



## **DEFINITION**

After-school elective courses create an environment where students can develop their thinking and organizational skills. In line with their interests, they participate in and organize school-based and extracurricular activities, and gain leadership skills through these learning experiences that are connected to real life situations.

## **GOALS**

The management of clubs, which students can benefit from even after graduation, is entirely left to the students to develop their leadership qualities. Some of the main goals of club activities are to provide opportunities for overcoming unexpected obstacles, producing original solutions to problems, and most importantly, recognizing different aspects of their personalities.

- Individual skills: Supporting self-criticism and versatility in thinking.
- Social skills Providing a space for students to express their independent personalities and unique ideas while sharing their interests, skills, and goals.
- Personal Management Skills: Developing personal management skills by organizing and managing club activities.
- Practical organizational skills: Developing practical skills through school-based sharing and external competitions.

## **WORKING GROUPS**

- Language, Culture, and Life
- Science and Technology
- Preparation for Professional Life
- Art and Music
- Sports and Strategy



**CLUBS**

| Language, Culture, and Life | Science and Technology          | Preparation for Professional Life | Art and Music              | Sports ve Strategy |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| MUN                         | Science & Research              | Finance                           | Art & Design Portfolio     | Bridge             |
| Debate                      | Robotics                        | Start Up                          | Dance                      | Billards           |
| Think Club                  | 3D Design & Arduino Electronics | Wake- Up Cafe                     | Drama                      | Chess              |
| Film & Theatre Culture      | UAV                             | Açı Store                         | Photography                | Climbing           |
| Gastronomy                  | Coding                          | Managemet                         | School Band(Rock / Pop)    |                    |
| TedX                        | FPV                             | Film & Production                 | Saxophone (Jazz)           |                    |
| Journalisim                 |                                 | Eco- Building                     | Allegria Ensemble (Klasik) |                    |
|                             |                                 |                                   | Sound Tech                 |                    |
|                             |                                 |                                   | Electro Acustic Rhytem     |                    |

Çalışma gruplarına yönelik yürütülen kulüpler aşağıdaki gibidir;

#### **I. 'MUN (Model United Nations)'**

The ACI Model United Nations (MUN) Club focuses on developing essential skills such as debate, public speaking, and research. In-depth discussions on global issues allow our students to sharpen their analytical thinking and communication skills, while also emphasizing the importance of demonstrating these skills in a meaningful way. Discussing world issues helps our students become more informed about global issues.

Our club highlights the importance of being a global citizen who respects different perspectives and deep understanding about the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By discussing global issues, our members take on the responsibility of raising awareness and drawing attention to important topics. By representing our school at both national and international MUN conferences, ACI MUN students demonstrate their commitment to global citizenship and lead the way in addressing the world's most urgent issues.

**II. 'Debate';** This club works to help students develop their research skills and bring logical and persuasive strategic approaches to debates, while expanding their social, political, and economic knowledge. It represents the school in both local and international tournaments. Students who wish to participate can focus on international and English-language tournaments, while others may concentrate on Turkish and local tournaments.

a. The Debate club selects students every year based on a quota system.

b. New students are required to attend only the designated "Training" hours for the first year.

**III. 'Think Club';** This program is designed to break the intellectual and cultural barriers to idea generation; reduce dependence on ordinary thought patterns, and encourage free and creative thinking. It starts with the explanation of Quantum theory, Chaos theory, Modern Neurology, Systems theory, and Cybernetics, all of which bring a radical change to the way of thinking in the 21st century. The advanced level of the program helps in understanding the nature of creative thinking by visiting revolutionary thought landmarks in history, where philosophical breakthroughs occurred.

- a. If the number of applications exceeds the specified limit, students will be selected through an interview conducted by the instructor.

**IV. 'Film & Theatre Culture';** The main goal of the Culture Club is to improve our general knowledge by analyzing and reading theatre, musical, and literary works. While updating students about current films, the club also aims to stay informed about world cinema by participating in film festivals. One of the key benefits is to develop the ability and habit of organizing and participating in cultural and artistic events.

**V. 'Gastronomy';** This club aims to explore the connections between food and culture while investigating the dishes of different cultures. It also combines factors such as hygiene, quality nutrition, taste, and appearance, and organizes various cooking workshops, talks, trips, and events throughout the year.

- a. Workshops are held at an external kitchen agreed upon. The workshop fee is raised by the club students.

