



Australian International School
المدرسة الاسترالية الدولية

Parent Handbook

2025 - 2026



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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL

We are thrilled to bring the Australian Curriculum to Dubai. Our belief is that we are all lifelong learners, all leaders (either of ourselves or others), and that we have a responsibility to each other and the world around us. The innovative world class Australian Curriculum Framework, delivered by outstanding Australian teachers, Arabic specialists and skilled support staff, is designed to ensure each child learns within a future focused, supportive environment.

Teaching for engagement, teaching for understanding, teaching for independence.

Our learning environments facilitate opportunities for students and staff to excel; to build a culture of success where individual talents are not only developed but also supported. Using an inquiry based learning curriculum model, in flexible learning spaces within state of the art facilities, AIS Dubai ensures your learner comes first. Students will develop a deeper understanding about the world around them and their place in it, as well as a love of lifelong learning.

We provide an education that is inclusive and sets high expectations for all students, focusing on transitions into individual career pathways for 21st century careers.

Within each learning area, the Australian Curriculum is organised around key learning principles that reflect a combination of best practice in education research:

- Engaged learning - relevance, active learning negotiated, inquiry approach
- Connected learning - pathways for personal need
- Rigorous learning - intellectual rigour, literacy, numeracy, ICT links
- 'How to' learning - CCEs, education and career planning
- Individualised learning - inclusive, responsive

Whilst placing an importance on manners, considerate behaviour and pride in our school, our goal is for our students to emerge into society as motivated, emotionally intelligent, reflective, resilient, and investigative thinkers who are self-disciplined, successful and active participants within their chosen community.

We have a responsibility toward each child in our school. In supporting them toward personal academic performance targets whilst ensuring their spiritual, cultural and sporting goals are also a focus of their development, we hope they choose to reach for the stars!



Ms Karen McCord
Executive Principal



FIND US



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Australian International School Dubai
Street 54, Al Barsha South, Dubai

Nearest Landmark:
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@ausintdxB



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SCHOOL LEADERS

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OUR VISION & VALUES

Having harnessed the highest quality pedagogy across the Australian Curriculum partnered with Australian education professionals and outstanding teaching programs in Arabic and Islamic Studies, students enrolled at AIS Dubai can access well-designed and sequential pathways to success from Nursery through to Years 12 and beyond into tertiary education. Our vision, motto, and values reflect this constant drive to enrich and refine how we deliver quality education within a vibrant Emirati culture and setting.

Vision

To ensure a quality international and intercultural education that prepares students for their futures in a global economy.

Values

In keeping with our community ideals, the following values were codesigned by our students and staff as the most important values to embed in our school:

- Courtesy
- Citizenship
- Care
- Courage
- Curiosity



AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

The Australian Curriculum is designed to develop successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens. It is presented as a progression of learning from Foundation, Prep - Year 10 that makes clearly outlines for teachers, parents, students and others in the wider community what is to be taught, and the quality of learning expected of young people as they progress through school.

[Learn more about our curriculum](#)

Information for Parents

It is parents, families and carers who have the most influence on their children. When families are actively involved in their children's education, children usually enjoy school and achieve better results.

[Foundation - Prep \(KG2\)](#)

[Years 1 and 2](#)

[Years 3 and 4](#)

[Years 5 and 6](#)

[Years 7 and 8](#)

[Years 9 and 10](#)



AIS DUBAI TEACHING

SPECIALIST TEACHING AT AIS DUBAI

At AIS Dubai, we provide a diverse and engaging specialist program that supports the development of the whole child through creative, linguistic, physical, and digital learning opportunities.

Arabic is a compulsory subject across the UAE and is taught at AIS Dubai from Pre-KG through to Year 12, five days a week. Our Arabic curriculum is designed to meet the needs of both native and non-native speakers, promoting strong communication skills and cultural awareness.

Language other than English (LOTE), from Year 5, students begin learning French. In Year 7, they may choose between French and Spanish, allowing them to pursue a language that suits their interests and abilities.

Performing Arts is taught once a week, giving students the opportunity to explore music, drama, and movement, fostering creativity and self-expression.

Physical Education (PE) is scheduled twice a week, encouraging students to build physical fitness, teamwork, and a lifelong appreciation for health and wellness.

Visual Arts is held once a week, allowing students to explore artistic techniques and express themselves creatively through various media.

Technology is integrated throughout the curriculum and taught as a specialist subject to help students develop essential digital literacy skills. Through hands-on experiences with devices, coding, robotics, and creative digital tools, students build the skills they need for the modern world.

Together, these specialist areas provide a balanced and enriched educational experience for all students at AIS Dubai.

CLASS TIMETABLES

Your child's weekly schedule will be reviewed during orientation. It includes class subjects, PE days, specialist lessons, and breaks.

