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# Community Service at the ISL: The Heart of the International Baccalaureate Diploma

The International School of Luxembourg (ISL) places community service right at the heart of its curriculum as it is an integral component of the IB Diploma programme.

The IB CAS programme, comprising Creativity, Action and Service, provides students with opportunities to extend themselves beyond the taught curriculum. CAS gives students options to apply knowledge and experience in ways that benefit both themselves and the community. The service element of CAS is the most significant, but the

other two elements play an important role, providing access, balance, and flexibility. The development of an “informed heart” thus becomes an integral part of a student’s international education at ISL.

The IB mission “aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world”. The International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) assists schools in their endeavours to develop the individual talents of young people, teaching them to relate classroom experience to the realities of the world

outside. The IB programme encourages students to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners. Beyond intellectual rigour and high academic standards, strong emphasis is placed on the ideals of international understanding and responsible citizenship.

The CAS programme at ISL complements the academic disciplines, challenging students to develop a spirit of discovery, self-reliance and self-confidence. The programme aims to extend students, challenging them to develop a value system by which they enhance their personal growth.

“The concept is not unique”, says ISL IB coordinator, Daniel Hiest. “However the way it combines with academic requirements is what gives it this extra dimension.”

“The IB Diploma Programme is a source of ethics, values and knowledge. It teaches us how to develop in the real world”, affirms ISL student and IB Diploma candidate, Carlos Perona. “The place the programme gives to community service, creativity and action makes it go beyond mere academics, and it challenges us to be conscious individuals. The IB goes beyond grades.”

For more information on the IB CAS and ISL Community Service Programmes at ISL, please contact the programme coordinator, Valérie Isbecque, on 26 04 42 06 or by email at [valerie\\_isbecque@islux.lu](mailto:valerie_isbecque@islux.lu).

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