

# STUDENT LIFE

## 3.1 FACULTY FAMILY

The Faculty Family concept is an integral part of the LAS tradition. All students are assigned to a 'family' consisting of a faculty parent or parents as well as fellow students of all ages, both boys and girls. LAS families offer a variety of parenting configurations—there are some smaller single-parent families, while others are extended families with two or more parents.

### 3.11 FACULTY FAMILY ADVISING

Faculty Family advising is a regular time during the week when families gather. Faculty Family Parents serve as the student's advocate and provide another layer of pastoral support. This guidance includes informal counseling in choosing classes and activities, signing up for events, reading teacher comments and understanding weekend options. Faculty Parents also help their 'kids' adjust to the school's expectations for student conduct and responsibilities, including:

- How to behave in assembly
- How to request travel permission
- Setting and reexamining goals for the year
- Examining one's conduct record
- Communication with parents
- Fulfilling the mission statement

Faculty Family advising occurs during the school day on Wednesdays either before or instead of assembly.

### 3.12 FACULTY FAMILY SOCIALIZING

The second role of the Faculty Family is social, involving students in activities they ordinarily might not do. These Wednesday evening events are also a wonderful opportunity for students to associate with others outside of their usual circle of friends. During the first month of school Faculty Families have two days to plan an excursion to get to know each other. Throughout the year, Faculty Families also meet together for required school events, including special dinners, banquets, Earth Day cleanup, tobogganing, concerts and the school musical. In addition, each Faculty Family receives a budget that they collectively decide how to use.

### 3.13 MISSING FACULTY FAMILY

If students are absent without excuse from a Faculty Family event (meeting, assembly or events), Faculty Parents will follow up as follows :

- First offense: A conversation with the student is had and documented.
- Second offense: A two-hour check-in is issued.
- The third or more: A Friday night.
- Repeated absences: A clipboard is issued.

### 3.14 CHANGING FACULTY FAMILY

All students are asked to stay with their assigned Faculty Family for their first year at LAS, although it is our intention that students remain with the same Faculty Family throughout the duration of their time at LAS. To change Faculty Families for the following school year, students must make that request with the Director of Student Life during the Spring semester. All reassignments are made at the Director's discretion with the goal of preserving our philosophy of Faculty Family diversity.

### 3.15 ASSEMBLIES OR CLASS MEETINGS

Weekly school Assemblies or Class Meetings serve to promote school events, clubs and projects—and to provide entertainment and learning opportunities for students. Students attend these mandatory events with their Faculty Families and are encouraged to participate in the programs as speakers and performers.

### 3.16 SPECIAL EVENTS

LAS sponsors an active calendar of events throughout the school year to foster a sense of community, school spirit, and leadership development. These events begin with school orientation events in August, and then continue with school banquets, breakfasts, international week, prom and the Cowbell Games (an all-school competition). We also provide support for many fundraising events planned by student clubs, dormitories and groups.

## 3.2 LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT LAS

LAS provides students with many excellent opportunities in leadership which will help them to become responsible, innovative, and compassionate. Students are encouraged from their youngest years to participate in service as a pathway towards leadership positions.

### 3.21 RESIDENTIAL-BASED LEADERSHIP: PREFECTS, AMBASSADORS, & SENIOR PROCTORS

Student leadership is an essential component in the life of a residential community like ours. Our student leaders play an important role in establishing and maintaining a welcoming and supportive atmosphere for all. The LAS Fred Ott Leadership Program was launched to give students the means to hone their leadership skills and give back to the communities in which they live—their dorms, school and the world.

beyond. A formal application process is in place for any student wishing to join the Fred Ott Leadership Program.

Student leaders selected for the Fred Ott Leadership Program fall into three groups—Prefects, Ambassadors, and Senior Proctors. While each leadership group sets specific objectives, all are branches of the Fred Ott Leadership Program and will:

- Responsibly commit to working as a team throughout the year
  - Maintain high ethical, academic, and behavioral standards
  - Pursue projects benefiting the dorm and school community
  - Benefit from a world-class leadership curriculum and training
  - Act as the voice of their classmates at Student Council
1. **Prefects** are in charge of generating positive morale in the dorm as they assist the Dorm Head and Dorm Team with dorm-related duties and events. Prefects are selected in the fall, so any student new to LAS, as well as returning students, should consider applying to be a prefect.
  2. **Ambassadors** are selected in the spring and will serve in the role throughout the following school year. Ambassadors begin their year of leadership and service on the Savoy campus by returning to school a few days early for a group leadership workshop and to help with Orientation Week. Throughout the year, Ambassadors, who are typically active in various community service endeavors on campus, also help in the dorm and run the dorm store.
  3. **Senior Proctors** are also selected in the spring to serve in the role throughout the following school year. These students represent a combination of the qualities found in both Prefects and Ambassadors as they work together to enrich student life in the Belle Époque Dorm. Along with helping dorm staff as needed, Senior Proctors create, plan, and host major dorm socials throughout the year. They also manage the dorm store and work with the administration to improve life at LAS.

## 3.22 STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council (StuCo) is a student-run organization that serves as a voice for the LAS student community. StuCo maintains an effective channel of communication between the student body and the school's administration, soliciting student feedback on various school-related topics and lobbying the administration on students' behalf. StuCo strives to keep student morale high by organizing community events throughout the year.

## 3.23 THE HONOR COUNCIL

When a major conduct infraction occurs, during the academic day or within the realm of dorm life, the Dean of Students may convene the school's Honor Council for a hearing. The Honor Council, composed of both students and faculty, deliberates and decides whether a conduct violation has indeed occurred. The committee reports their opinion to the Dean of Students' Office. In cases where a hearing is not justified, the Dean will determine the consequence.

The student members of the Honor Council have a clear sense of justice and personify the LAS Code of Conduct. They are ethical, capable, and courageous enough to determine when a classmate has erred. A student member of the Honor Council is undeterred by the potential social ramifications of his or her decision. Furthermore, the faculty Honor Council members deliberate with the student members of the

Honor Council in a fair and ethical manner. Each hearing is overseen by an Assistant Dean of Students. All outcomes are ultimately approved by the Dean of Students.

### 3.24 NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The National Honor Society (NHS) is a premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, the NHS serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921.

Four main purposes have guided chapters of NHS from the beginning: to create enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote leadership; and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter.

### 3.25 OTHER LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Sports team captains
- Club Officers (Habitat for Humanity, Model United Nations, Eco Club)
- LAS Alpine Club and the International Award

## 3.3 ACTIVITIES


Our activities program plays a vital role in both the physical and creative development of our students. The after-school program provides students with opportunities to master challenges across a range of team-based and individual sports, theater, music, clubs, and service organizations. These activities provide students with opportunities for leadership, skill development, and community service.

All students in grades 10, 11, and 12 are required to take a minimum of two activities per week each semester; students in grades 7, 8, and 9 take 4 activities per week. Students on sports teams fulfill their minimum activity requirement by attending two weekly practices, and can take other activities if desired.

There are two activities terms: one in the fall semester and one in the spring. All after school activities take place Monday through Thursday, typically between the times of 16:00 and 18:30. Most activities are between 75 and 90 minutes in duration. On the following page is a general list of activities offered, which may change due to interest, enrollment, and staffing.

### 3.31 AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:

Below you will find a chart listing the after-school activities which we offer.

 <b>ACTIVITIES CHOICES</b>			
Creative	Active		Service
Astronomy Club	Crossfit workout	Horseback Riding Intermediate / Advanced	Gardening
Yoga	Gardening	Rowing	National Honor Society
Digital Video Production	Badminton	Golf	Model United Nations
Dance - Classical / Ballet	Aerobics	Rugby	Student Council
Global Media Club	Friday Tennis	Indoor football	Village Tutoring
Private Music Lesson	Dance - Classical / Ballet	Strength & Conditioning	Environmental / ECO club
Makerspace - coding, 3D design and strategy board games.	Cindy's Workout	Table Tennis	Habitat for Humanity
Dance - Hip Hop & Contemporary	Recreational Football	Community Service	Event Planners
Open Art Studio	Judo and Jiu Jitsu	Mountain Biking Int/Adv	Community Service
Gardening	Climbing Wall / Bouldering	Mountaineering	
Math Club	Box Fit	American Flag Football	
Theatre Production	Yoga	Trampolining	
Model United Nations	Hiking	Student Council	
Rock School	Mountain Biking Beginner	Environmental / ECO club	
Village Tutoring	Dance - Hip Hop & Contemporary	Habitat for Humanity	
Student Council	Horseback Riding Beginner	Event Planners	
Jazz Band	<b>LAS SPORTS TEAMS</b>		
Environmental / ECO club	Girls & Boys Football Team	Girls & Boys Basketball Team	
Choir	Golf Team	Rowing Team	
Habitat for Humanity	Girls & Boys Volleyball Team	Swimming Team	
Event Planners	Tennis Team	Cross Country Running Team	
Community Service	Ski Race Team	Ski/Snowboard Freestyle Team	

### 3.32 EXEMPTIONS TO THE ACTIVITY REQUIREMENT

- Students who participate in a theater production are exempt from two activities.
- In the spring, full IB Diploma seniors are exempt from one activity.