OUR YEAR GROUPS

Stage	Year Group	Age
Nursery	Infants	0-1
	Young Toddler	1-2
	Older Toddler	2-3
Early Learning Centre	Pre-KG	3-4
	KG1	4-5
Junior Primary	Prep / KG2	5-6
	Year 1	6-7
	Year 2	7-8
Upper Primary	Year 3	8-9
	Year 4	9-10
	Year 5	10-11
	Year 6	11-12
Junior Secondary	Year 7	12-13
	Year 8	13-14
	Year 9	14-15
Senior Secondary	Year 10	15-16
	Year 11	16-17
	Year 12	17-18

SAFEGUARDING OUR STUDENTS

AIS Dubai provides quality international and intercultural education that prepares students for their futures in a global economy. Beyond the academic program, AIS Dubai prepares students to lead successful lives through the diversity of its community in Dubai and extra-curricular experiences that contribute to the development of the whole person.

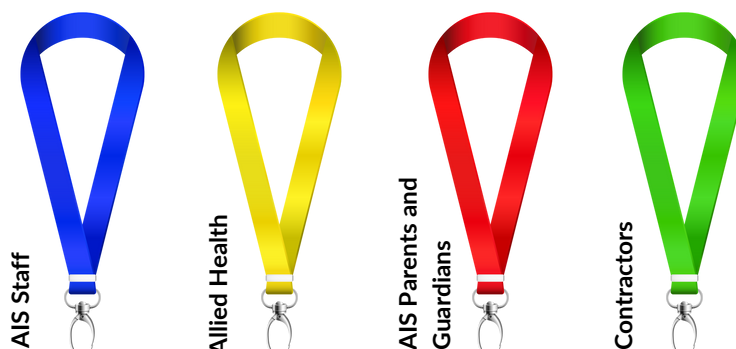
The health, safety and well-being of all students are of paramount importance to all staff. Our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability. They have a right to be safe in our school. Protecting children is everyone's responsibility at AIS Dubai and this includes reporting any act committed by a parent, guardian or any other person, to a child enrolled in our school which results in neglect, physical or emotional injury or harm.

All staff have a duty of care to report any suspected or disclosed issues of child protection to the Executive Principal. If the threat is immediate or ongoing it will be reported to the appropriate local safeguarding authorities as set in place by the UAE.

PARENT LANYARDS FOR NURSERY TO PREP

Families with children in Nursery to Prep/KG2 will be provided with a parent lanyard to keep for the academic year. This lanyard grants access to accompany your child to and from their designated classroom **during drop-off and pick-up times only**. Please ensure the lanyard is worn and visible when on school grounds to support a safe and secure environment.

These procedures help us maintain a safe and secure environment for all students and staff. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.



SCHOOL HOURS AND ENTRANCES

We appreciate your cooperation in following these procedures to help maintain a safe and smooth start to each school day.

Drop off from 7:30am daily
Monday to Thursday - 8:00am to 3:00pm
Friday - 8:00am to 11:00am

***Note: Ramadan times announced once approved by KHDA**

ECAs

- 3:00pm - 4:00pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays during their scheduled weeks of each term

If you are late please proceed to the Foyer D for pickup

- After 3:15pm (or 11:15am on Fridays)
- After 4:15pm following ECAs

Drop off and Pickup Entry and Exit Procedures

To ensure the safety and efficiency of daily drop-off and pick-up, designated pick up locations and timings are in place. You will be shown your assigned entry and exit points during orientation.

Years	Entrance	Pickup
Nursery, PreKG and KG1	Entrance A	Classroom
Prep (KG2), Years 1, 2, 3	Entrance C	Entrance C Foyer
Years 4, 5, 6	Entrance D	Entrance D Foyer
Years 7, 8, 9, 10	Atrium Entrance	Atrium Foyer

Late Entry Procedures:

- After 8:00am, all doors will close except for Entrance A, which will remain open for Nursery, Pre-KG, and KG1 students.
- Students in Prep to Year 10 arriving after 8:00am must enter through the Entrance D. After 8:10am they will receive a late slip before proceeding to class.



FIRST BREAK / SECOND BREAK

All students will have two scheduled breaks each day to eat, rest, and recharge. On Fridays, which are half days, students will have one break only.

First Break / Second Break

At AIS Dubai, we are committed to promoting healthy eating habits as part of our dedication to student well-being and academic success. Junior Primary students have two designated eating breaks each day—First Break and Second Break—and we encourage parents to pack nutritious, balanced snacks that support energy, concentration, and overall health.

To maintain a healthy learning environment, sugary snacks, chocolate, sweets, and fizzy drinks are not permitted. Additionally, as we have students with severe allergies, nuts and nut-based products, including peanut butter, are strictly prohibited on campus under any circumstances.

Encouraging allergy-safe, healthy eating from a young age not only benefits your child's physical health but also nurtures lifelong positive habits. If your child has specific dietary needs or allergies, please ensure this is communicated with both the class teacher and the school clinic.

STUDENT ABSENCES

- Reported through the link provided at the top of the weekly newsletter or
- Via our Parent Portal email absence@aisdubai.ae.

TARDINESS

At AIS Dubai, we encourage all students to arrive on time each day to support a smooth and focused start to learning. However, we understand that occasional delays may happen.

