
- * CREATIVE AND APPLIED ARTS *
- * LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH *
- * PERSONAL HEALTH AND WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES *

Student Evaluation

The three basic premises of QSI International School of Chisinau's model of education are:

1. All students can learn at a high level of achievement.
2. Success breeds success.
3. It is the school's responsibility to provide the conditions for the **Student's success**.

With this in mind, QSI CHISINAU does not accept mediocre (grade of "C") or poor (grade of "D" or "F") work. Traditionally the grades of "A" or "B" are considered to be Mastery Grades.

The evaluations given in the written status reports are defined as follows:

- A- all essential parts of the outcome were mastered at an appropriately high level. The student consistently demonstrated noteworthy achievement of a high quality, particularly in the higher order thinking or performance skills.
- B- All essential parts of the outcome were mastered at an appropriately high level in which the student successfully engaged in higher order thinking or performance skills.
- P- The student is "in progress" in the outcome. (Normal)
- H- The outcome is "on hold" for a legitimate reason. (The student has begun the outcome, but is currently not pursuing it.)
- D- The student has not made reasonable effort and is therefore "deficient" in attaining mastery of the outcome.
- E "Exposure"-The student made a reasonable effort in the outcome and attained a level of mastery consistent with his/her capabilities. (Elementary classes only, but not in the areas of mathematics, reading, or language arts.)
- W- The student was withdrawn from this outcome.

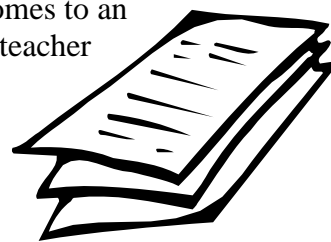
In the Secondary School students are granted one credit for mastery of each unit outcome, which is credentialed "A" or "B." Thus, ten credits correspond to one "Carnegie Unit" used by most American secondary schools.

Evaluations, called STATUS REPORTS, are issued to all students five times each year (at the end of each "Quintile"). If there is a need or reasonable request, a status report can be issued at any time. Evaluations for student progress will be entered in the computer as soon as possible after mastery is demonstrated for each unit outcome.

QSI CHISINAU encourages all students to pursue a challenging academic course of studies. Students are required to learn to a level of mastery. We use only mastery grades of "A" or "B." Although students have more than one chance to achieve mastery in each outcome, we expect most students to master outcomes during their first opportunity.

Completion Of Outcomes

Students are expected to complete units in a timely manner. Students who are late in completing an essential unit should plan to complete it before the following unit comes to an end. If the student has not completed the essential unit by this time, the teacher will put an **H**, **D**, or **W** on the outcome card.



- **H** is for students who are struggling with the work and are not progressing. The essential unit is put on hold, and students may reenter the essential unit at a later date.
- **D** is for students who are deficient, because they put in very little effort and are not progressing.
- **W** means a student is withdrawn and can only be readmitted with teacher approval.

Students are expected to use their time wisely to complete the courses in which they are enrolled. Students who do not complete courses will find that they have to continue with that course the following year. They will need to take a safety net class in order to complete their units and may miss out on the opportunity to take other courses. Students will be expected to make their academic work a top priority and allocate their time accordingly.

If a student does not pass a unit assessment then they will need re-teaching in the areas in which they have not shown mastery and will need to complete more work to demonstrate their increased understanding and therefore readiness to be reassessed. Students are strongly encouraged to always perform their best and work and study to pass units on the first attempt whenever possible.

Efforts are made so that secondary students will not abuse the assessment procedure by taking multiple versions of tests to pass a unit. This can occur when they do not study for the first an assessment or have not followed directions or completed assignments. Assessments should not be a mystery, teachers will let students know clearly what is on the assessment and how to prepare for it.

- All students who fail to master an assessment will be reassessed. Reassessment should focus on the pieces of the assessment that they did not master.
- In preparation for reassessment the teacher will require students to demonstrate that they are ready to master the material. This may mean that the student must complete an **extra assignment(s)** relating to the outcome to demonstrate their mastery and that they are ready for another assessment.
- If a student does not master further assessments, the teacher, director and parents will create a plan to address progress toward assessment.
- Secondary students must declare candidacy for the type of diploma they are working towards at the beginning of their third year secondary. Staff will approve their choice by the middle of October. Their progress will be monitored throughout the year by advisors. Formal review of their progress will take place during the third quintile. If they are making adequate progress (all current with work and no incomplete essential units), they may proceed. If not, they must declare candidacy for the lower diploma. If the students are aiming for a practical diploma and the students are not on target by the third quintile, a conference will be held to inform the student's parents that the students will probably not graduate on time.

Upgrade Policy

Upgrading from a “B” to an “A”

A time limit for upgrading from a “B” to an “A” will be developed with the teacher and the student. Upgrades cannot commence after June 1 and should be completed no later than 10 school days before the last day of school.

Upgrading from a “D” to a “B”

In order to get a “D”, the student shows no effort to succeed in the unit. They do not turn in the work, do the reading or study for the assessment. A “D” will be accompanied by a conference involving the student, teacher, parent and or director. Once a plan is in place and progress is shown the “D” will be changed to a “P”. Units receiving a “D” do not earn credit towards graduation and must be made up in required classes.

Closed Campus

QSI International School of Chisinau is a closed campus which means students may not leave the campus without permission from the office. The reason for this rule:

Student’s parents have entrusted the school with the student’s well-being and safety. Therefore, we must know where the students are at all times. The student’s safety and security are our first consideration.

A "closed campus" also means visitors and non-students must check in through the school office before being allowed to visit the school. We must know who is on our campus at all times.

Non-students are not to come at recess, lunchtime, or during class time to visit our students directly. They must check in through the office!

Student Conduct

With reference to the student's behavior, common sense and good manners are the guidelines. This includes responsibility and respect for others. The following are a few of the specific rules that have been agreed upon by the students, staff, and administration. Students and teachers will formulate rules of conduct for their individual classrooms.

- Running, rowdiness, and activities are restricted to appropriate areas.
- Gum chewing is not permitted
- Sugary drinks, candy and unhealthy foods should not be brought on a regular basis. Eating in the classroom is at the teacher's discretion.
- The students are not to use obscene, foul, vulgar, or inflammatory language.
- Habitual tardiness to school and skipping classes are unacceptable.
- The students must be respectful of the property of others, refraining from damaging or taking others' belongings.
- A student who has been "suspended out of school" may not participate in any school-sponsored function.
- Students absent from school will likely not be permitted to participate in activities on the day of their absence.
- Smoking or being in the possession of tobacco is not permitted.

Dress Code

QSI International School of Chisinau does not have a specific dress code. In view of the cultural diversity of our students, a few guidelines regarding student dress are in order. We hope these are taken in the spirit of cultural sensitivity, common sense, and respect for others. Students are expected to wear appropriate clothing while attending school, on field trips, or at any other school functions. Students will be asked to wear school assigned clothing if they arrive with inappropriate dress.

- All shirts, tops, blouses, etc must have a strap that is at least ; shorts are permitted, but the length of shorts and skirts should be at least around the mid-thigh. Shirts and blouses should be long enough to keep the midriff covered.
- Neck lines and baggy armholes should not be revealing undergarments or areas that undergarments cover.
- All clothing printed with vulgar or double meaning words are not acceptable.

School Supplies

Books are used without charge with the expectation they will be returned in a condition that reflects reasonable use. A good policy is to cover the student's books to minimize incidental wear. If a book is lost, damaged, or vandalized, the students will be required to pay a fine and/or replace the book. The students are expected to provide their own writing paper, pens, pencils, and erasers in most cases.

Bring Your Own Device

Students in grades 10 yo and up are expected to have their own device capable of running Microsoft Office, this is usually a laptop. Students will be given a Microsoft Account which allows them to use and download MS Office products. All devices should have a microphone and camera.

Early Withdrawal From School

Notice of early withdrawal from school should be made at the school office by written/email notification from the student's parents. If the student's withdrawal is expected close to the end of a quintile, the student's parents are asked to notify the Homeroom Teacher as soon as possible so that the school can work with the teachers in getting the student's work accomplished and evaluations entered on the student's record. Credit will be granted only for work completed, turned in, evaluated, and recorded.

