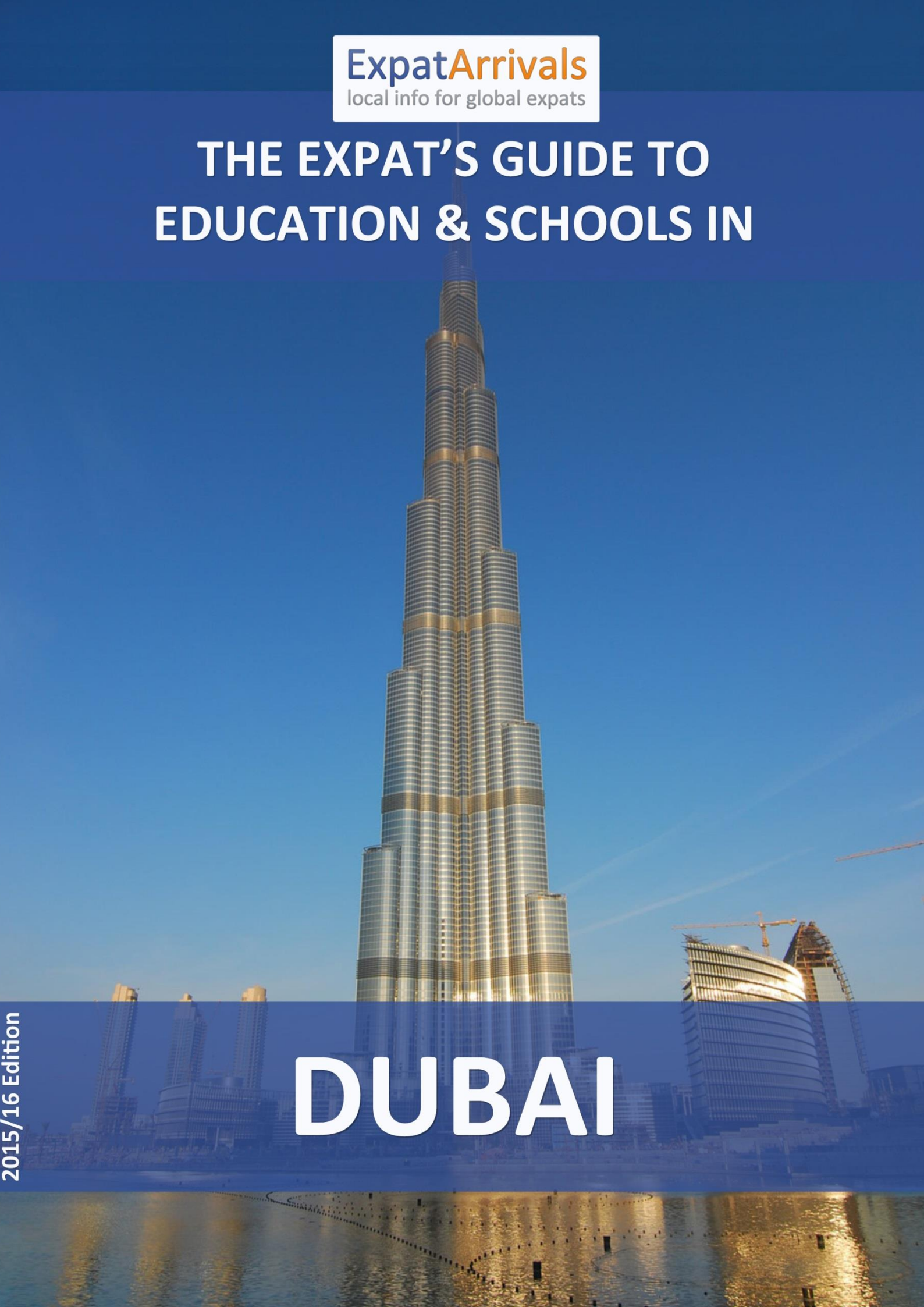


ExpatArrivals
local info for global expats

THE EXPAT'S GUIDE TO EDUCATION & SCHOOLS IN

DUBAI

2015/16 Edition



CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	3
PRIVATE SCHOOLS.....	4
ADMISSIONS AND ENROLMENT	4
TUITION AND FEES.....	6
SCHOOL TERMS AND SCHOOL DAYS.....	6
LOGISTICS: SCHOOL UNIFORMS, BUS SERVICES AND TEXTBOOKS	7
HOMESCHOOLING	7
NURSERY SCHOOLS.....	7
TERTIARY EDUCATION.....	8
TIPS FOR CHOOSING A SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD	8
THE EXPERIENTIAL ELEMENT	8
CURRICULUM	9
TEACHERS AND CLASS SIZES	9
PROXIMITY	9
NURSERY SCHOOLS.....	10
Alphabet Street Nursery	10
British Orchard Nursery	10
Children's Oasis Nursery	11
Dovecote Nurseries.....	11
Emirates British Nursery	11
Emerald City Nursery	11
Humpty Dumpty Nursery.....	12
Jebel Ali Nursery	12
Jumeirah International Nursery School	12
Kangaroo Kids Nursery.....	12
Kids Cottage Nursery	13
Kids Island Nursery & Cocoon Nursery	13
Little Land Nursery & Montessori Centre	13
SuperKids Nursery.....	14
Wonder Years Nursery.....	14
Yellow Brick Road Nursery.....	14
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS.....	15

American School of Dubai.....	15
Bradenton Preparatory Academy	17
Cambridge International School, Dubai.....	17
Clarion School Dubai.....	18
Deira International School	19
Dubai American Academy.....	20
Dubai British School	20
Dubai College	21
Dubai English Speaking School (DESS)	21
Emirates International School.....	22
English College, Dubai.....	22
Foremarke School	23
Jumeirah English Speaking School	25
Jumeirah College.....	25
The Millennium School	26
GEMS Modern Academy.....	26
Nord Anglia International School Dubai	26
Raffles International School.....	28
Regent International School	29
Repton School, Dubai.....	29
GEMS Royal Dubai School.....	30
GEMS Wellington International School	30
The Westminster School.....	31
The Winchester School	31
GEMS World Academy.....	32
FOR MORE INFORMATION.....	32

INTRODUCTION

Dubai is the second largest state of the United Arab Emirates after Abu Dhabi, but was once a barren landscape in the oil-rich Gulf. It has developed into a thriving metropolis, and has lured large numbers of expats with the promise of tax-free wealth and luxury living for more than a decade.