### 3.33 SPRING IB EXAMS

IB students are expected to attend all activities unless they are writing an exam at the time of the activity.

### 3.34 ATHLETICS

LAS sports teams primarily compete during the fall semester, with meets during the week and tournaments on the weekends. Tryouts for the fall teams are held during the first week of school. Participating on an athletic team meets the two-day activity requirement.

The educational aim of the athletic program is to encourage students to:

- Acquire the ability to function in a team
- Muster the strength to continue even when facing failure
- Be a gracious winner
- Practice fair play and display good sportsmanship
- Develop interpersonal relationship skills including conflict management
- Build social skills and create new friendships
- Learn how to plan one's free time creatively and efficiently
- Discover how to balance recreation and work

#### 3.341 Sportsmanship

Our athletic program strives to teach students how to win with grace and lose with dignity. Our student athletes are encouraged to be respectful of our referees, teammates, opposing players, fans, and coaches. Our players also learn to avoid violent behavior and to be helpful and courteous at all times. At the end of every year, along with other recognized accomplishments, the most deserving student athlete is given the LAS Sportsmanship Award.

#### 3.342 Fall Sports Teams

- Boys and Girls Basketball
- Boys and Girls Volleyball
- Boys and Girls Soccer
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Cross Country and Track
- Rugby

- Rowing

### 3.343 Winter Sports Teams

- Alpine Skiing
- Freestyle Skiing and Snowboarding
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Rowing (indoor)

### 3.344 Spring Sports Teams

- Tennis
- Cross Country and Track

### 3.345 LAS Team Uniforms

LAS team uniforms and warm up suits that are distributed to student athletes cost approximately 200 CHF per sport. The student keeps the uniform and tracksuit at the end of the sports season and may use it again in future seasons.

### 3.346 Player Contracts

As a member of an LAS team, student athletes represent the school in competitive events. Therefore, all LAS team members are required to sign and abide by a player contract.

### 3.347 Private Lessons

In conjunction with the Leysin community, LAS offers a number of special extracurricular activities such as horseback riding, kickboxing, and more. The additional fee for these activities will be charged to the student's account.

## 3.35 ACTIVITY GRADES

All activities are graded and carry a credit for the student's year of participation. During the fall semester, the activity leader will enter a daily grade for each participating student. The winter ski term is based solely on attendance. Students who meet this requirement will receive a passing grade, while those who do not will receive a failing grade. The activity leader again grades during the spring term, which is averaged with the winter term score to provide a student's second semester grade for activities. Our attendance policy details the school's expectations for activity participation.

### 3.351 Attendance Policy and Attendance Codes

If a student misses an activity, sports practice, or a ski or snowboard lesson, they are expected to make up the missed session by doing a makeup run or workout (see 3.372). Missing one activity or ski lesson will result in a failing mark for activities. If a student was absent due to a health-related reason, they must make up the absence with a workout when physically able. If a student has one or more activity absences, they may also **not make the commendation list and therefore** lose Pass permission until these absences are made up.

- The attendance code «A» (Absent) means that a student was not present for an activity and will receive a failing activity grade until a makeup run is completed.
- The attendance code «H» (Health Center) or «D» (doctor's visit) means that the Health Center is excusing the student because of illness, injury, or a doctor's appointment. Students **MUST** come to see a nurse during clinic hours in order to be excused.
- Students who miss an activity to receive extra academic help or to make up a missed exam must make up the missed activity with a makeup run.

### 3.352 Make-up Workout

*Meeting at 19:30 in the MMAC.*

- «A» attendance code absences can be made up by participating in a makeup run.
- One run will erase one missed activity (showing as the attendance code «U» after completion).
- Once the student is back down to zero unexcused absences, the grade will change to passing again.