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....			
He/She is only missing just...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>half a year</u>
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 year</u>
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 and a half years</u>
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over <u>2 and a half years</u>

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but...				
If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...	Which means the best your child might perform is...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly <u>1.5 years</u>	Equal to finish in year 11
1 day per week	40 days	8 weeks	Over <u>2.5 years</u>	Equal to finishing in year 10
2 days per week	80 days	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years	Equal to finishing in year 7
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Over 8 years	Equal to finishing in year 4

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF UNITED EMIRATES

All Students and Parents on premises are expected to stop and respectfully listen/sing to the National Anthem at 8:00am each morning.

UNIFORMS

Students are expected to wear the correct school uniform every day. You will receive a detailed uniform guide during orientation, outlining both the standard school uniform and the PE (sports) uniform requirements.

- Students must wear the standard uniform three days a week.
- The sports uniform is worn on two designated PE days, which will be clearly indicated on your child's timetable.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours:

- Monday to Thursday: 7:30am – 8:30am and 2:00pm – 3:30pm
- Friday: 7:30am – 8:30am

Please ensure all uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Expectations of AISD Students

AISD is a uniform school, and students are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times. We have three types of uniforms: the dress uniform, sports uniform, and house shirts. The uniform worn will depend on the day's activities or events.

All uniform items must be purchased from our official uniform shop. Students are expected to maintain a neat and tidy appearance and follow all uniform and personal grooming guidelines as outlined by the school.

Uniform expectations:

ELC

- Sports uniform daily

Prep – 10,

- Formal uniform daily with the except scheduled PE days.

HPE days

- Sports uniform may be worn all day.

Squad Uniforms

- Squad shirts may be worn for club activities and competitions only.
- We are a sun safe school, so the School Hat must be worn whilst outside at all times.

Excursions / special events

- Formal day uniform.

School jumpers

- Are the only accepted jumpers to be worn.

School PE Uniform: ELC - High School

Girls and Boys Uniform



School Formal Uniform: Primary - Prep to Year 6

Girls Uniform



Boys Uniform



School Formal Uniform: Secondary - Years 7 to 10

Girls Uniform



Boys Uniform



AISD uniforms are not to be altered in any fashion, including but not limited to:

- Cutting and shortening of hemlines
- Narrowing the pant leg
- Rolling up of sleeves and pants
- Rolling down of skirt tops
- Re-embroidering, replicating or reproducing the school logo/badges.
- Undershirts may be worn if they are plain white. They should not extend past the sleeves or bottom of the school shirt.

Students not in the correct uniform

- Must have a letter from a parent/caregiver explaining the reason.
- Letters will be accepted for specified and temporary reasons.
- Please provide explanation to the Class Teacher.

Whilst this policy seeks to assist students and parents by identifying requirements and expectations for as many uniform and appearance items as possible, it should be noted that it is at the school's discretion to make a determination on any student's appearance and/or dress in keeping with the spirit of this policy and the school and community values and expectations.

Shoes

AISD has strict expectations and requirements concerning appropriate and regulated footwear. AISD reserves the right to make judgments on the acceptability or otherwise of footwear and will not enter into discussion on decisions made in this regard.

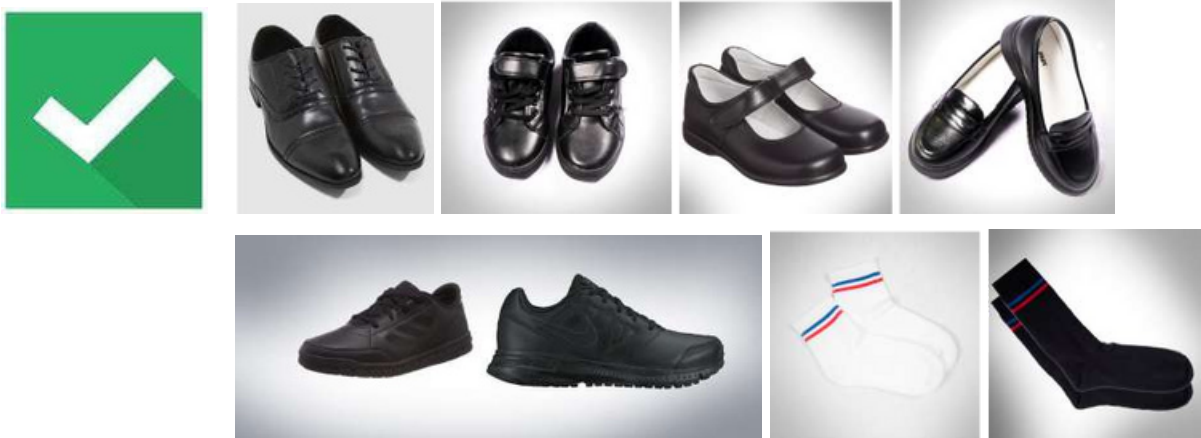
Workplace Health and Safety

Due to workplace Health and Safety regulations, students' footwear must provide adequate protection and cover the entire foot. Footwear selection must also take into account the health benefits of growing children wearing supportive footwear to minimise future health risks. AISD maintains very strict footwear requirements.

