

Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary)

Co-Curricular Activities 2016: CCA Frequently Asked Questions

1 How is CCA relevant to each Fairsian?

In Fairfield, CCA offers your child/ward holistic development in the areas of leadership, skills and service to the local and global community. CCA provides a platform for each Fairsian to express his/her learning and leadership on a regular basis.

2 Does every student have to be in a CCA?

Yes, Character Development is as important as Academic Excellence. CCA serves as a platform to grow your child/ward as a leader through various learning experiences. Character is shaped through such experiences and therefore every student should be in a CCA.

3 What happens if my child's/ward's CCA day clashes with his/her personal commitments, e.g. tuition?

As attendance is a basic indicator of a child's/ward's development in character and commitment, students are required to attend every CCA meeting or training session. CCA takes up a maximum of 3 days a week, thus your child/ward is expected to keep to his/her commitment in CCA. We therefore urge parents to defer scheduling any enrichment or tuition classes before CCA allocation is finalised. This is to avoid the hassle of rescheduling personal commitments should they clash with your child's/ward's CCA commitments.

4 Can my child/ward be allowed to join a 2nd CCA?

We allow students to take up a second CCA from the non-core list to give them a greater breadth of CCA experience if they can balance academic work and CCA well. With a second CCA, the number of days he/she has to attend would increase but we do not encourage pupils to spend more than 3 days a week on CCA so that they can give time to their academic studies. Your child/ward can only proceed to choose the 2nd CCA after his/her core CCA is allocated so that there is no clash in schedule.

5 What happens if my child/ward would like to quit his/her CCA after one year?

The school strongly discourages students from quitting as MOE requires every student to participate in at least one CCA. We recommend that you have a discussion with your child/ward together with the CCA teacher in charge.

6 What if my child/ward would like transfer to another CCA?

Continuous and regular participation in a CCA throughout the secondary school years is fundamental to contributing to the quality of school life and overall student development with the students deepening their knowledge and skills in a particular area. MOE's Recognition System awards continuous involvement and commitment to the same CCA and this is reflected through a higher level of attainment assigned to students who stay with the same CCA over the years.

However, if your child/ward has lost interest in the CCA he/she had chosen initially, he/she can pick up a "CCA Transfer Form" from his/her Core CCA teacher. We encourage

parents/guardians to discuss this matter with their child/ward before going ahead with the decision. The form is to be returned to the CCA teacher. The HOD CCA will follow up with your child/ward subsequently.

7 Why does CCA have to take up so much time?

Character development requires commitment of time and effort. In order to give each child/ward the fullest experience of success in what they do, excellence does entail certain sacrifices such as time. Therefore, we seek the partnership of parents/guardians in our effort to develop the children holistically.

8 Will my child/ward be allocated a CCA of his/her choice?

The school will try its best to match your child's/ward's interest and aptitude to the CCA allocated. However, in view of the limited resources, it is not possible to accommodate every student's wish as there is a quota for every CCA to ensure their sustainability.

9 Is it compulsory for all pupils to attend the CCA trials/auditions?

For students to be eligible for competitive sports or performing arts CCAs, the school needs to assess their aptitude and skills as these are critical for success in the CCA. The results will be made known to you through the online CCA Registration portal. This information allows your child/ward to choose a CCA in which he/she has both interest and aptitude in. Choosing a CCA in which he/she has no aptitude in may result in eventual dropping out from the CCA. Hence, it is important for every student to attend the trials/auditions.

Only DSA students are exempted. The first round of trials/auditions takes place from 7-12 January after school.

10 If my child/ward is not interested in Performing Arts or Sports or Media Club, why does he/she need to attend the CCA trials/auditions?

The trials/auditions allow us to identify talents which your child/ward may not be aware of previously. We have also incorporated Sports Education and Arts Education in the trials/auditions to develop your child/ward physically and aesthetically.

11 Can my child/ward take up a CCA outside the school such as Chinese Orchestra, swimming etc?

It is MOE's policy that all students must take up a CCA offered by the school. If your child is selected to train with the National Sports Association in a sport offered by the school, his/her participation needs to be endorsed by the principal. This involvement may exempt him/her from participation in the school's CCA training sessions. The same applies for NPOE (National Projects of Excellence) such as National Youth Orchestra. Once the training stint with the organisation ends, the student will have to resume training with the school's CCA.

12 How does CCA benefit my child/ward in the application for post-secondary education?

At the end of 4/5 years, students are entitled to apply for Junior College/ Centralised Institute*/Polytechnics/ ITEs. Bonus points awarded may be used to benefit the student in their total aggregate score when applying for entry to these institutions.

Excellent CCA Experience > 2 Bonus points
Good CCA Experience > 1 Bonus point
Fair CCA Experience > 0 Bonus point

Students who excelled in their CCA may also participate in the Direct School Admissions- Junior College (DSA-JC) or Direct Polytechnic Admissions (DPA).

For any further clarifications, please consult the Head of Department, PE/CCA at francis.fmss@fairfieldsec.org or visit our school's CCA Webpage.

Revised on 23 Nov 2015