Intensive English

The Intensive English program is for students in QSI International School of Chisinau who are in need of special attention in verbal and written English.

The principal goal of Intensive English is to bring students to a level of academic English, including oral competency, which allows them to transfer to regular classes as rapidly as possible. Students of different ages, maturities, linguistic backgrounds, and previous exposure to English will progress at different rates. Students are assigned to the appropriate level to best meet individual needs. Students of secondary school age will enter the Secondary English courses when they have the skills to experience success. Students do not receive secondary credits for units mastered in Intensive English.

For students entering QSI International School of Chisinau with little or no English there is an initial emphasis on providing survival skills in spoken English. The content of Intensive English parallels that of the Elementary English courses while building a foundation for academic success. In addition, some secondary students focus on the vocabulary and concepts of science and cultural studies. This is developed in consultation with secondary teachers with a view to easing the transfer of students to appropriate secondary courses.

Chisinau Intensive English Exit Criteria

At QSI Chisinau a student will be considered for exiting the Intensive English program when they have begun to meet success in completing assignments at or near grade level in Reading and Language Arts.

For effective monitoring the progress of our Intensive English students, assessments need to be conducted on an ongoing basis to measure performance in relation to the students in the mainstream classes.

The assessment used at QSI Chisinau will be multi-faceted, the student will be considered for placement in mainstream Reading and Language Arts classes when he/ she is able to perform the following:

Tardiness

TO CLASS... Except in the case of repeated tardiness; teachers will deal with lateness to class themselves using removal of privileges or detention time during lunch or recess as incentives to punctuality. (In all responses to tardiness, teachers will concentrate on teaching the correct habits through reward and encouragement, emphasizing the importance of such a lifestyle for future adult life patterns.) In some cases, due to certain cultural dynamics, punctuality is not highly esteemed nor is tardiness considered inappropriate. We are committed to teaching otherwise.

Attendance

Many learning experiences occur in a classroom setting. Many of these experiences cannot be duplicated through make-up assignments. School attendance is extremely important for successful learning. Future employers and university placement officials often ask for student records of attendance as an indicator of the reliability and motivation of the individual. It is expected that students be in school except for sickness or extenuating circumstances. However, trips to cities and countries studied in the curriculum can often be of sufficient value that they qualify for exception to the above expectations.

Lengthy or frequent absences are brought to the attention of the administration so that parents can be alerted to a potential problem. In the event of a lengthy illness, teachers will do everything possible to help the students make up the student's missed work. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher for make-up work and plan assessments.

Weapons Policy

QSI International School of Chisinau prohibits the possession of dangerous weapons by anyone on the school's property (whether on a person or in a vehicle) or at a school function away from the school property. The exception being members of law enforcement. Details of this policy are as follows:

1. Dangerous weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, fireworks, other explosives, and most knives.
2. The penalty for possession of firearms is immediate expulsion from the school. The reason for this is the safety of everyone at the school. The school community will not tolerate the presence of firearms at the school in the possession of students.
3. The penalty for possession of other weapons will be determined by the school administration.
4. In view of the seriousness of this matter and the safety of students and faculty, the school reserves the right to search students as well as their vehicles, bags, and lockers if there is reason to believe that weapons may be on the premises.

Lost and Found

A lost and found department is maintained by the office. Students are to turn in all found items to a teacher, or the office. Parents are most strongly urged to mark personal property with name and age so that found items may be returned to those to whom they belong. Lost and found items will be displayed in the newsletter. All items not claimed will be donated during the summer months.

Open House

The purpose of these evenings is to provide an opportunity for parents to learn more about the various programs in the school and provide an opportunity for parents to get together with teachers for discussion about school programs. The purpose of Open House is not to discuss individual student progress (this opportunity is provided in Parent-Teacher Conferences) but simply a means of becoming better acquainted with the school, the teachers, and one another.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held once in each of the first two terms. The third term conference will be by "request" only. A meeting will be scheduled with each family each term. Conferences are usually scheduled after school or during a teacher's planning time.

