



GEMS Winchester School Dubai



Emirati Student Policy

Person(s) Responsible: Assistant Principal for MOE Subjects

Approved by ELT: January 2026

Date of Next Review: June 2027

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1. Introduction

The United Arab Emirates' leaders have envisioned a future where Emiratis take the lead in building the country, as outlined in the UAE Vision 2021. This future vision includes aspiring to give Emirati children access to, and provision of, first-rate education so that they can develop into active and contributing members of society.

At GEMS Winchester School Dubai, school leaders are working hard to implement the right guidelines to support the academic growth and wellbeing for all of our Emirati children. It is critical to understand that this work goes hand-in-hand with the expectations we have for all children, while recognising that this should also be a special focus as part of our contribution to our host country.

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2. Purpose of the Policy

“The wealth of any nation is its intellectuals and the progress of peoples and nations is judged by the level and extent of education they reach.”

His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan

This policy acts as a guide to developing the Emirati student's standards and achievements to:

- Promote and ensure the Emirati students' development, progress, and wellbeing is considered at all levels
- Define and develop a clear approach to ensuring all of our Emirati children have the opportunity to succeed at WSD
- Further develop career pathways and career aspirations to support our Emirati students
- Promote the importance of the involvement of Emirati parents and carers in the life and learning of the school

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3. Aims & Objectives

The main aim of the policy is to put forward an ambitious and courageous vision that highlights the importance of preparing future generations who are ready to serve their communities and excel and innovate in all areas, and optimising the educational experiences, achievements, potential and aspirations of each Emirati student, ensuring that they gain the knowledge and develop the skills that will allow them to fully contribute to the realisation of the national vision.

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4. School Core Targets

WSD has identified the following targets and actions to further improve the progress & attainment of Emirati students:

- Identify those students who are underperforming in order to put in place appropriate intervention strategies
- Identify those students who are making good or outstanding progress in order to celebrate their success
- Involve students, as appropriate, to encourage them to take ownership of their targets

- Ensure that all Emirati students are given a bespoke plan to support their academic progress where they might need additional support
- Ensure that all the Emirati students' progress is tracked, monitored and reviewed regularly to ensure targets are likely to be met, to review the effectiveness of strategies and interventions and implement new strategies or interventions as required

Furthermore, WSD has also identified the following targets and actions to further improve the personal development and wellbeing of Emirati students:

- Attendance: Achieve a minimum of 96% attendance for all Emirati students with an aim for outstanding levels of at least 98%
- Wellbeing: Every Emirati student in GEMS Founders School feels safe, supported, valued and happy
- Parent involvement: Involve Emirati parents in the Progress Review process through parent consultation evenings, telephone calls, focused intervention groups, after school events

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5. Roles & Responsibilities

The following roles & responsibilities apply to this policy:

- Local Advisory Board: Regular internal reviews to monitor the standards achieved by Emirati students
- Leadership Team: To provide vision and ethos, as well as regular monitoring of the standards achieved by Emirati students
- Assistant Principal for MOE Subjects: Serves as a bridge between the school and the local Emirati community, facilitating cultural understanding, parental engagement, and support for Emirati students
- Heads of Year: To meet regularly with their Emirati students, monitor their progress and offer enrichment opportunities
- Teachers: To monitor within their class ensuring that all students are stretched and challenged
- Parents: To engage with their child at home, offering support, guidance and enrichment opportunities

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6. Monitoring & Review

This policy has been agreed by the Executive and Senior Leadership at WSD and has been shared with all teachers. This policy will be reviewed within two years of the previous review.

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