

## SECTION 10

# **SERVICE PROGRAMS, EVENTS, PERFORMANCES & EXCURSIONS**

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## 10.1 Service Programs

The Service programs are implemented across all facets of school life. Its main aims are:

- To promote the recognition and celebration of each individual's culture and identity
- To nurture active, responsible citizens who lead and take action to make a positive difference
- To enable students to make informed moral judgements, based on strong guiding values and principles
- To develop life and career skills that enable our students to navigate our global, interconnected world

## 10.2 Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs)

A diverse program of clubs and extra-curricular activities are offered in the Early Years (KG), Primary, Middle and High Schools. This includes a range of age-appropriate activities for students in kindergarten to Grade 12; debating, music, art, drama, crafts, and different dance styles as well as academic activities such as learning new languages, book clubs, and math and science clubs. We also offer technology related activities including computer programming and robotics.

The activities are provided after school through the week. Activities run from 2:25 pm until 3:30 pm after which students should be collected by parents. On Tuesdays from 12:05-1:30 pm. Parents register their children through an on-line sign-up system, Schools Buddy, at the start of each term. After each session KG and Primary students will be taken to the atrium to be collected by their parents. There are no school buses running after the ECAs.

Most of our Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs) are staff led and give students the opportunity to learn new skills, make friends and meet other teachers in a relaxed environment. ISL Qatar also invites fully accredited organizations to run activities. With these activities there is a termly fee.

Students wishing to change their ECA must speak directly to **Mr Joe Toler**, who will update the registers if approval for the change is given.

### ECA Core

For each year group ISL Qatar is striving to offer activities in these strands:

- Creative - Active/Movement
- Academic
- Environment
- Arts

### Sports Competitions

ISL Qatar is continuously participating in both the Qatar Private Primary Schools Sports Association- QPPSSA and Qatar United English Speaking Schools- QUESS inter-school competitions for primary and middle and high school students. These two associations organize close to 100 sports competitions every year. Participation in the after-school training sessions is crucial in informing team selection. See section 16: Physical and Health Education & Sports for more details.

### Student-led ECAs

Student-led ECAs are strongly encouraged. A staff member is still required in a supervisory role and to ensure that the guidelines above are followed. Students in the Diploma program are often keen to lead ECAs as part of their CAS program.

### 10.3 Performing and Visual Arts Events (The Arts)

Through the Arts, students learn how to express themselves in diverse ways, have the opportunity to develop their own ideas and gain confidence in being able to express those ideas. We give students many opportunities to demonstrate their arts skills through dramatic performances, concerts, exhibitions, assemblies, and presentations. These important skills are an invaluable preparation for their future educational and career success.

Arts events include:

- Major school musical productions
- Smaller regular drama productions
- Primary School celebration of learning and assemblies
- Winter concert
- Whole school talent show
- Inter-school 'Battle of the Bands' events
- Primary school Art exhibition
- The Early Years Exhibition
- MYP Art and Design exhibition
- DP Art exhibition
- Regular musical presentations

### 10.4 Individual Music Tuition

Individual music tuition is an important part of the extra-curricular program. Many students take instrumental and vocal music lessons. The instruments offered at present are guitar, piano, drums, woodwind, strings and singing. The main enrolment for lessons takes place at the beginning of September although students may apply during the school year and can begin tuition, if space is available.

### 10.5 Sporting Events

ISL Qatar belongs to two sporting organizations: QPPSSA (Qatar Private Primary Schools Sports Association) and QUESS (Qatar United English Speaking Schools). These organizations enable students to participate in a variety of inter-school tournaments during the year. In addition, teams participate regularly in regional and national tournaments. There is also a diverse program of in-school activities organised throughout the year. See section 16 Physical and Health Education & Sports for more details.

### 10.6 Fundraising

A variety of fundraising activities are organized in school during the year. As much as possible, these initiatives come from students and are linked to their learning. All fundraising activities need local authority approval and funds can only be donated to approved charities. Fundraising activities are coordinated by the Service-Learning Coordinator Chris Bailey and the CAS Coordinator Abena Baiden.

## **10.7 Assemblies**

In the Primary, Middle, and High schools, there are regular assemblies. These provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their presentation and performance skills to an audience of their peers and parents. Assemblies are always learning-related and are an opportunity to celebrate student work and to recognize individual and group achievements both in and out of school. In addition, there are often individual group assemblies as well as whole school assemblies.

## **10.8 Celebrations of Learning**

Opportunities are provided during the year for parents to visit the school and experience the learning of their children in a variety of ways.

## **10.9 Trips**

We believe that experiential learning is very important and that extensive learning opportunities should be created outside school. To achieve this, we have a program of field trips, excursions and student exchanges that are closely linked to units of inquiry and curriculum topics. As well as our annual Week Without Walls when all middle & high school students take part in out of the classroom activities either overseas or in Qatar, there are regular field trips and excursions throughout the school year. They form an important part of the curriculum, and it is expected that all students will attend. Consent forms from parents should be completed and returned in good time.