**VI. 'TEDx';** "TEDx, the "Ideas Worth Sharing" platform, aims to open new windows in people's minds, inspire them, and create new turning points in our lives. The club selects local and universal themes and presents excerpts from the lives of speakers at the conferences they organize.

**VII. 'Journalism';** Students prepare articles, videos, and interviews related to their areas of interest (science, cinema, literature, etc.), the world agenda, or school life, and share them on social media accounts or the website. They also collect and publish interesting articles from school on this platform. It provides an important sharing experience for students who want to practise interviewing, or journalism.

**VIII. 'Science & Research'** The main goal of the 'Science & Research' club is to enrich our knowledge of the universe within the framework of scientific laws and contribute to society by studying complex systems like life itself. It aims to develop creative, independent, and objective-thinking students who can produce projects that push the boundaries of science.

- a. Participation in the project will be determined by the teachers, based on the required academic level of the students.

**'High-Tech / Robotics';** This club focuses on learning basic engineering disciplines along with programming and design processes. Its work based on planned projects and is completely practice-oriented. The club works with the Vex robot set and curriculum. The main goal is to develop problem definition and problem-solving skills. Projeye katılım, kulübü seçen öğrenciler arasında yapılacak beceri bazlı seçimle gerçekleşir.

- a. Participation in the project will occur through a skill-based selection among the students who choose the club.
- b. Students who qualify to join the school team will represent the school in national and international competitions.

**IX. 'High – Tech / 3D Design & Arduino Programming ve Electronics';**

- a. '3 Design' In this area, students learn theoretical knowledge such as modelling-prototype, perspective, caliper reading, scaling, X-Y-Z axes, types of printing machines, and printing materials. They also learn to use design software like Tinkercad and Fusion 360. They make

## CLUBS

output settings with Cura, the printer software. The designs they model are printed using a 3D printer, and they create the product. They learn about the differences in output materials and the concept of durability. The goal is to help students gain a perspective view and the ability to see the unseen faces of objects. Through knowledge and applications of measurement and scaling, a foundation for modeling is built. The main objective is to be able to identify a problem, design a 3D solution to that problem, and develop a forward-thinking design mindset.

- b. 'Arduino Programming ve Electronics'; This is a technology club where students are trained in two separate subjects. They first learn the Arduino programming language, the structure of coding, the features of the board, and its use in projects. Students understand and apply sensors and Arduino connections, their relationships, and the use of sensor data. They gain basic knowledge of electronics, circuit components, measurement devices, soldering tools, pliers, and other tools, and practice using them. Projects are initially designed on a breadboard, then converted to a circuit board on pertinaks.

**X. 'High-Tech / UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles);** This club focuses on developing the skills, capabilities, and knowledge necessary for flying unmanned aerial vehicles, commonly known as "Drones," which are significant in the technology world today. The lessons, both theoretical and practical, total 70 hours. The main objective is for students to learn the fundamental concepts, rules, and applications of aviation and to fly aerial vehicles consciously and responsibly.

- a. Our school's UAV courses are accredited by the SHGM (General Directorate of Civil Aviation). Students who take the exam administered by the Civil Aviation Authority at the end of the year can obtain the UAV-01 Commercial Pilot license.
- b. As specified by the law, all aerial vehicles weighing up to 25 kg can only be flown by individuals holding the UAV-01 license. All academic activities are carried out in collaboration with Cappadocia University..
- c. The student is responsible for covering the costs of the device and the exam fees.

**XI. 'High-Tech / Coding';** This club helps students gain basic coding skills and develop habits for algorithmic (sequential) and analytical thinking. In this club, students learn to define a problem, find solutions, and apply them on a coding platform. They also learn to write the program using the Python programming language. The main goal is for coding, as a way of thinking, to become a skill that students can apply in their lives.

**XII. 'High – Tech / FPV'; FPV (First Person View);** The main goal of this club is to train FPV (First Person View) drone race pilots. The drone, which can fly very fast on specific tracks, is controlled through goggles with the video feed from the FPV camera.

- a. In this club, students first make their own racing drones using DIY (Do It Yourself) methods and get them operational. Since racing drones fly very fast and aggressively, crashes and damage are frequent. By making their own drones, students learn how to repair them. Training starts with simulations. Students learn flight techniques in a computer environment and then apply them with the real drone.
- b. A racing drone team will be formed with selected pilots from students who have completed their training.

