



VIRGINIA
AMERICAN SCHOOL

Virginia American School

ENGAGE

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CREATING A BETTER WORLD THROUGH EDUCATION

Extracurricular Activities & Events Policy 2025–2026



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Extracurricular Activities & Events Policy 2025 - 2026

Purpose

This policy aims to strengthen key aspects of our VAS students' learning experiences by fostering personal development, leadership skills, and community involvement.

At Virginia American School (VAS), extracurricular activities (ECAs) play a vital role in enhancing students' self-confidence, social interaction, skill development, and overall well-being. This policy defines the guidelines for offering ECAs and events, with an emphasis on diversity, inclusion, and student safety.

Aims

- Provide our students with a range of activities outside the curriculum that cater to their interests and provide purposeful enrichment.
- Enrich the curriculum through the wide range of educational trips and events offered.
- Support our students' physical, social, and emotional development and skills.
- Foster our students' talents through exposure to a wide-ranging selection of trips, activities, and events.
- Support our students' mental and physical wellbeing.

Eligibility

All students at Virginia American School are eligible to participate in trips, extracurricular activities, and trips organized by VAS. Students are expected to demonstrate good behavior and abide by the school's code of conduct. Parental consent is also a requirement prior to participation in ECAs, events, and trips.

Types of Extracurricular Activities & Events

- Extracurricular Activity Program – Extracurricular activities and academies are organized by the school once a week (Thursdays) and take place between 2:30pm and 3:30pm. All students are offered opportunities to participate in these once per term. The program includes free extracurricular activities led by VAS teachers and paid academies that are led by coaches from external academies; all ECAs take place on the VAS premises.
- Trips – All students will have at least 2 trips per academic year – of which at least one is educational. The school will ensure all students have parental consent prior to their partaking in the trip. All trips will be risk-assessed prior to the start of the trip.
- Events – All students will have opportunities to contribute to and participate in school-organized events. All events will be risk-assessed and will connect with the curriculum, making the experiences meaningful and relevant to our students.

Teams

At VAS, sports teams will participate in the ADEK Cup and Aldar Football League. Selection will be based on registrations and tryouts – where applicable.

School Communications

VAS will share with all parents an ECA booklet which includes information about all extracurricular activities taking place throughout the term. Students and parents will have the opportunity to sign up for the ECAs (unpaid activities led by our teachers or paid academies led by external academy coaches) through the sign-up form on the ECA booklet. The school does not provide transportation after the ECAs and parents will be responsible for collecting their children at the end of the ECA, at 3:30pm.

VAS will share with parents, well in advance, information about trips and events taking place with consent forms sent and/or shared through the Live Aldar App for signature and consent.

Fees and Payment

Parents will be informed of required payments for trips, academies, and other events, well in advance through school correspondence sent through various school-based platforms, their children, and the Live Aldar App. All payments are to be made online through links that are sent prior to the trips taking place and through links to the academy providers.

Safety & Supervision

Our students' safety is our priority. We will ensure all measures are taken prior to and during all ECAs, events, and trips to ensure our students are supervised and safe. Risk assessments will be conducted prior to all events, ECAs, and trips and parents will be informed of any potential risks associated with a particular activity or event in advance. All measures will be taken to mitigate risks. VAS will ensure that a sufficient number of school staff supervise our students at all times and that staff are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities. Our staff will also be trained in emergency procedures and first aid. All of our activities will be ADEK-approved prior to the event taking place.

Recognition and Rewards

Students who actively participate in school activities (e.g. ECAs, volunteering, etc.) will be recognized for their contributions through:

- Mention on student report cards
- Certificates of appreciation
- Posts on social media and other publications
- Awards ceremonies