Detail

- All black, fully enclosed, polishable leather or vinyl (no suede) shoes are to be worn with the formal uniform. (Please note, velcro shoes are permissible for Junior School students only).
- All black sports shoes are to be worn with the sports uniform.
- No skate/roller shoes, slip-ons, boots, coloured laces, ballet flats, canvas or suede shoes are permitted.
- Non-marking soles
- No fluorescent laces or panels)
- Free of colour
- No mesh or other non leather/Vinyl materials

Examples of acceptable shoes and socks



Examples of unacceptable shoes and socks



Acceptable Accessories



Acceptable Jewellery

- One (1) wrist watch.
- One earring (plain sleepers or studs) per ear (lower ear lobe only, no piercing is acceptable in any other part of the ear) for pierced ears. Studs are to be no larger than 5mm in diameter. Earrings must be silver or gold in colour.
- One necklace with religious significance may be worn if it is not visible (kept underneath the shirt).
- Medical bracelets/necklaces or medical identifiers (eg. Ribbons) are the only other forms of jewellery or accessories that are exempt from this policy.
- Other piercings or facial studs, including tongue studs of any kind are strictly prohibited and are not to be worn to school, during any school event, or when in school uniform. Any coverings or clear alternatives are not permitted.
- No other accessories or jewellery are to be worn.

The above jewellery standards apply to any occasion during or out of school hours including, but not limited to, where a student is at school, representing the school in any way, dressed in school uniform including uniforms for various sporting, extra-curricular or other programs where the school is represented by the student, or the school is on display in the community. The school will not be held liable for any damage/loss/theft of student or parent's personal items (eg. jewellery) whilst on school premises or at a school activity.

Tidy Hair and Makeup

All students are to be neat and tidy, well-groomed, and the following must be adhered to, at a minimum:

- Hairstyles must be neat, clean, tidy and well-maintained.
- Long hair (hair that is longer than collar length) is to be tied back.
- Hair must not be coloured or dyed a non-natural colour.
- Hairstyles such as mohawks, undercuts, tracks, rat's tails or shaved sections, are not permitted.
- Hair ties, ribbons, scrunchies and bows must be from the AISD uniform shop.
- Accessories are not permitted. These include, but are not limited to bandanas, beanies, other brightly coloured or patterned headwear or accessories.
- No makeup should be worn in the Primary or Junior Secondary School.
- Natural coloured nail polish may be worn.

PARENT DRESS CODE

We ask parents to dress respectfully and modestly when on campus, in line with KHDA guidelines.

Please wear:

- Clothing that covers shoulders and knees
- Clean, tidy clothes
- Shoes at all times, for safety

Please avoid:

- Revealing, tight, or see-through clothing
- Offensive graphics or language
- Dirty or unkempt items

Thank you for helping us maintain a respectful and culturally appropriate environment. For questions, please contact school administration or please see attached detailed policy



OUR WELLBEING & HOUSE PROGRAMME



Your child will be assigned to one of our school houses upon enrolment. Our house system fosters a strong sense of belonging, teamwork, and school spirit. Throughout the year, students will represent their house in a variety of events and activities, including Sports Day, inter-house competitions, and community-building initiatives. These events encourage healthy competition, leadership, and collaboration across year levels, creating meaningful connections and a positive school culture. House points are awarded for effort, sportsmanship, academic achievements, and positive behaviour, all contributing to the overall success of each house.

Bonza! Token Programme

At AIS, we celebrate and encourage positive student behaviour through the Bonza! Token Programme. Named by our Year 5 and 6 student leaders, "Bonza!" is inspired by the Aussie term meaning excellent, amazing, or great – a perfect reflection of the behaviours we aim to see throughout our school.

Students can earn Bonza tokens by demonstrating the school's core values, known as the 5 Cs: Curiosity, Courage, Citizenship, Courtesy, and Care. These values guide student behaviour and help foster a positive, inclusive, and respectful school environment. Whether it's showing kindness to a classmate, trying something new, or taking responsibility, Bonza tokens are a way to recognise and celebrate these everyday acts.

Once earned, students place their tokens into designated collection boxes located in key areas of the school. These locations are designed to make it easy for students to participate, especially as they move between classes and return from breaks.

Bonza tokens contribute to each student's House Points, helping build school spirit and encouraging teamwork across all year levels. Each week, our House Captains collect and count the tokens to update the overall house totals. During our weekly assemblies, tokens are also drawn at random from each house's collection, giving students the chance to win small prizes as an extra reward for their positive contributions.

The Bonza! Token Programme is just one of the many ways we strive to create a positive, respectful, and connected school environment.



WAKE AND SHAKE

Why do we do Wake and Shake?

Wake and Shake is a fun, energetic start to the day designed to get children moving, improve focus, and boost their mood before lessons begin. Physical activity in the morning helps wake up their bodies and minds, setting a positive tone for the rest of the day. It also builds a sense of community and encourages a healthy, active lifestyle from a young age.

Wake and Shake takes place every Wednesday from 7:50am to 8:00am in the Sports Hall during the summer months and outside during winter. If your child's classroom is empty when they arrive, they will be supported to move to the Sports Hall or The Green (depending on the weather).

DOJO POINTS

At AIS, Class Dojo points are used as a positive reinforcement system to encourage and reward classroom behaviours aligned with our school's core values – the 5 Cs: Curiosity, Courage, Citizenship, Courtesy, and Care.

Students earn Dojo points for displaying positive learning behaviours that reflect these values. This could include following instructions, asking or answering questions, staying focused during tasks, or helping a classmate. While each teacher may use the system in a way that best suits the needs of their class, the purpose remains consistent – to recognise and celebrate positive contributions to the classroom environment.

Each class has its own reward system linked to Dojo points. Once students reach a set number of points, they may receive an active reward – a special experience that reinforces positive behaviour in a fun and meaningful way. These rewards can include activities such as drawing time with a friend, outdoor play, sitting at the teacher's desk for the day, and many more options designed to motivate and engage students.

The Class Dojo system supports our whole-school approach to behaviour by reinforcing the 5 Cs in a way that is age-appropriate, consistent, and engaging for all learners.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SCHOOL PHOTO

Each child will have their photo taken on orientation day in school uniform for school records. Official School photos will occur in September or at the beginning of each term if not completed earlier.

ADMISSIONS DOCUMENTS

Students **cannot start school** until we have received the **Transfer Certificate** from their previous school or nursery (if transferring from within the UAE).

KHDA AGREEMENT

All parents are required to complete and sign the KHDA Parent-School Contract, which will be sent via SMS and email. If you need any help with this process, support will be available during orientation.



SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

At AIS, we value celebrating student success and fostering a strong sense of community. Every two weeks, we hold whole school assemblies where students come together to share in important updates, school spirit, and achievements. During these assemblies, selected students are recognised as "Stars of the Week" for demonstrating outstanding effort, kindness, improvement, or achievement in their learning. These assemblies are just for our students.

In addition to our regular assemblies, we host a special Awards Celebration at the end of each term. This event highlights the wide range of accomplishments our students have made throughout the term, whether academic, sporting, creative, or personal. It's a time to reflect on the hard work and progress of all students. Parents and guardians are warmly invited to attend these celebrations and be part of acknowledging and supporting their child's journey at school. We believe that recognising effort and achievement plays a key role in building student confidence and motivation.

FINANCE / TUITION FEES

Our Finance team is available to support with tuition fees and additional payments. Fees can be paid by bank transfer, cheque, or card at the office.

Payment dates

2025-2026 Tuition Fee Due Dates

Term 1 - 1 August 2025

Term 2 - 1 November 2025

Term 3 - 1 March 2026

Re-enrolment for 2026-2027 - 10 April 2026

Timely payment of re-enrolment deposit is essential to secure your child's place for the following academic year. Please note that if the re-enrolment deposit is not paid by the deadline, your child's seat will not be guaranteed and may be offered to a student on our waitlist.

If school fees are not paid, your child may not be able to participate in optional activities such as Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs), excursions, and special events. Timely payment ensures access to the full range of opportunities offered at AISD. Any concerns regarding finance please contact team at finance@aisdubai.ae

TRANSPORT

Our school buses serve a wide range of communities. Detailed bus routes, timings, and assigned stops will be confirmed before the start of the academic year. To confirm if we travel to your area and if the bus route is possible please email transport@aisdubai.ae

Bus fees

- One Way: 8,000aed
- Return: 10,000aed

Note: Fees are confirmed for the academic year and are subject to change for the following year.

If your child will be absent from the bus on any given day, please notify the bus nanny for your designated bus by WhatsApp and email at transport@aisdubai.ae and absence@aisdubai.ae



DAILY SCHOOL PREPARATION GUIDE

BEN'S FARMHOUSE - SCHOOL MEALS PROVIDER

Ben's Farmhouse is our official school meals provider.

How to access menus and complete the application process through the Spare app.

Downloading the app

- Download the App.
- Open the Spare App.
- Tap Sign Up or Log In, depending on whether you already have an account.

You will also receive a follow-up email with step-by-step instructions on how to set up and use the app to manage your child's meal orders.



- Nursery Students: a hot lunch meal is included in the tuition fees and served family style
- PreKG Students: a hot lunch meal is an additional charge and served family style
- KG1 to Year 2 Students: meals can be ordered through the Spare App and will be delivered directly to the classroom.
- Years 3 to Years 12 Students: will receive a canteen card, which can be topped up online. They can use this card to purchase meals and snacks from the school canteen. Parents are still welcome to preorder from the Spare App.

All online meal orders must be submitted by 2:00pm the day before. Please note that cash is not accepted at the canteen—students must use their canteen cards for purchases.



WATER BOTTLES

At AIS Dubai, we prioritise student health and well-being by encouraging hydration throughout the school day. All students are required to bring a clearly labelled, refillable water bottle to school each day. Only plain water is permitted in water bottles (no juice, flavored drinks or soft drinks). This ensures we promote healthy habits and maintain a clean learning environment, especially in our classrooms and shared areas. Water bottles should be spill-proof and age-appropriate. Students have access to water refill stations around the school. Please ensure your child's bottle is cleaned daily and replaced if damaged or leaking.

