



Community and Service At Southern Christian College

You must give time to our fellow man-even if it's a little thing, do something for others- something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.

Albert Schweitzer

To give real service you must add something which cannot be bought or measured with money, and that is sincerity and integrity.

Douglas Adams

Serve one another.

Jesus Christ

Community and Service (CAS) is an integral, and vital, part of the MYP.

CAS is: one of the *Areas of Interaction* which drive the MYP;
a series of service activities.

This guide is concerned with the CAS Activities part of the programme. All students in the MYP need to complete CAS activities each year to satisfy the requirements of the course.

CAS is not assessed, but it is a necessary part of the course.

What is the purpose of CAS?

The programme aims to encourage *responsible citizenship as it seeks to deepen students' knowledge and understanding of the world around them*. It is recognised that *the qualities and motives of an act of community and service are more important than the act itself*. It encourages students to understand *the benefits they can bring to the community as well as the benefits the community can bring to them*. (MYP: from Principles into practice. IBO. 2008)

What are suitable CAS activities?

CAS service activities must be of benefit to the community. Community, in this context, is quite broad: it can refer to the School, local, national or international communities.

Suitable CAS activities should involve service to others, and should not be of direct benefit to the student. They do not include normal sporting, family or purely religious activities, nor do they include purely fund-raising activities.

e.g. Coaching a junior sporting team would be an appropriate sporting activity; playing in a weekend sporting competition would not. Playing music at a church-sponsored community programme for the elderly would be suitable: playing in a church service would not. Raising money for the Indonesian visit would not be suitable: participating in the trip would.

What about Supervision?

CAS activities should have some responsible adult supervision and a CAS Activity Report form, filled in by the student, must be signed off by that supervisor after the completion of the activity.

Who organises the activities?

The activities may be initiated by the student or by the School or other organisation.

The School may provide a range of activities for students who find it difficult to organise suitable projects for themselves, but these will involve time spent outside of normal School hours. On those rare occasions when CAS takes up time from the normal school day - e.g. the Indonesian trip; Eating With Friends - the students concerned will be expected to complete all learning which is conducted in normal classes during the period of the activity, including, but not limited to, the submission of all assessment tasks.

For 2012, students will be offered a range of school-organised activities which they will be expected to participate in UNLESS they provide in advance evidence of participation in an alternative activity which will satisfy the requirements.

How much time is a student expected to spend on CAS?

Remembering that motives are more important than hours, there is still a minimum number of hours which must be satisfactorily completed to satisfy the requirements of the programme. This number varies depending on Grade:

Year 2	Grade 7	10 hours per annum
Year 3	Grade 8	12 hours per annum
Year 4	Grade 9	15 hours per annum
Year 5	Grade 10	18 hours per annum

NOTE: For 2012, because the CAS programme is being introduced late, these requirements are halved. For students joining the school part way through the School year, required hours will be set on a pro rata basis.

Hours may not be accrued from year-to-year. For instance, a student who goes on the Indonesian trip in Year 4 (Grade 9) is not excused from CAS in Year 5 (Grade 10) despite having completed several times the required hours during the trip.

Sample List of Suitable and Unsuitable Activities:

Suitable	Unsuitable
Coaching a junior basketball team	Playing basketball in a competition
Volunteering in a Vinnies or Red Cross Store	Collecting funds for a charity
Entertaining the residents of a retirement home	Playing in a church band
Participating in Clean Up Australia	Participating in a School "emu parade"
Volunteering to help infirm members of the community by cleaning their yards	Cleaning the student's own room or washing the dishes at home
Participating in the School's Indonesian visit	Holidaying in Indonesia
Organising a <i>Walk for Water</i> campaign to raise awareness of clean water needs in a developing country and raising funds to provide clean water.	Collecting money door-to-door for a charity appeal.

Sample CAS Activity Report -
to be completed by the Student and signed off by the Supervisor.

Date:

Student Name:

Grade:

Location and Nature of Activity:

Date of Activity:

Time spent on Activity:

Name of Adult Supervisor:

Activity Initiated by:

Summary of Activity - what was achieved:

Reflection: (What I learned. What I could have done better. What worked well.)

Student's Signature:

Supervisor's Signature: