

## SECTION 10

# GCCA, EVENTS, PERFORMANCES AND EXCURSIONS

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## Section 10: GCCA, Events, Performances and Excursions

### 10.1 Global Citizenship and Community Action (GCCA)

The GCCA programme is 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 range of age-appropriate activities for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 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, SchoolsBuddy, at the start of each term. After each session Primary students will be taken to the atrium to be collected by their parents. There are no school buses running after the ECAs.

The majority 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 organisations to run activities. With these activities there is a termly fee.

Students wishing to change their ECA must speak directly to the Director of Activities 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 – Performing 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 secondary students. These two associations organise close to 100 sports competitions every year. Participation in the after-school training sessions is crucial in informing team selection.

#### 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.

### 10.3 Performing and Visual Arts Events

Through the Performing 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 performing arts skills through dramatic performances, concerts, exhibitions, assemblies and presentations. These important skills are an invaluable preparation for their future educational and career success.

Performing Arts events include:

- a. major school musical productions
- b. smaller regular drama productions
- c. Primary School celebration of learning and assemblies
- d. winter concert
- e. whole school talent show
- f. inter-school 'Battle of the Bands' events
- g. Primary school Art exhibition
- h. MYP Art and Design exhibition
- i. DP Art exhibition
- j. regular musical presentations

#### **10.4 Individual Music Tuition**

Individual music tuition is an important part of the extra-curricular programme. 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.

The school is registered as an examination centre for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) [www.abrsm.org](http://www.abrsm.org) and Rock School [www.rockschool.co.uk](http://www.rockschool.co.uk) examinations. Each year there are instrumental concerts when students perform music they have learned in their lessons.

#### **10.5 Sporting Events**

ISL Qatar belongs to two sporting organisations: QPPSSA (Qatar Private Primary Schools Sports Association) and QUESS (Qatar United English Speaking Schools). These organisations 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 programme of in-school activities organised throughout the year.

#### **10.6 Fundraising**

A variety of fundraising activities are organised 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 through our partner Qatar Charities. Fundraising activities are coordinated by our Global Citizenship Community Action (GCCA) Coordinator, Robert Nidsjo [rnidsjo@islqatar.org](mailto:rnidsjo@islqatar.org)

#### **10.7 Assemblies**

In both the Primary and Secondary 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 recognise 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 programme 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 Secondary 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.

Field trips and excursions have included:

- PYP Unit of Inquiry trips
- Grade 4 & 5 Camps
- Sporting activities trips
- MYP integrated curriculum trips
- Diploma field trips to Sri Lanka
- Robotics trips to international competitions
- Design trips to New York and Munich
- Service trips to Kenya and Sri Lanka
- Football trips to Liverpool
- G11 trips to London and Paris
- Kayaking and desert camps in Qatar
- World Scholar's Cup events
- MUN events