Its international appeal is largely due to the visionary leadership of its current ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, who has played a role in constructing many of the emirate's best known landmarks. Unlike many other Middle Eastern countries, expats can also buy property and own land in Dubai, which further entices international investment.

A number of international schools in Dubai cater to the large expat community which calls the emirate home, and most of them have high standards. Many follow the English school system and offer Key Stage (KS), General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) and A Levels, while others follow the US, Indian or United Arab Emirates (UAE) public school curricula.

The UAE also has a local syllabus requirement that even international schools have to adhere to, requiring Arabic to be taught at all schools, although students usually only have to achieve basic proficiency. In some cases, students will also learn about the Islam and UAE social studies.

No matter where you're moving, few tasks can feel more daunting than selecting the best place for your student to continue their education, and the questions can feel endless: What curriculum is best? Will my child get the attention he needs? Will she be able to integrate back into our home system? Will he be best prepared for college entrance exams? Will she be safe? Can I afford it? Will he make friends easily? Will she overcome the language barrier?

Expats will need to consider what their priorities are when choosing a school, and what kind of learning environment will best benefit their children.

School fees have sharply risen in recent years – to the extent that many parents choose to homeschool their children or have them schooled in their home country. British, American and International Baccalaureate (IB) schools tend to be the most expensive, with fees at some schools peaking at over 80,000 AED a year. Expat packages with school allowances are less common than they used to be, so having a salary large enough to cover costs is imperative.

Expats on good salaries or with education allowances have plenty of schools to choose from. But securing a spot at their school of choice will likely be one of their biggest challenges.

