



St. Mary's International School

SMIS Student Leadership Academy

Program Philosophy:

The SMIS Student Leadership Academy will give our students an independent, solution focused learning program that allows our boys to take responsibility for their learning. Their individual learning style, with learning support, will determine how success is realized. Students will meet narrowed skill objectives linking preexisting knowledge for specialization. SMIS students will self direct their skill acquisition while honing their research skills. Students will satisfy their own interests rather than those of others. They will become flexible, self-reliant problem solvers. Teachers will get the opportunity to “model the learner” and demonstrate that they are life long learners. They will act as guides to focus on skill acquisition and allow students to take the lead.

Purpose of the Academy:

To provide SMIS upperclassmen the opportunity to explore leadership opportunities supported by teachers within our learning community.

Making Connections within the SMIS Community

SMIS leadership students will:

- Work effectively and safely within the SMIS community individually and collaboratively
- Collaboratively develop a Leadership Program experience with their teacher supervisor
- Describe the duties performed and identify real life connections
- Experience a defined leadership specific experience decided upon with their teacher supervisor
- Demonstrate the confidence and competency necessary to be self-directed
- Reflect on how the individual student leader and the community have benefited

Descriptors of SMIS leaders:

Academics:

Dedicated, responsible, mature, strong work ethic

Connections with others:

Respectful, helpful, assertive, socially skilled, good attitude, strong self-esteem, coordinated, organized

Challenges:

Abstract thought, interest, receptive, improvement oriented.

Why do it?

1) Improve college applications

SMIS leadership students will:

- Demonstrate their ability to work collaboratively and independently
- Show initiative
- Gain new skills and life experience

- Contribute to the community
- Gain fundamental characteristic traits that colleges value in potential students

2) Build self-esteem

SMIS leadership students will:

- Work hard
- Accomplish tasks
- Be recognized for their accomplishments
- Work with others to reach common goals
- Reflect on success and/or failures to gain knowledge

3) Invest in your future

SMIS leadership students will:

- Gain valuable leadership experience at an early age

What is it?

This program is one academic year in length. Successful students will receive 0.5 elective credits per semester. You may participate in this program for two years total. Students will develop their leadership program collaboratively with their assigned teacher. Students will be required to complete assessments at predetermined stages of their program. Please be aware that credits earned in the Student Leadership Academy cannot replace credits required by the IB nor the St. Mary's International School Diploma. They can, however, be awarded as elective credits to enhance your academic résumé at SMIS.

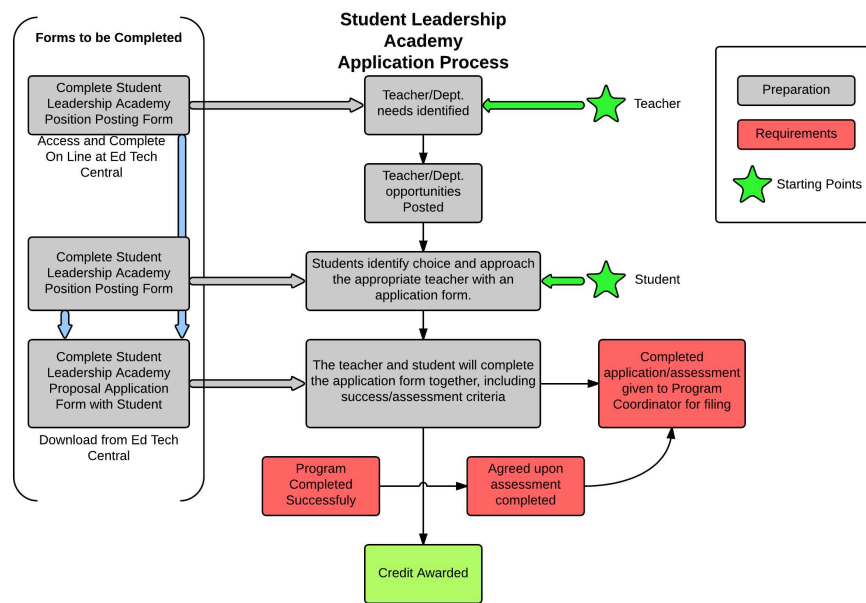
Who is involved?

Upperclassmen will have this opportunity. You will be assigned to or be selected by a teacher who will work collaboratively with you to fill a mutual need or a community need. The teachers, counselors, and administration will support the program.

What does it look like?

Your Leadership Program will be tailored to your interests and your communities needs. Each program will have a unique set of responsibilities that will ensure a rich learning experience that will incorporate student choice and responsibility while filling a need in the community.

Process Flowchart



Our program

The SMIS Student Leadership Program will be provided within the following areas:

- Science
- Math
- English
- Social Studies
- Foreign Languages
- Physical Education
- Fine Arts
- Athletics
- IB
- Technology

What does success look like?

All students enrolled in the SMIS Student Leadership Program must complete a leadership specific research assignment agreed upon with their teacher supervisor and approved by the Student Leadership Program Coordinator. Assessment of student success of this assignment should follow the guidelines outlined in the Assessment and Reflection section of the application. The outcomes should be goal oriented and defined in the application package.

The SMIS Student Leadership Program is an individually designed program with different tasks and responsibilities designed for each student-teacher team. Therefore, each student will be assessed using independent criteria.

Some of the criteria may include but is not limited to the following:

- Provide documentation of your experiences and/or community service (e.g., logbook, letter, form, and/or certificate signed by your teacher)
- Describing procedures, tools, and/or equipment used
- Identifying fundamental skills developed (e.g., communicating, teamwork, managing information, thinking, problem solving, using numbers)
- Identifying self-management skills developed (e.g., demonstrating positive attitudes and behaviors; being responsible, adaptable, respectful)

- Explaining how the skills can be transferred to other situations
- Describing the significance of their contribution demonstrating and practicing communication, organizational, and presentation skills
- Sharing their transition plan and short and long term goals in an exit interview, presentation, or conversation with their teacher
- Demonstrating how they display initiative, set priorities, and establish goals through selected achievements in which they take pride
- Showcasing significant accomplishments and indicating how those learning experiences will prepare them for successful transitions to life after SMIS



• SMIS Student Leadership Academy Proposal Form •

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High School Grade

Grade 11

Grade 12

Application Date

Student and supporting teacher information

First name

Last name

Teacher Supervisor

Area of Discipline

Program Start Date

Program Finish Date

Expected Number of
credits



Program Proposal

(This portion of the proposal should be completed with your teacher supervisor)

Outline your personal goals for the program.

Outline the setting you expect to be working in. (Who will be involved, where will you be working, what will you be doing, any special circumstances of your plan, etc.)

Rationale to support your proposal. (What need will your proposal fill for both you individually and the school?)

Skills I hope to acquire.

Knowledge I hope to acquire.

In this space, please outline the "Leadership Specific Research Assignment" agreed upon with your teacher supervisor.

Assessment and Reflection

(This will act as a guide for you and your teacher supervisor to determine the success criteria you will be responsible for)

Expected Evidence:

Student Leadership Portfolio
Video Capture
Teacher Observation
Reflective Journal Entries
Meeting/Recording Goals

Statistical Measures
Performance Assessment
Student Responses
Other: _____

How do you expect to demonstrate that you have succeeded in reaching your stated goals?

Please indicate how you will assess your success in the mandatory "Leadership Specific Research Assignment".

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Teacher Supervisor Signature: _____

Date: _____
