

# Student-Athlete policy

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## Purpose of the WINS Student-athlete Policy

This policy aims to provide a comprehensive outline of:

- The Student-Athlete profile and responsibilities
- The enrolment process
- The Student-Athlete provisions
- The way the student-athlete sports and academic workload is tracked

## Student-Athlete Profile & Responsibilities

A student-athlete at WINS is an MYP or DP student involved in significant sports commitments at the regional, national, or international level, requiring several training hours and participation in competitions and/or championships.

The criteria for being recognized as an Athlete is that the student displays commitment, and is part of an organised programme, as opposed to simply the number of hours per week spent training. The status of student-athlete must be supported by a written declaration from the sports federation/club that confirms the student is on the athlete path and holds formal sports achievements records.

WINS is very keen to accommodate student-athletes' overall needs; likewise, student-athletes must display an ongoing commitment to their responsibilities, such as:

- Show engagement with their academic path
- Ensure ongoing and effective communication with their SSC, Programme Coordinator, and homeroom teachers
- Refrain from posting pictures, comments, or information on websites such as facebook.com or similar sites, that would/could embarrass themselves, their federation/club, or WINS
- Show respect and care for WINS sports equipment, especially when in use for their sports discipline as an athlete
- Adhere to WINS boarding house handbook, if applicable



## Enrolment Procedure

For a student-athlete candidate to be recognized as such and welcomed at WINS, their parents/guardians have to send a request via the AFEC module on WINS website and book a specific meeting with the school management.

During the first meeting, the candidate's parents/guardians will outline their child's needs for special academic arrangements (timetable and study plan) and support this request with their formal sports records. In addition, if the candidate is moving from another AFEC school, WINS may require access to their previous arrangements as a reference point.

Parents/guardians would then be informed about the overall provisions WINS can offer to student-athletes.

## Athlete's Educational Plan (AEP)

On the basis of each individual need, the School Leadership team (Academic Dean and Programme coordinators), will device an IAP (Individual Athlete's plan), which will include specific information for teacher as per how to cater for the individual student's needs.

The IAP will include details of timetable adaptations, assessment flexibility, subject choices, and it will be regularly updated.

## Sports & Academic Progress Tracking

The IAP will make direct reference to the *Individual Performance Plan and Workload Mapping Tool*, that will be located in a shared area, for teachers to consult, and will be updated on a regular basis.

Coaches will be asked to liaise on a regular basis with the SSC with regard to athlete's commitments and needs, that will be updated timely.



To monitor student-athletes' sports and academic workload and enhance the communication & planning among the SSC, teachers, coaches, and the student-athletes, WINS relies on the AFEC approved resource: *The Individual Performance Plan and Workload Mapping Tool*.

The tool provides a centralized source of information about a student-athlete's programme in relation to both sports and academics. It also highlights vital information for the school and the student-athletes, mapping workloads to see potential pressure points. Once these pressure points are identified, discussions and solutions can be investigated to ensure student-athletes can achieve a better balance, and teachers and coaches can plan accordingly.

## Student-Athlete Provisions

### *Academic Support*

- Flexible timetable and attendance
- Remote learning through educational materials published on ManageBac
- Tasks adaption
- Tasks & assessments time extension and/or flexibility (e.g., alternative arrangements for practical and oral works)
- Contact time with the Sport Support Coordinator (SSC)
- Consultation time with subject-specific teachers
- Extra tuition hours beyond the regular school timetable
- DP online subjects
- DP over three years, instead of two

### Tailored Study Plan for MYP 1/3

MYP 1/3 students must study all the 8 Subject Groups, as per the IB requirements.

At WINS, within the Arts group, students are offered Visual Art twice a week, and Music once a week. As the minimum of 50 hours would be covered by Visual Art, Music can be left behind; therefore, student-athletes would benefit from this free slot to:

- Train in school upon their sports coach's inputs (if applicable)
- Do self-study or homework
- Leave the school premises earlier should Music be timetabled as the last slot of the day



## Tailored Study Plan for MYP 4/5

The MYP framework is built around 8 Subject Groups; however, the IB allows only 6 of them to be covered during years 4 and 5. Concerning this allowance, WINS can accommodate the following five main study-plan options:

- a. The student picks 6 Subject Groups, including PHE.  
There are two options:
  1. Sports activities as an athlete cover the sixth Subject Group, Personal & Health Education (PHE) in school
  2. The student selects and attends in school 5 Subject Groups, whilst they will use the free slots designated for PHE to carry on with their sports discipline out of school (that will count as the sixth Subject Group)
- b. The student selects 6 Subject Groups out of eight, none of which is PHE
- c. The student picks 1 subject per each 6 Subject Groups, one of which can be PHE done at school.
- d. The student may adhere to the full MYP curriculum and receive special arrangements for PHE with adapted syllabus/assessments
- e. Students who can never be on site would be able to:
  - Attend classes online (when applicable) or access to streaming lessons
  - Self-study of the educational materials posted by the teachers on ManageBac
  - Receive additional hours of tutoring weekly, after the regular school hours

Once WINS identifies the most suitable provisions according to the student-athletes' needs, these must be discussed and formally approved by their parents/guardians.

## *Social & Emotional Support*

All students' social and emotional wellbeing is of paramount importance at WINS and the overall guidelines are to be found in the Child Protection Policy.



As student-athletes may be exposed to a higher level of social & emotional pressure, their exposure will be highlighted to all of their homeroom teachers, whose point of reference in this regard will be the designated SSC. The role of SSC is covered by the MYP & DP Coordinators and/or the MYP PHE teacher.

Currently, the Programme Coordinators are named as the liaison between student athletes and teaching staff, and homeroom teachers. The Homeroom teachers (tutors) are another academic and pastoral point of reference for the students. They meet with their students once a week. Homeroom teachers will liaise with the SSC, to make sure they can support their Athletes tutees properly. Being aware of their athletic commitments and workload, they will help the students to better organize their studies. Every communication regarding athlete's commitments will be centralized by the SSC (Programme Coordinator), that will inform all staff on a regular basis.

The Study & University support will be offered through WINS Career Counselor.

### *Sports Support Services*

- Nutrition – dietary needs catered through the school canteen
- Rest & Recovery – attendances/absences are agreed upon with the parents/guardians
- Sports Psychology/ Sports Medicine – these support services are usually offered by the athlete's federation/club. WINS, however, will proactively build a productive relationship with the sports psychologist and doctor to gather the information/advice of the best generic practices to address to the student-athletes.
- Access to facilities – the school campus is available for training, prior specific arrangements

## Student-Athlete MYP Timetable

WINS has carried out a strategic MYP timetable with the following features:

- PHE sessions are scheduled for the last two periods of the day
- Fridays' last two periods are designated to co-curricular activities

This structure allows student-athletes to have two afternoons free for their sports commitments out of school without missing any compulsory subject.



## Policy review

The Senior Leadership team oversee the policy revision process that involves the Program Coordinators, and the teachers. At the end of each academic year teachers will be asked to provide their feedback on the policy and suggest any updates/amendments that they see fit.

The SLT will investigate teachers' feedback and will update the policy considering their suggestions. They will update the policy based on indications provided by IB documents, to ensure that school procedures are in line with IB most recent publications. The amendments added to the Policy will be shared with the teachers at the beginning of each school year, and teachers will be asked to formally agree on these policies.

The most updated version of the policy is made available to teachers and all stakeholders on Managebac. Parents will be asked to formally acknowledge the policies published on Managebac. This Policy was last updated in August 2023.