## 3.4 SKI TERM

Because we are located in the lovely ski resort of Leysin in the Swiss Alps, LAS students have a rare opportunity to enjoy its alpine environment. Leysin is ideal for LAS students, with ski runs for all abilities and a snow park featuring a world-class half pipe.

### 3.41 MODIFIED DAILY SCHEDULE

LAS offers a unique opportunity in that our 8-week winter term (January to March) features a special schedule. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, students are dismissed from school after lunch to participate in skiing and snowboarding activities.

#### 3.411 Weekend Skiing

Students are allowed to ski on the weekend in Leysin. In order to ski students must:

1. Check out with a rover or AOC in the morning



2. Be in a group of at least three
3. Have their LAS phone
4. Wear the LAS ski jacket

### 3.412 Pre-season Skiing

Students may only ski in the pre-season if they are returning students who have been in either advanced or intermediate groups or if they are a new student with approval from the Student Life department.

## 3.42 SKI AND SNOWBOARD LESSONS AND TRIPS

Twice a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays), all beginners are enrolled in two-hour lessons. Intermediate and advanced students have one lesson and one day of free skiing each week. On weekends, students have the option to ski locally or to participate in school-sponsored ski trips to nearby resorts such as Verbier, Zermatt, Gstaad, and Les Diablerets.

## 3.43 SKI AND SNOWBOARD TEAMS

Skiers and snowboarders can join LAS ski and snowboard teams, which includes an alpine ski team (racing gates), as well as freestyle teams for skiers and snowboarders. LAS teams take part in competitions with several schools during the winter season.

## 3.44 MOUNTAIN SAFETY

In various school assemblies, LAS students are taught mountain etiquette and safety guidelines, such as skiing in groups of three, keeping their cell phones with them at all times, and obeying slope closures and avalanche warning barricades. All skiers and snowboarders of an intermediate level or higher attend mandatory educational avalanche seminars and field courses on the mountain. In addition, a weekend-long avalanche training program (with certification) is offered to interested students and staff members.

### 3.441 Skiing or Snowboarding Off-piste

Technically, the skiing term "off-piste" means "anything off a groomed run." At LAS, skiing or snowboarding off-piste is NOT allowed. Students caught skiing off-piste risk punishment and loss of skiing privileges, but more importantly, could face injury or even death by hitting a tree or rock, falling precariously in deep snow or being caught in an avalanche. While certain areas of off-piste terrain are much more dangerous than others, it would be imprudent for us to determine 'safer' off-piste areas. The ONLY exception to this rule is if a student has received parental permission to be in the company of a certified off-piste guide.

Skiing in areas that are OUT OF BOUNDS (including closed areas, areas marked off with signs and/or rope or trails/runs that leave the resort such as the YELLOW TRAIL) is also strictly forbidden. Such

areas are dangerous and contain a risk of natural and triggered avalanches AND potentially hazardous obstacles such as fallen trees or branches, rocks, and hidden fence posts. Mountain safety personnel do NOT control such areas.

### 3.442 Avalanche Awareness and Foundation Course

The LAS avalanche program is designed to provide students with information to better understand avalanche terrain, the dangers of avalanches, and the factors that cause avalanches. Armed with this knowledge, students will be more informed, more responsible, and make smarter decisions. However, these courses are NOT intended to provide special privileges to ski off-piste at leisure. Our school policy forbidding off-piste skiing and snowboarding remains enforced.

Students who are at an advanced level may choose to take the avalanche course taught by Swiss mountain guides, which includes an in-class session, an all-day session on the mountain, and three afternoons of guided skiing at nearby resorts.

## 3.45 NON-SKIING STUDENTS

In keeping with our longstanding tradition and the LAS alpine spirit, all students are required to participate in our winter program. However, we do recognize and understand that some students may not be comfortable with downhill skiing or snowboarding, or may suffer from physical conditions that prevent them from skiing. For these reasons, the Student Life Department offers an appropriate and alternative 8 week activity option in order for students to meet their semester activity credit.

## 3.46 DAY STUDENT SKIERS

LAS expects day students to return to their home and therefore they are not expected at the 16:00-17:00 ski check-in.

## 3.47 GRADE 7 AND 8 SKI PROGRAM

Students in grades 7 and 8 will follow regular ski classes as all the other students. Advanced and intermediate skiers will ski supervised when not in classes. If the school receives reassurance that a student is able to ski unsupervised and has special permission from parents, he/she will be able to free ski on weekends in Leysin.