



**H.I.S. Service
as Action
Guide**

**“ How wonderful it is that nobody
need wait a single moment before
starting to improve the world. ”**

Anne Frank

Content

- IB Learner Profile
- Service as Action in the International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Service as Action for MYP students at H.I.S.



IB Learner Profile

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.

As IB learners we strive to be:

INQUIRERS

We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

KNOWLEDGEABLE

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

THINKERS

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

COMMUNICATORS

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

PRINCIPLED

We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

OPEN-MINDED

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

CARING

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

RISK-TAKERS

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination: we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

BALANCED

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives – intellectual, physical, and emotional – to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

REFLECTIVE

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

Service as Action in the International Baccalaureate (IB)

In the IB, action occurs when students apply what they are learning in the classroom and beyond. Service is considered a form of action, whereby students engage in a principled action to meet a need within their local or global community.

The following learning outcomes are provided by the IB, and state that, through Service as Action, students should:

- become more aware of their own strengths and areas for growth;
- undertake challenges that develop new skills;
- discuss, evaluate and plan student-initiated activities;
- persevere in action;
- work collaboratively with others;
- develop international-mindedness through global engagement, multilingualism and intercultural understanding;
- and consider the ethical implications of their actions.

(MYP From Principles into Practice, Updated September 2017, International Baccalaureate Organization 2014)

Students are not expected to achieve all outcomes in one year, rather these seven outcomes should be their goal over their time in the MYP. Opportunities to meet these outcomes will be provided in a range of ways and Service-based learning should be as authentic as possible. MYP Subject teachers invite and guide students to take action as a result of their learning and some units throughout the MYP course actively include a service component. Further to this, Service as Action is a component of the H.I.S. Homeroom Programme. Here, students are provided with support and time to plan and initiate projects around personal interests and passions.

Students will be supported in their Service as Action projects by Subject Teachers, Homeroom Teachers, and the Service as Action facilitator, as appropriate. These actions might range from small-scale (such as awareness posters around the school) to large-scale (such as organising an event for the community) projects. Hours of service are not counted and the size of project is not measured, rather a student's qualitative contributions and personal growth are recorded and reflected upon. Student reflection is an essential part of the Service as Action process. Reflection can take various formats including, but not limited to: conversations, written narratives, art work, music, or blog posts.

Service as Action Record

Students in the MYP record their Service as Action contributions on Managebac. Students are supported in this by Homeroom teachers and the Service as Action facilitator.



Service as Action for MYP Students at H.I.S.

As an IB school, H.I.S. emphasises the importance of responsible, thoughtful attitudes towards service to our local, national and global communities. H.I.S. aims to offer all students the opportunity and the power to choose their actions, to act on them, and to reflect on them in order to make a difference in the world. As part of the MYP curriculum, all students are required to be involved in Service as Action activities.

What qualifies as service?

To qualify, service must be of a voluntary nature i.e. it is not paid.

Service opportunities can be found in and out of school:

In school there are several activities that students could consider:

- Contributing to student committees and organisations (for example, newspaper, radio, welcome committee for new students, student council and year book)
- Supporting and planning actions for Mayana in Namibia
- Organising and managing a school recycling programme
- Helping to host or run after school activities

Outside of school, students could consider:

- Supporting and planning actions for local institutions such as Waldpiraten, Tom Tatze Tierheim, etc.
- Supporting and developing links between the school and international organisations such as Amnesty International, Unicef, and etc.

Should you have any questions please get in contact by email:

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