BIRTHDAYS

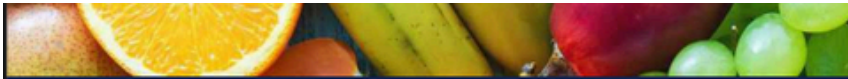
We love celebrating your child's birthday at school! However, as we are a nut-free school and mindful of allergies, we kindly ask that you do not send in cakes or food items. If you wish to celebrate, you are welcome to send small party bags with non-food items such as stickers, pencils, or small toys to share with classmates.

CRUNCH & SIP

To further promote healthy habits, AIS Dubai incorporates a daily Crunch & Sip break during the mid-morning period for ELC, Prep/KG2 to Years 3. This short, structured break gives students a chance to re-energise with a small portion of fresh fruit or vegetables ("crunch") and water ("sip").

Please pack a small, separate container with cut fruit or vegetables that your child can access easily, and ensure they bring a clearly labelled water bottle containing only water.

Crunch & Sip helps improve focus, maintains energy levels, and supports healthy eating habits throughout the school day.



Why fruit and vegetables?

As a group, fruit and vegetables are rich in essential vitamins and minerals. They also provide other nutrients important for growth and development, including dietary fibre.



Why is Water so important ?

Not drinking enough fluid can quickly cause dehydration. This can lead to headaches and irritability, particularly in children. Thirst is not a good indicator – by the time children feel thirsty, they are already dehydrated. Allowing and reminding students to drink water in class helps them to drink more and stay hydrated.

Top tips to support Crunch & Sip

- ✓ **In the school bag everyday**
Include:
 - 1 An extra piece of fruit or vegetables.
 - 2 A small clear plastic water bottle.
- ✓ **Be a role model**
Let your children see that you eat and enjoy fruit and vegetables and drink water daily. Children are influenced by family eating habits.
- ✓ **Plan ahead**
Have prewashed, easy-to-eat, Crunch & Sip snacks ready to take to school.
- ✓ **Buy in season**
Fruit and vegetables that are in season taste great, are good quality and value for money.
- ✓ **Involve your children**
Research indicates that children who are actively involved in either growing or buying of their fruit and vegetables are more likely to try new foods.

Again, if you can't grow your own, take your children shopping and allow them to choose their fruit and vegetables to take to school is the next best thing.



CRUNCH & SIP

For Happier Healthier Children



Parent Information



Why fruit and vegetables?

Every child deserves the best start in life. Good eating habits formed during childhood help children grow well and protect them against disease in later life, including heart disease, diabetes and some cancers.

The proportion of overweight and obese children has increased steadily in the past 30 years. With three in ten children now overweight or obese.

Too many children are not eating enough of the foods essential for good health. Fruit and vegetable consumption is particularly low.

Australian government research for primary school aged children shows that only 10% of children eat enough vegetables per day while 70% of children eat the appropriate amount of fruit per day.

What is Crunch & Sip?

Crunch & Sip is a set time to eat fruit or salad. Vegetables and drink water in the classroom. Students refuel with fruit or vegetables and rehydrate with water during the morning or afternoon – assisting physical and mental performance and concentration.

Why have Crunch & Sip?

Crunch & Sip encourages fruit and vegetable consumption and the drinking of water.

Schools model healthy eating in the classroom, reinforcing nutrition education.

Crunch & Sip gives children the opportunity to eat the piece of fruit or vegetable that might otherwise be left in their lunch box, or not eaten at all.

What can parents do?

For Crunch & Sip, parents need to provide their children with:

- A piece of fruit or salad, vegetables**
- A small clear plastic water bottle.**

Crunch & Sip should not replace the fruit and vegetables eaten at recess or lunch.

What is allowed?

Fruit

- 1 Fresh. (all types, whole or chopped.)
- 2 Canned. (in water or juice, not syrup)
- 3 Dried. (please limit)

Dried fruit should be limited as it concentrates sugar [fructose] and tends to cling to teeth, increasing the risk of tooth decay.

Vegetables

All fresh vegetables like carrots, celery sticks or cherry tomatoes.

Water

Only plain water. (no added flavouring)



Parent Information

LIBRARY

Primary students are required to purchase a red library bag from our uniform shop. Library lessons take place once a week, so please refer to your child's timetable to ensure they bring their library bag on the correct day.

Students may borrow a new book only if their previous book has been returned and there are no outstanding books. If a book is not returned or is lost, a replacement fee will be charged. In such cases, your child will bring home a notice for payment. Thank you for helping us maintain our library collection.

ONCE A WEEK ON LIBRARY DAY

- Library Bag – Students visit the library once a week. Please refer to your child's timetable to check their designated library day.

WHAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO BRING TO SCHOOL

To help your child be prepared for each school day, please ensure they bring the following items:

EVERY DAY

- Backpack – Please provide a suitable backpack for your child to carry their belongings.
- School Hat – AIS Dubai follows a No Hat, No Play policy. A school hat is required every day for outdoor activities.
- Water Bottle – Only water is allowed; please send a clearly labelled water bottle each day.
- Lunchbox – If your child is not ordering from the school meals provider, please pack a healthy lunch.
- Laptop – Students from **Years 3 to 10** are required to bring their laptops to school each day, fully charged and ready for use.
- Sunscreen - Please apply sunscreen to your child before school, especially in warmer months, as students spend time outdoors daily. You may also send a clearly labelled sunscreen for reapplication. Please ensure your child knows how to apply it independently, as staff cannot do this for them.

TERM 1 & 3

- Swim Bag – On swimming days, ensure your child brings a swim bag with all necessary gear (as outlined in the swimming section).

Please label all items clearly with your child's name to avoid any loss.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost Property is located in the Atrium. If your child has lost an item, it will be placed in this room once found. Please note that some items may take a little time to arrive there, so we encourage you to check regularly. This is why we kindly ask all families to clearly label their child's belongings, so we can promptly return lost items to the correct owner.

EXCURSIONS AND INCURSIONS

Excursions are an important and enriching part of our curriculum at AIS Dubai. They provide students with real-world learning experiences that complement classroom instruction and help deepen their understanding of topics across various subjects. Excursions are carefully planned to be age-appropriate, educational, and safe, with all necessary risk assessments completed in advance. Parents will be notified in writing of any upcoming excursions, including details on location, purpose, transport arrangements, and any costs involved. Consent forms must be signed and returned for students to participate.

Incursions are on-site learning experiences where external providers visit the school to deliver engaging and educational sessions directly to students. These activities are designed to enrich the curriculum and provide hands-on learning opportunities without leaving the school grounds. Incursions may include science workshops, cultural presentations, guest speakers, performances, or interactive demonstrations. They are carefully selected to support classroom learning and are age-appropriate and meaningful. Parents will be informed in advance of any incursions.

Both excursions and incursions are covered in the excursion/incursion fee.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ECA'S)

We offer a wide range of paid and free Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs), including sports, music, drama, robotics, and more. Sign-up information will be shared during the first week of each term.

Key Details to Remember – Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs)

- ECAs will run from 3:00pm to 4:00pm every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Activities begin in Week 3 of each term and conclude two/three weeks before the end of each term.
- Students may join one ECA per day, so please choose carefully!
- Many ECAs have unlimited spots, but early sign-up is encouraged to secure your preferred options.
- Sibling Club is available exclusively for Pre-KG and KG1 students who have older siblings participating in ECAs.
- Once the sign-up deadline has passed, no changes or additions can be made to ECA selections.
- If your child uses the school bus, please note that bus transportation is not available after ECAs, so alternative pickup arrangements will need to be made.

AIS DUBAI CLINIC

STAY AT HOME IF UNWELL POLICY

To help keep our school community healthy, we kindly ask that children stay home if they are feeling unwell. This includes symptoms such as fever, coughing, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, or any signs of contagious illness. Keeping your child home when they are sick not only helps them rest and recover more quickly, but also prevents the spread of illness to other students and staff. If your child becomes unwell during the school day, you will be contacted to collect them. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and healthy environment for all.

PARENT APPROVAL FOR MEDICATION

In Dubai, school clinic staff are authorised to administer medication with parental consent. If your child has a medical condition such as asthma, allergies, or requires emergency medication like inhalers, nebulisers, or an EpiPen, it is essential that parents supply these medications to the school clinic. All medication must be provided in its original packaging with a valid expiry date. In the event that medication needs to be administered during the school day, clinic staff will always contact parents beforehand. This ensures your child's safety and wellbeing in case of an emergency.

DOCTOR'S CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS - DHA GUIDELINES

To ensure the health and safety of our school community, the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) requires a doctor's certificate under the following circumstances:

- If your child is absent for more than 2 consecutive days due to illness, a doctor's certificate should be submitted explaining the nature of the illness and confirming they are fit to return.
- If your child has had an infectious illness (e.g. chickenpox, COVID-19, hand, foot & mouth disease), a doctor's medical clearance certificate must be provided before returning to school. The certificate must confirm that your child is no longer contagious.
- Extended Absence Due to Illness / school staff will advise if this is required.
- If your child requires prescribed medication during the school day, a doctor's prescription or certificate must accompany the medication, along with parent consent.

General Note

Please keep your child at home if they show symptoms such as fever, vomiting, or diarrhea. They should only return after being symptom-free for 24–48 hours or once cleared by a doctor.

All medical certificates should be submitted to the school clinic: clinic@aisdubai.ae

If your child will be away from school for an extended period, it's important that the school is informed in advance so we can maintain accurate attendance records and support your child's learning. For all long absences, please email absence@aisdubai.ae, complete the absence form available in the weekly newsletter or on the Parent Portal, and notify your child's teacher directly via email. Keeping all relevant staff informed ensures a smooth transition before and after the absence.

AIS COMMUNICATION

Who to Contact for Concerns

At AIS Dubai, we encourage open communication and aim to resolve concerns promptly and effectively.