Visitors to School

It is not unusual to have visitors in the student's classrooms. They may be new parents, prospective new students, former students, or friends of students. **Visitors must check in through the reception/office before visiting any classes.**

Early Departures During School Hours

Students are usually permitted to leave early at the request of the parents, or school administrator. Every student who has a written, authorized excuse to leave early must check out with the office prior to departure.

Out of School Excursions and Extracurriculars

If the students represent QSI International School of Chisinau in functions that take the students away from the school site (such as soccer games, track and field team trips, Excursion Week, other excursions and field trips), the students are required to meet certain standards of scholarship and behavior as outlined below:

SCHOLARSHIP: The students are expected to be caught up or have a documented plan that they are showing progress on in order to participate.

BEHAVIOR: The students are expected to demonstrate behavior as outlined in the Student Handbook.

In summary, it is the goal of QSI International School of Chisinau to have students who represent the school with positive attitudes concerning the school, positive attitudes reflected in correct behavior, and attitudes that lead to diligence in scholarship. With this in mind, the school has the right to select those students who will benefit from out of school excursions and whose representation of the school will enhance the school's image.

Personal Property

The students are strongly discouraged from bringing valuable personal property to school. The school assumes no responsibility for lost or stolen property.

Health Issues

In case of injury, students must notify the school office. The office will notify parents as soon as possible if the injury takes place at school. If a doctor is to be consulted, the office will contact the parents first, if possible. If a student has a chronic illness or some physical handicap, this information should be given to the school office. Students with communicable illnesses, severe colds, or fevers, who are sent to the school, will be sent to the office at once. Parents will be notified to collect their child from the school in order to prevent infections from spreading.

QSI Sick Policy

Please keep your child home from school if he/she has any of the following illnesses or symptoms:

PLEASE THE SEPARATE COVID PLAN

- **Fever:** If your child's temperature is 100 F (37.8 C) or higher taken under the armpit or 101 F (38.3 C) or higher taken orally or in the ear, then please keep your child home. The child needs to be fever-free without the aid of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Vomiting or diarrhea:** Please keep your child home for 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.
- **Common Cold:** If your child has severe cold symptoms, such as an uncontrollable cough, colored mucus, or a significant lack of energy even without a fever, then please keep your child home. (However, if the cold symptoms are mild, the child does not have a fever, and the child otherwise feels fine, then he/she can come to school.)
- **Sore throat:** If your child has a severe sore throat, especially with white patches, then please take your child to see a medical provider. If the child is diagnosed with strep throat, please keep the child home for the first 24 hours after he/she has started antibiotics.
- **Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye):** If your child's eye(s) are very red and irritated or have drainage (either clear/white/green), then please take your child to see a medical provider and keep the child home for the first 24 hours after antibacterial eye drops are started or until the symptoms improve for a viral infection.
- **Varicella (Chicken Pox):** If your child has a rash and you suspect Varicella or another contagious skin disease, please take your child to a medical provider for assessment. If your child is diagnosed with Varicella, please alert QSI. The child will need to be kept home for a minimum of 7 days after the onset of the rash (until all the blisters have crusted).
- **Head Lice:** If your child has an active case of head lice, please keep him/her home for at least the first 24 hours to ensure the parent has time to treat the lice properly. Please alert QSI so we can provide guidance.

Use of Technology

Students may use technology when under the direct supervision (a teacher present) of a QSI Chisinau teacher. Students must be responsible and proficient in the care and operation of technology before using school computers for independent work. Students ages 11 and up are highly encouraged to bring their own laptop. Younger students can bring their own device at the teacher's request but should not bring a phone to school. All students must sign the Acceptable Use Policy and are always expected to use this technology in an appropriate way.

- It is the responsibility of duty teachers, all classroom teachers, and administration to ensure all students are adhering to the technology use policy.
- QSI Chisinau does not accept responsibility for missing, broken, or stolen devices of any kind.
- Students may use their personal technology before school, after school, during lunch time, or at the teachers request. The rest of the day, it is expected that the students put their personal technology away out of sight. Misuse of devices may result in their being taken by staff and be picked up by parents.

Homework Policy

PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of homework is to practice the skills taught that day in school or to prepare the students for future work. There are three acceptable categories of homework: practice (reinforcement), preparation, and extension activities. Homework may be a prerequisite to taking an assessment for evaluation. Homework itself is not part of the evaluation.

