



Action and service have always been shared values of the IB community. Students take action when they apply what they are learning in the classroom and beyond. IB learners strive to be caring members of the community who demonstrate a commitment to service – making a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment. Service as action is an integral part of the programme.

Community service in the IB is defined as work for a NON-PROFIT agency or individual and one in which there is not compensation or reward for the individual completing the work. The activity should contribute to the well-being of a school, its community, state, country or a global entity. IB service hours are separate and apart from any other community service hours required of any organization or clubs, such as NJHS, and may not be combined or counted together.

Ideally, community service is an extension of classroom instruction and should be related to the curriculum. Service should be done on a regular basis, not all at one time, which is why Plantation Middle offers many opportunities throughout the school year, in and out of school, for students to complete the community service requirements. Please make sure to check the School's website regularly for opportunities.

Education neither begins nor ends in the classroom and essential aspects of learning exist in all areas of life. Community service volunteer projects balance the emphasis on academic achievement with experiences that benefit all participants. Additionally, community service projects challenge each individual to develop a spirit of discovery and self-reliance, to encourage development of personal skills, and to inspire awareness, concern, and responsibility in service to the local and global community.

Community and Service Criterion

Awareness—the student should be able to:

- Describe reasons why individuals come together to make communities
- Describe different community types
- Identify his or her place within one or more communities
- Describe how communities interact

Involvement and Service—the student should be able to:

- Participate in a community and service idea or project that helps others, showing initiative and independent thinking

Reflection—the student should be able to:

- Record his or her community service activity clearly, describing problems encountered and solutions found
- Evaluate his or her experience, drawing conclusions from it
- Suggest future activities or projects he or she might develop

Characteristics of Community Service

Community Service is...	Community Service is NOT...
<p>Identifying a community need and working in association with an agency, organization, or institution to meet or improve the need as long as there is no monetary benefit to the recipient because of the student's involvement. Examples include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charity fund raising• Community volunteer• Teaching, mentoring, or tutoring others• Public service volunteer	<p>Any activity for which the student receives payment or that personally benefits a family member or relative. Such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Babysitting/pet-sitting for payment or for family• Working at a relative's workplace• Doing household chores• Assisting a teacher during school hours