**XIII. 'Business Club / Finance';** This is a club where students work on two main topics. First, they study how the traditional financial system and new emerging systems work. They analyze investment tools such as stocks, indexes, and cryptocurrencies using real examples and project their learned terms and theories with practical examples in any method they choose. At the end of the year, they present their portfolios to professional bankers and investors in the Finance Competition. Additionally, they make financial investments for all clubs and Social Responsibility groups in the school.



**XIV. 'Business Club / Start Up';** This club operates as a subgroup of the Business Club. It is focused on learning the fundamentals of entrepreneurship. The club analyzes all the steps necessary to create a new business idea and then teams create their own business ideas and simulate the steps of establishing a company. At the end of the year, they present their business plans to a professional jury at the Start-Up Challenge and have the opportunity to secure investment for their business ideas

**XV. 'Business Club / Wake-Up';** This is a subgroup of the Business Club. It is a club where students learn business processes by fulfilling all responsibilities related to cafe management, human resources, purchasing, marketing, programming, sponsorship acquisition, finance, customer satisfaction, strategy, and other stages.

- a. Students who choose this club work during designated break times and, if necessary, on weekends depending on the event.

**XVI. 'Business Club / Açı Store';** 'This is a subgroup of the Business Club. The club aims to demonstrate creativity and profitability through design and innovation-focused activities.

- a. Students who choose this club work on days, hours, and locations outside of school hours to achieve the targeted sales.

**XVII. Business Club / Management';** This is a subgroup of the Business Club. It handles the financial planning of all the clubs and Social Responsibility project groups in the school. All financial inflows and outflows are tracked, and the club works with all CIVE and CLUB groups to ensure efficient spending. The club also shares its financial knowledge with peers through its YouTube channel.



**XVIII. 'Film & Production;** This is a film club that creates short films reflecting the vision, work, and goals of club activities that enrich students' learning experiences within the school.

- a. Students are required to participate in the filming that takes place outside of school hours, on different days, and in various locations.

**XIX. 'Art & Design Portfolio'** This program is designed to support students who plan to pursue a career in art and design, helping them develop their drawing skills and create original works. It prepares students for talent exams in universities within the country and portfolio evaluations in international universities. The program supports students in creating individual works related to their chosen profession and helps them build their portfolios.

**XX. 'Dance';** This club aims to develop a continuous growth process by rebuilding the body through aesthetic body movements and performing to music. The Dance Club contributes artistically to the school atmosphere through school events while also representing the school in inter-school competitions and platforms in the field of 'Contemporary Dance.'

- a. The Dance Club recruits students each year through auditions from students with previous dance experience.
- b. The students selected to join the club are determined by a joint decision of the instructor and the club president.
- c. Students who succeed in auditions in 9th grade will continue in the following years, unless the instructor observes no challenges.
- d. Even if a student is successful in auditions, if they are found to be struggling in level-based activities, their health and group performance will be considered, and it may be suggested that they leave the club.

**XXI. ‘Theater’;** This club focuses on developing students' basic acting skills through the process of staging a selected theater piece. It contributes artistically and culturally to the school environment through presentations made by its students. The high school group also aims to represent the school in inter-school theater competitions.

- a. The Theater Club selects students through auditions each year, based on available Quota.
- b. Students selected to join the club are determined by a joint decision of the instructor and the club president.

**XXII. ‘Photography Club’;** This is an art club that aims to organize exhibitions, screenings, and events to provide artistic and cultural contributions to peers through photos and films taken during artistic trips.

- a. Students are required to participate in photo shoots that take place on school-free days, hours, and locations.
- b. Participation in trips and weekend photo shoots is optional.

**XXIII. ‘Music Club /Orchestra (Rock/Pop)’;** This club aims to transfer individual instrumental knowledge and skills to group music experience, and to represent the school in both internal and external festivals and competitions, both locally and internationally. It aims to contribute artistically to the school atmosphere.

- a. Students are selected for the club based on their individual instrumental skills.
- b. The focus of the activities is on group playing skills, rather than individual instrument training.



**XXIV. 'Saxophone/Jazz';** This club aims to develop students in terms of instrumental mastery, jazz harmony, and improvisation through individual and group work with students who have experience and knowledge in playing the saxophone.