HOMEWORK SHOULD NOT:

- Require extensive teacher or parent direction or help.
- Be so excessive that it precludes students from joining family activities or other forms of childhood socialization.
- Be given as busy work or punishment.

HOMEWORK SHOULD:

- Be well planned and complement classroom learning.
- Have immediate, timely feedback.
- Be meaningful and challenging.
- Have clear procedures for accomplishment and clear and enforced due dates.
- Posted appropriately in written form.

SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS:

- If the students or a student are continually overburdened with homework assignments, a meeting with the teachers and an administrator may be needed to determine the best course of action for the student.
- Where several teachers are involved, as in the secondary school program, it is imperative that close coordination be maintained between teachers so that excessive homework assignments are not given on a particular day.
- Homework assignments are legitimately used to qualify a student for preparation of a mastery/summative assessment.
- Parents are to be notified in writing whenever it appears that assignments are not being consistently completed.

MOVIE WATCHING GUIDELINES (NEW)

QSI Chisinau thinks that films and movies can be an extremely useful instructional tool and educational resource. All videos that are directly related to curriculum can be shown. For all other movies, to ensure that they are used appropriately, the following guidelines are given to teachers: USA rating system (Europe rating system). Any movie that is disputed, the school director will ask the Advisory Board to determine if it is appropriate to show.

- G (3+)- No signed permission form is necessary.
- PG (7+)- A signed parental permission form is required for students age 7 or younger.
- PG 13 (12+)- A signed parental permission form is required for students age 12 or younger.
- R (18+)- A signed parental permission form is required for all students age 17 or younger.
- If a parent chooses to not sign the permission form, the student will be given an alternative activity during the showing to the movie.

Library Policy

1. **BORROWING** - The students are allowed to take no more than three books at a time. Books are to be checked out for two weeks and may be returned and/or exchanged at any time. Older students may make arrangements with the librarian to check out additional books as needed for reference/project work.
2. **RENEWAL** - If the students desire to keep a book more than two weeks, it must be renewed after the second week.
3. **OVERDUE BOOKS** - If books are not returned on the due date, a written reminder (1st notice) will be given to the students. If the books are not returned with this reminder, a 2nd notice will be given. In the event the books are still outstanding after these two notices, a 3rd notice will be given stating a charge for replacement of the books.

LOST OR DAMAGED BOOKS - The students are required to pay for lost or damaged books. If the students pay for a book and it is later found, the students will be reimbursed the amount paid. Any book damaged due to negligence will be charged a fine in accordance with the degree to which the book was damaged or double the original value of the book plus \$1 (one dollar)

4. **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS** - If the students have outstanding book charges at the end of a quintile or library fines remain outstanding, the student's status report, diploma, letters of recommendation, etc. will be withheld until the payment is made.

REMEMBER!!!

ALL BOOKS TAKEN FROM THE LIBRARY MUST BE CHECKED OUT!!!

School-Wide Activities

Each year, all students and staff have the opportunity to participate in many fun activities often held during the regular school day. Following are examples of a few activities that we could do this year at QSI Chisinau.

1. **All School Sport Day:** A school day in late May or early June will be chosen for this event. Students and parents and immediate family are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch to the picnic site. This event is a great opportunity to meet staff and other parents. Games are also organized for the students.
2. **Open House:** Students are encouraged to invite their parents to the school to meet teachers and to look around the school to see what the students will be doing during their time at school. Student progress is not discussed as Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled later in the term.
3. **Chisinau Day:** This is a special theme-evening where students and teachers participate in traditional games, dances and songs.
4. **International Day:** At this event we invite families to represent their countries and bring food, games, and performers.
5. Various other events including Literacy Night, Sports Day, and more are held during the school day.
6. Field trips arranged by teachers to supplement classroom objectives.