- Class-related concerns: Please contact your child’s teacher directly.
- Welfare-related matters: Speak first with your child’s teacher or the school counsellor.
- Curriculum-related questions: Begin by discussing with the relevant teacher.

If you need to speak with your child’s teacher, we kindly ask that you email them through the designated platform—whether that be Early Works for Nursery-KG1, Seesaw Prep/-Year 3, or for upper years the teachers school email. While we understand mornings can be a convenient time, please note that teachers begin lessons at 8:00am and are actively engaged with students, so are unavailable for conversations at that time unless an appointment has been scheduled with them.

NEW STUDENT SUPPORT

ELC & PRIMARY

- First Day of School: At the end of the first day, your child’s teacher will briefly meet you at pick-up to provide a short overview of how the day went and share any important initial feedback.
- After the First Week: A short 10-minute parent-teacher meeting will be scheduled during the second week of school, between 7:30 am and 8:00 am, on a day that suits you. This is a standard meeting offered to all parents at the beginning of the school year to help establish a positive home-school connection.
- Three-Week Follow-Up: If you would like further follow-up beyond the initial meeting, you are welcome to book an additional time with your child’s teacher. Please ensure you have the teacher’s contact details to arrange and confirm a suitable time.

SECONDARY

- After the First Week: A short 10-minute parent-teacher meeting will be scheduled during the second week of school, between 7:30 am and 8:00 am, on a day that suits you. This is a standard meeting offered to all parents at the beginning of the school year to help establish a positive home-school connection.

If any concern remains unresolved, you may escalate it to the appropriate Head of School or Line Leader:

- Early Learning: Director of Early Learning – Ms Sanobia
- Primary School: Head of Primary – Ms Linda
- Head of School Improvement - Ms Surj
- Head of MOE / Head of Department- Mr Sulemain
- Secondary School: Head of Secondary/Principal – Ms Karen

Please view our [Concerns and Complaint Policy](#) for more details.

TEACHER COMMUNICATIONS

Early Works (Nursery to KG1)

- Early Works (Nursery to KG1) provides regular updates throughout the day, keeping you informed about your child's activities and experiences.

Seesaw (Prep/KG2 to Year 2)

- Seesaw (Prep/KG2 to Year 2) is used for weekly updates and important communications, including notices about upcoming events and classroom highlights.

Google Classroom (Year 3 to Year 10), and email

- Google Classroom (Year 3 to Year 10) is updated regularly and accessible via the students' laptops, allowing parents to stay informed about classroom activities, assignments, and announcements.

PARENT PORTAL

The Parent Portal is your central hub for staying informed and engaged with your child's education at AIS Dubai. Through the portal, you can access important information such as academic reports, attendance records, school announcements, event calendars, and curriculum updates. It also provides a convenient way to communicate with teachers, submit absence notifications, and update personal details. We encourage all families to regularly check the portal to stay up to date with school news and your child's progress. Instructions for accessing the Parent Portal will be shared at the beginning of the school year.

WHATSAPP GROUPS FOR PARENTS

We have official WhatsApp groups for Pre-KG to Year 6 managed by the school with a parent representative. These groups are designed to streamline communication and ensure parents receive important school updates and announcements promptly.

You will receive a detailed email with the link to join your child's year group. Please note, the AIS Dubai WhatsApp groups are the only official groups managed by the school, and all members are invited directly by AIS Dubai.

SCHOOL CALENDAR & EVENTS

An Academic Calendar is available to view on the school newsletter and on this document which will outline term dates, holidays. In the newsletter save the date section includes upcoming school events such as parent-teacher conferences and celebrations. Please note that school events are announced a minimum of 1 month prior to ensure flexibility.

PARENT TEACHER MEETING / STUDENT-LED CELEBRATIONS

Parents are welcome to meet with our staff, via appointment at any time. Please be mindful that our team are timetabled, therefore are only available at certain times throughout the day or before the commencement of the school day and after school has ended for the day.

Parent teacher meetings occur at the start of each academic year to support the establishment of a positive and supportive relationship from the outset. This meeting allows parents to share any relevant information or discuss specific needs to ensure a smooth transition into the school year. Our staff organise check-ins for families who join mid-year to support their child's successful integration.

Learning celebrations are held throughout the year, which highlight student agency and ownership of learning. Students showcase their progress, goals, and achievements to their families, fostering pride, confidence, and engagement in their educational journey.

REPORTING

Comprehensive academic reports are sent home with your child at the end of each term. These reports provide valuable insight into your child's progress across all subject areas, including their academic achievement, effort, and personal development.

Each report outlines how your child is performing in relation to year-level expectations and may also include personalised comments from their teachers. These comments highlight areas of strength, as well as any areas where additional support or improvement is needed. This ensures that families have a clear understanding of how their child is progressing both academically and socially throughout the school year.

We encourage parents to take the time to review the report with their child, celebrate their efforts, and discuss any goals for the next term. If you have questions or would like to follow up on anything in the report, we welcome you to arrange a meeting with your child's teacher. Working together as a team is key to supporting student success.



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