**XXV. 'Allegría Ensemble';** This club works based on the foundations of a small 'Classical Music Orchestra.' It involves students who play the violin, flute, and piano.

a. Piano students are selected from applicants and included in the ensemble.

**XXVI. 'Music Production & Sound Technology';** This club provides students interested in music production and sound engineering with the opportunity to develop their skills and abilities through practical applications. It explores advanced music production, recording and mixing techniques, game sounds, and sound creation for film and media formats, as well as the entire process from composing to stage and sales. This club offers students a chance to explore the music industry and experience different musical opportunities.

**XXVII. 'Elektro – Akustik Rhythm';** This club combines Afro-American rhythms with electronic music backgrounds and group dynamics to teach in an enjoyable way, converting it into group performance.

a. Students are selected for the club based on their percussion instrument skills or rhythmic hearing abilities, after a trial lesson.

b. Students who have been part of the rhythm club in previous years can directly join the club.

**XXVIII. 'Briç';** This club introduces students to the intellectual sport of bridge, helping them develop skills like memory, concentration, decision-making, initiative taking, and reasoning.



- a. The club aims for students to reach a level where they can participate in tournaments after acquiring basic knowledge and skills about bridge.

**XXIX. 'Billiards Club';** This club is for those interested in the competitive sport of billiards, offering a chance for everyone to enhance their skills and combine their learning with social responsibility projects. Members also have the opportunity to participate in Istanbul and Turkish Championships, and possibly become national players. Being a successful member of this club students find many opportunities to socialize and have benefits when selecting universities or obtaining scholarships.

**XXX. 'Chess';** This club aims to support students in developing skills such as memory enhancement, concentration, decision-making, initiative taking, and reasoning.

**XXXI. 'Mountain Climbing';** The Club aims to instill a love of nature in its members, providing opportunities to engage with nature and practise sports. The club views mountain climbing not as an adventurous activity but as a sport that must be practiced with safety in mind. The primary goal of this year's activities is to camp and conduct a summit expedition with club members. The program consists of both theoretical and practical training, including indoor activities, camping, and hiking. As physical performance is essential for practical training, students participating in the club must not have any health issues that would hinder their ability to practice this sport.



**XXXII. 'Eco-Building';** The Eco-Building Club is a community with a mission to approach our planet with sensitivity, progress through creative learning methods, and adopt sustainable lifestyles. We carry out various projects based on the principles of sustainability to protect our environment and leave a more sustainable world for future generations. Our club executes projects across a wide range to increase environmental awareness and protect the ecological balance. These projects help both individuals and society understand and practise their environmental responsibilities. Our team encourages information sharing and raises awareness about sustainability using creative and innovative learning methods. The Eco-Building Project is not just a club activity but also a step toward equipping future leaders and engineers with knowledge to build a more livable world.



### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 1) The coordinator of the ALE (Açı Learning Experience) is responsible for the clubs.
- 2) The clubs hold their activities in three different time slots after school hours:
  - a. Wednesday / 13:30 – 15:20
  - b. Wednesday / 15:30 – 17:20
  - c. Friday / 15:20 – 17:10
- 3) The number of projects in each club may increase or decrease depending on the number of students and the productivity of the club in the previous year.
  - a. The hours of some clubs and the distribution of clubs across days may change based on students' selections and their class schedules.
- 4) The Açı High School “Club Program” is designed for all students.
- 5) If necessary, clubs may organize events at all school levels to create their own financial resources and seek sponsorship.
- 6) A club may have its own social media accounts, website, or other communication platforms with the knowledge of the ALE Coordinator. The club will communicate its needs to the ALE Coordinator via e-mail.



### **CLUB SELECTION AND PLACEMENT**

- 1) Students have the right to choose the club(s) they want to participate in, based on the topics they are interested in.
- 2) The clubs are introduced to 9th-grade students through a presentation at the beginning of the school year. Newly opened clubs or those with changes in content are introduced to 10th, 11th, and 12th-grade students with a separate presentation.
- 3) Students who want to choose a club will submit their selections via a digital survey by the specified deadline.
  - a. Students will be placed in the appropriate clubs based on the club quotas.
  - b. Students can change clubs during the first month of activities upon their request and with the approval of the club responsible.
  - c. If a student wishes to change clubs at a different time of the year, they must consult the trainers of the clubs they wish to join and the ALE Coordinator. If mutually agreed upon, the change can be made.
  - d. There is no time limit for leaving a club.
- 4) Students who have previously served in the same club and whose performance in the Açı reports is deemed "Above Expectations" will be given priority during the club placement process .



