



High School

Extra-curricular Handbook 2016-2017

CAS Statement of Mission

Casablanca American School provides a challenging and innovative international program within a nurturing environment, motivating and inspiring every student to achieve academic and personal excellence.

CAS Statement of Vision

Casablanca American School strives to be the leading institution in the region for developing successful global citizens.

Casablanca American School

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Philosophy

CAS believes that our extra-curricular program provides students with the opportunity for learning that may not be available during the regular academic school day. These opportunities not only allow our students to immerse themselves in our school themes of “It’s Our Climate” and International Mindedness, but also fulfill requirements of the IB Diploma Program as active global citizens. We highly encourage students to participate responsibly while maintaining a strong commitment to their academic program.

CAS’s secondary extracurricular program enables students to explore areas of interest, develop leadership, and enhance character. Extracurricular activities are an excellent complement to the learning that occurs during the school day and help in the creation of well-rounded citizens.

Student participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. This privilege carries with it responsibilities to the activity, to the student body, to the school, and to the community. When students are participating in activities, they are representatives of the school and are expected to behave in a way that reflects positively on the CAS community. Students in extracurricular activities are expected to adhere to all the expectations outlined in the HS Parent/Student handbook, though many extracurricular activities have additional rules and regulations. Students in extracurricular activities are expected to strive to meet or exceed this higher level of expectation.

Extra-curricular Activities Load

Extra-curricular activities are offered for our students by both teachers and members of the community. Due to the demands of our academic program, we recommend that students limit their participation in extracurricular activities to a number that allow continued success in the academic program. Students who join an extracurricular activity are expected to have regular attendance and to participate fully in the activity. Students with poor attendance or who demonstrate lack of commitment in an extra-curricular activity may be asked to withdraw from the activity. They may also not be allowed to join future extracurricular activities. Students are expected to follow the behavior expectations that apply to the school day when they participate in extracurricular activities. The sponsor of the extracurricular activity has the final authority and the right to ask a student not to continue attending if there are violations of behavior expectations. If a student is absent from school during the day, s/he may not participate in any afterschool activities or athletics, including practices, games, tournaments, rehearsals, or productions.

Eligibility for Participation

Student academic performance is reviewed prior to the beginning of each extra-curricular season and at each of the times when reports are sent home. Five to ten days prior to each extra-curricular season, grades of 1 or 2 will be reported for students wanting to participate in the season. Students with a satisfactory academic record will

be “cleared” for extra-curricular activities. In order to participate in extra-curricular activities, a student must maintain a satisfactory academic record. In addition, any time a student plans to participate in extracurricular activities where a student will be absent from school for more than one day, student participation in such activities is subject to review and requires approval by the Principal, in consultation with student’s teachers.

The following criteria will make a student ineligible for extra-curricular activities

- } A 1 or 2 grade in any course
- } Two or more BE (Beginning Expectations) in any course
- } Poor participation, behavior or lack of commitment in previous extra-curricular activities
- } Serious illness
- } Disciplinary Infraction of Level 3 or above

Students who are cleared for participation in a season of extra-curricular activities are subjected to removal from the activity(ies) if the grades decline and meet the ineligibility criteria above.

Students ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities will be able to appeal to the principal. The decision of the principal is final.

Attendance to Practices and Meetings

Students wanting to be a member of extracurricular teams or clubs are expected to attend all scheduled practices and meetings as set forth by the coach or sponsor.

Any absence from a scheduled practice for a reason other than sickness or an emergency, without prior approval from the coach or club sponsor will be considered unexcused. Unexcused absences will be a reason to dismiss the student from the team or club.

In most cases, you will be able to address your academic needs without missing practices and meetings. If this is not possible, it is your responsibility to talk to the relevant teachers/coaches/club sponsors to resolve the situation. You are encouraged to have these conversations as soon as you discover the conflict. Retesting or receiving special help from a teacher, school activity, or an avoidable reason **without prior approval from the coach/club advisor**, shall be counted as an unexcused absence.

Examples of reasonable absences are:

- Sick from school
- Doctor's appointment (try to schedule around practice/meeting)
- Death in the family
- Religious holiday
- Appointment at embassy

Non-Excusable absences are:

- Homework (you must learn to manage your time well)
- Attending a concert or sporting event
- Birthday
- Didn't have a ride (plan ahead for your transportation)

Adapted from the American International School of Abuja “Secondary Extracurricular Activities Handbook”