

A day in the life of a student at Wellington College International Pune

There is purpose, vibrancy, and meaning to everyday activities, with well-being at the heart of everything, writes Iain Sutcliffe.

Body: As students begin to arrive in school at 7.30 am, in time for registration at 7.45 am, there is a noticeable buzz around the campus in anticipation of the day ahead. The Wellington College students have a genuine intellectual curiosity and an eagerness to learn, along with a strong sense of community. What is evident is that the students are excited to partake in the co-curricular activities (CCA) programme to develop their interests and passions, whether in the field of music and the performing arts or sports, academic enrichment, or sustainability.



Following the registration, the tutorials begin, and several one-on-one conversations can be seen between tutors and tutees. Coaching techniques are utilised to encourage students to design solutions to problems that they encounter. There is a real sense that students are being encouraged to reflect on their progress and take responsibility for their actions. At 8.20 am, lessons commence, and classes VII-IX students follow the English National Curriculum.

As one walks around the classrooms, the teachers can be seen facilitating a challenging yet supportive learning environment. The emphasis here is on collaboration and discussion. There is energy and pace to the lessons, with students actively involved in practical experiments in science writing solutions to Maths's problems or engaging in classroom debate.



After the morning lessons, students come down to the lower ground floor for lunch at noon and tuck gleefully into high-quality food. Later, students either relax in the senior school area, often playing board games or doing puzzles, or attend optional lunchtime CCAs such as science society, music, and coding sessions.

Lessons continue in the afternoon with the compulsory CCA programme commencing at 3.15 pm. There is a rich and diverse range of co-curricular opportunities available that enable students to explore new passions. In sports, students choose to play either cricket, football, swimming, tennis, volleyball, or basketball. Music and performing arts are readily available with students opting for choir and band practice, strings, and individual lessons. Drama is on offer as well, along with debating and sustainability clubs to name just a few.



Wellington College International Pune offers a dynamic environment; its students are encouraged to set up clubs and societies, and it is no surprise that they are already leading the school sustainability initiatives and designing a science fair. Developing leadership skills is also a key priority and there is emphasis on making sure that students become global social changemakers who can positively impact their communities. There is purpose, vibrancy, and meaning to everyday activities, with well-being at the heart of everything. There is a whole-hearted commitment to living the values of kindness,

respect, integrity, responsibility, and courage. This holistic and inclusive approach is a core part of the Wellington DNA, and it is what makes it such a special environment for students to learn and grow on their journey towards self-discovery.

The author is the Head of Senior School, WCI Pune