



Navigating Grade 10: Tips for a Successful Year

Grade 10 marks a crucial period for students as they further develop their strengths, explore their interests, and plan for the future. With academic planning, personal growth, and university preparation on the horizon, it is essential for grade 10 students to approach this year with focus and determination. This article will provide valuable tips and advice to help students make the most of their grade 10 year and set themselves up for a bright future.

Academic Planning: Building a Strong Foundation

Maintaining strong academic performance is vital in grade 10 because teacher recommendations for the appropriate academic pathway at the Belle Époque campus will be based on their academic performance in grade 10. To build a strong foundation for the future, students should:

- Continue to get the best possible grades academically.
- Practice effective time management and organizational skills to balance coursework, assignments, and extracurricular activities.
- Seek help and clarification from teachers when needed; students should not hesitate to ask questions or request additional support.
- Maintain involvement in the same extracurricular activities, if possible. This is because universities usually look at quality (the time commitment of 3-4 years for the same activities) over quantity (the number of activities).
- Set realistic goals and create a study schedule to stay organized and motivated.
- Consider advanced academic pathways like the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) or a mixture of IB Certificate, Advanced Placement (AP), and LAS-internally developed high school courses. Students should research these options and discuss them with teachers and the LAS university advisors.



Personal Development: Relationship Building and Exploration

Grade 10 is an excellent time for personal growth and self-reflection. Students should:

- Forge meaningful relationships with teachers by actively participating in class, contributing thoughtfully, and demonstrating academic dedication.
- Engage in extracurricular activities that align with their interests, as they offer opportunities for personal growth, skill development, and community involvement.
- Explore diverse subjects and read extensively to broaden their knowledge and cultivate a love for learning.
- Reflect on their LAS experience and consider how their favorite classes could influence their choice of major or future career.

University Preparation: Charting Your Path

While university may seem distant, it is never too early for students to begin planning for their future. They should consider the following:

- Research universities and consider which country or countries they might want to apply to. Gather information on admission requirements, scholarships, and programs of interest.
- Actively listen to the guidance provided by the LAS university advisors and learn about the different pathways available at LAS, such as the LAS high school diploma along with AP courses, IB Certificates, or the IB Diploma.
- Discuss the Guide to Learning in the Diploma Years with their parents and consider how it aligns with their post-LAS plans.
- Arrange a meeting with a university and academic advisor after spring break to discuss the appropriate course selections for grade 11. Students must ensure these selections align with their academic and career aspirations.

As your child embarks on their grade 10 year at LAS, remember that this is a time of growth, exploration, and preparation for the future. By maintaining strong academic performance, nurturing relationships with teachers, pursuing personal interests, and actively beginning to think about what countries they may want to apply to and what program of study they may wish to pursue in university, they will set themselves up for success in the coming years. Students should embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, stay resilient, and keep long-term goals in mind. Students' efforts in grade 10 will pave the way for a rewarding high school journey and a promising future at the Belle Époque campus next year. Please contact the LAS university advisors at universityadvising@las.ch if you or your child have any other questions or require additional information.