

CAS – Creativity, Activity, Service

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

CAS gives you the opportunity to explore these ideas in real life situations.

IB learners strive to be:

Inquirers: They develop their natural curiosity. They acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. They actively enjoy learning to become lifelong learners.

Knowledgeable: They explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. They acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Thinkers: They apply critical thinking skills creatively to recognize and approach complex problems and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators: They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication. They work effectively and willingly in collaboration with others.

Principled: They act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Open-minded: They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, while accepting the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities.

Caring: They show empathy, compassion and respect and have a personal commitment to service, they act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

Risk-takers: They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought; they explore new roles, ideas and strategies independently and collaboratively and face challenges with conviction.

Balanced: They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.

Reflective: They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience. They are able to assess and understand their strengths and limitations in order to support their learning and personal development.

Introduction to CAS

CAS is at the heart of the Diploma Programme. With its holistic approach, CAS is designed to strengthen and extend a student's personal and interpersonal learning.

CAS is organized around the three strands of creativity, activity and service defined as follows:

Creativity - exploring and extending ideas leading to an original or interpretive product or performance.

Activity - physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle.

Service - collaborative and reciprocal engagement with the community in response to an authentic need.

CAS enables students to demonstrate attributes of the IB learner profile in real and practical ways, to develop skills and grow as unique individuals and to recognize their responsibility towards each other and the environment. Students participate in a variety of individual and group experiences that provide opportunities to identify their interests and passions, show commitment to and involvement in, the experiences and engage with local and global issues. CAS complements a challenging academic programme in a holistic way.

Students engage in CAS experiences involving one or more of the three CAS strands. A CAS experience can be a single event or may be an extended series of events.

Further, students undertake a CAS project of at least one month's duration that challenges them to show initiative, demonstrate perseverance, and develop skills such as collaboration, problem-solving, and decision-making. The CAS project can address any single strand of CAS, or combine two or all three strands.

Students use the CAS stages (investigation, preparation, action, reflection and demonstration) as a framework for CAS experiences and the CAS project.

All CAS students are expected to maintain and complete a CAS portfolio as evidence of their engagement with CAS. The CAS portfolio is a collection of evidence that showcases CAS experiences and student reflections; it is not formally assessed.

Completion of the CAS programme is based on student achievement of the seven CAS learning outcomes. Through their CAS portfolio, students provide the school with evidence demonstrating achievement of each learning outcome.

CAS enables students to enhance their personal and interpersonal development. A meaningful CAS programme is a journey of discovery of self and others. For many, CAS is profound and life-changing.

Each individual student has a different starting point and different needs and goals. A CAS programme is, therefore, individualized according to student interests, skills, values and background.

CAS Requirements

Successful completion of CAS is a requirement for the award of the IB Diploma. While not formally assessed, students reflect on their CAS experiences and provide evidence in their CAS portfolios of achieving the seven learning outcomes.

The CAS programme formally begins at the start of the Diploma Programme and continues regularly, ideally on a weekly basis, for at least 18 months with a reasonable balance between creativity, activity, and service.

There are three formal documented interviews students must have with their CAS coordinator/adviser. The first interview is at the beginning of the CAS programme, the second at the end of the first year, and the third interview is at the end of the CAS programme.

CAS emphasizes reflection which is central to building a deep and rich experience in CAS. Reflection informs students' learning and growth by allowing students to explore ideas, skills, strengths, limitations and areas for further development and consider how they may use prior learning in new contexts.