### **NEW CLUB REQUEST**

- 1) Students who wish to propose a new club may apply to the ALE Coordinator with a project suggestion.
- 2) The club proposal will be evaluated by the ALE Coordinator. If the club is deemed to contribute to the school and the target audience of the project, it will be accepted and opened for participation by other students, provided that the minimum quota is met.
- 3) If the club is opened, it will be observed by the ALE Coordinator in the first year. If the activities are aligned with the project's objectives, the club will continue in the following year.



## **EVALUATION**

- 1) At the end of Açı's 2nd and 4th terms, a report will be published regarding the student's performance and participation in the project they are involved in.
- 2) If a student shows lack of interest in the club, the project leaders and the ALE Coordinator will decide whether the student will continue in the project the following year and whether they will take on any responsibilities.
- 3) Students identified as "Above Expectations" in the report will receive priority for project selection in the following year and will be considered for leadership positions.
- 4) Students identified as "Below Expectations" in the report will not receive priority for project selection in the following year, nor will they be considered for leadership positions



### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 1) Club members are required to follow the school's main behavior procedures. Students who do not adhere to the behavior code will face consequences in accordance with Açı High School's behavior procedures.
- 2) Students who fail to meet expectations in areas such as attendance, punctuality, and material responsibility may be excluded from the club by the joint decision of the club instructor, club leaders, and the ALE Coordinator.
  - a. Students are allowed 1 unexcused absence per term. Any absence without prior written notice to the club instructor will be considered absence. The total number of excused absences per term cannot exceed 3.
  - b. The same penalties apply to students who are late to a session. A student who is more than 15 minutes late to the session cannot participate in the activity and will be marked absent. More than 3 late arrivals are not accepted.
  - c. It is the student's responsibility to bring the necessary materials for the activity. If a student forgets to bring materials once, they will be warned. If it happens again, the club leaders will decide whether the student can continue attending the club.
- 3) Students must follow group communications and the event calendar.
- 4) Students are required to participate in all club-related events, sales, trips, or any other organized activities.



### **CLUB INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 1) Each club has its own club coordinator/consultant and job description.
- 2) All conferences, events, competitions, and festivals that the clubs will attend during the year are determined in August by the club teachers and ALE Coordinator, and are incorporated into the school's academic calendar. If events that are not included in the calendar occur during the year, they can be added to the calendar if approved by the school administration, in line with the academic calendar.
- 3) If the number of students applying for a club exceeds the club's capacity and the club requires special conditions for selecting students, the club instructor works with the ALE Coordinator to determine the selection criteria and organizes the selection process in collaboration with the ALE Coordinator.
- 4) The instructor arrives at the working area at least 30 minutes before the class starts and makes necessary preparations accordingly. In August, the instructor informs the ALE Coordinator about the requirements for the location where the work will be conducted and follows the process.
- 5) The instructor guides the club in terms of content and makes necessary planning.
- 6) The instructor controls the operation of the organizational structure in practise.
- 7) The instructor takes attendance through the system and tracks students' absences.
- 8) Every club instructor has an Açı email address, and all school-related communications occur through this address. The instructor follows up on these communications.
- 9) The instructor researches additional conferences, exhibitions, and competitions that the club can participate in, suggests them to the students, and the student organization applies for these additional activities. The instructor provides support if necessary.



- 10) All internal or external competitions' organization, participation, conditions, project proposals, and budgets are first approved by the club coordinator and then presented to the ALE Coordinator for internal coordination.
- 11) The instructor determines the student organization for conferences or competitions and provides the ALE Coordinator with information to inform the parents and travel agency if the trip is external.
- 12) After attending each conference, competition, or off-campus trip, the instructor provides a summary of the event to the ALE Coordinator within a week
- 13) The instructor collects and submits information and photos for the event's presentation on social media, the school's website, and in the school newspaper.
- 14) The instructor provides information to the ALE Coordinator for archiving purposes (photos, videos, etc.).
- 15) All club activities are monitored by the ALE Coordinator.
- 16) If the instructor identifies students displaying disruptive behavior that distracts the group, the instructor shares the situation with the ALE team and ensures that Açı High School's behavioral procedures are applied to these students.