Secondary School Course Offerings

Mathematics

Algebra
Geometry
Consumer Mathematics
Adv. Mathematics I
Adv. Mathematics II
AP-Calculus (as needed)

English

Literature I
Writing I
Literature II
Writing II
American Literature
Research Project
Computer Literacy I
British Literature
A.P. Literature and Composition

Science

Physical Science/ Biology
(*On alternate year basis*)
Physics/Chemistry
(*On alternate year basis*)

Languages

Romanian
Russian
French

Cultural Studies

World Geography/Modern World
(On alternate year basis)
U.S. History/ World Govt/Econ
(On alternate year basis)
A.P. American History

Fine Arts

Art I/II
Music I/II
Drama

Personal Education and Health

Lifetime sports
Health
Fitness

Electives

Depends on the year

Secondary School Graduation Requirements

QSI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CHISINAU offers a secondary program that leads to a Secondary School Diploma. Most graduates of QSI International School of Chisinau will attend a college or university upon completion of their studies. Previous graduates of QSI Schools have been very successful in obtaining admittance to colleges or universities of their choice.

FOUR DIPLOMAS ARE OFFERED BY QSI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CHISINAU:

- **ACADEMIC DIPLOMA**
- **ACADEMIC DIPLOMA WITH HONORS**
- **AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA**
- **GENERAL DIPLOMA**

The Academic Diploma

is a college or university preparatory course of study. Students who satisfactorily complete this program should expect admittance into an American college or university, or in some cases, universities in other countries.

A TOTAL OF 240 CREDITS (INCLUDING ELECTIVES) IS REQUIRED FOR THIS DIPLOMA. BELOW ARE LISTED THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS IN EACH DEPARTMENT.

- English (80 credits)**
20 - Literature (Literature I & II)
20 - Writing (I & II) or demonstrated competency
10 - American Literature
10 - British Literature
10 - Research Project
10 - Computer Literacy (including 5 Keyboarding)
- Mathematics (30 credits)**
10 - Algebra
10 - Geometry
10- Advanced Math class
- Science (30 credits)**
10 - Biology
10 - Physical Science
10 - Chemistry
- Cultural Studies (40 credits)**
10 - World Geography
10 - Modern World History
10 - US-History
5 - World Governments
5 - Economics
- Physical Education and Personal Health (25 credits)**
10 - Wellness
10 - *physical education elective*
- Languages Other than English (20 credits)**
20 in **ONE** language
OR demonstrated competencies in a second language
- Creative Arts**
10- *elective credits* (art, music, drama)

The Academic Diploma With Honors

is the most advanced diploma offered by QSI International School of Chisinau. Requirements are the same as The Academic Diploma but with the condition that the credits include at least two Advanced Placement (AP) courses (of ten credits each). A total of 240 credits are required for this diploma.

The AP Capstone Diploma

Select students may be chosen to pursue and capstone diploma through the Quality Virtual School.

The General Diploma

is available to students who experience English language difficulties, time restraints, or other problems, which make it impractical to pursue a more advanced course of study. It is only available to students who are in their fourth year of secondary studies or who will turn 18 years

old no later than 30 October following their graduation. As this diploma will indicate, it is not designed for students who intend to pursue academic studies at the university level. In general, this diploma is designed for students requiring a sound general secondary education to prepare for direct entry into the work force or further specialized practical training.

A TOTAL OF 220 CREDITS (INCLUDING ELECTIVES) IS REQUIRED FOR THIS DIPLOMA.

Anyone who wishes to receive The General Diploma should meet with the director at the beginning of the year to discuss credits and requirements.

List Of US Colleges And Universities QSI Students Have Attended

American University	Pomona College
Brigham	Portland State
Chico State	Purdue University
City College of San Francisco	Seattle Pacific University
College of William and Mary	Stanford
Columbia College	Trent University
Concord College	Univ. of California
Concordia College	Univ. of Colorado
Fisher College	Univ. of Wisconsin
George Mason University	University of Hawaii
Georgetown University	University of Miami
Harvard University	University of N. Carolina
Illinois state University	University of N. Texas
Indiana Medical school	University of Puget Sound
Lewis and Clark College	University of Rochester
Macalister University	University of Texas
Marymount College	
Mercer College	University of Virginia
Miami of Ohio University	Various Community Colleges
Michigan State University	Virginia Military Tech.
New York Inst of tech.	Wisc. Int. University
Oberlin College	