Some of the most popular choices for expat primary education include the GEMS Jumeirah Primary School and the Jumeirah English Speaking School, while Dubai College and Wellington International School are among the best secondary schools. There are also several international universities with campuses in Dubai for expats considering studying at tertiary level.

The Expat Arrivals Schools Guide for Dubai sheds some light on the emirate's school system and gives some of the all-important insights needed to make the transition abroad as seamless as possible.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Expat parents have some excellent education options for their children in Dubai, as long as they start the process early.

There are more than 160 private schools that adhere to at least one of 16 curricula in the emirate. Such an intimidating range of options caters to a mushrooming expat community with limited access to the public school system.

The quality of facilities, teaching styles, curricula, demographics and teaching languages vary immensely between schools. The best of them offer a brand of education that would give students a fair chance at being accepted at top -level universities anywhere in the world.

Most expat parents end up choosing an institution that's similar to schools in their home country, but it's still important they research their options beforehand.

Although parents can compare the quality of schools through standardised test results, the Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau, under authority of the Dubai Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA), evaluates all schools in the emirate and publishes its results. Of the private schools evaluated, 14 were rated as 'Outstanding' while 59 were determined to be "Good" as opposed to "Acceptable" or "Unsatisfactory".

Children in Dubai start going to school at three going on four, although schools usually accept first-year applications for children who are four, turning five. Students in Dubai finish their final year of school 18 years old, at which point they can apply to tertiary institutions.

More schools have been built in recent years, but seat scarcity is still a common complaint, especially for parents trying to find places for students between three and six years old. Parents should make any and all attempts to settle the school situation first and foremost, preferably well before they move.

ADMISSIONS AND ENROLMENT

Even after parents narrow down their choices, Dubai is infamous for its seat shortages. The waiting lists at some schools can contain 1,000 students, and kindergarten seats can be booked for the next four years. Some elite schools advise parents to place their children on waiting lists before they're even born.

School admissions generally open in January, and physical sign-up days are usually hosted in the first week of February – although the dates naturally vary depending on the institution. In some cases, it's been said that queues start the day before admission opens. Regardless of whether there's truth to this statement, getting in line as early as possible is a good idea.

For the most part, schools make it straightforward for parents to find out when and how they need to apply through their websites. Parents who need of more information can usually contact the schools' admissions secretaries directly.

But when it comes to enrolment, some schools are very selective. Some give preference to students of a particular nationality, or require that students pass an entrance exam. In other cases, companies may reserve places for their employees' children in advance.

Expats will generally want to make sure that they have the following documents on hand in order to apply for admission at the school of their choice:

- Eight recent passport-sized photographs
- Copies of the child's passport and UAE visa
- Copies of both parents' passports and UAE visas (if visas have yet to be granted, an employer's letter stating that they are being processed)
- Original and copy of the child's birth certificate
- Originals and copies of the child's report cards from their current school for the current school year
- Originals and copies of the child's report cards from the previous two years
- Immunisation records and medical history
- An original reference letter from the child's current school advising of their academic performance and behaviour, complete with school stamp and official signature
- An original transfer certificate (to be completed by the child's current school) including date of enrolment, year of placement, date the child left the school, the school stamp and an official signature.

Note that if the student's current school isn't in the USA, Europe, Canada, Australia or the UAE, the transfer certificate and most recent report will need to be attested by the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UAE embassy in that country.

Some schools only grant admission during a designated period while others have rolling admissions policies and grant entrance whenever spaces open throughout the year. Even if can't get a seat at their school of choice at first, there is reason to be optimistic. After all, Dubai is a transient place, and spots can open up just as quickly as they can close.

That said, it's crucial for expats to apply to more than one school so that their child at least has a seat *somewhere* at the start of the year, even if it means losing money to admissions fees.

Expats needing to move to the emirate without first having found a space at a school should keep in constant contact with school administrators – one never knows when a family has to repatriate at the drop of a hat. Word should also be put out on expat forums and networks, and they should take advantage of any company contacts that can facilitate the process.

TUITION AND FEES

Costs vary from one institution to the next, and tend to increase as the student ages. But annual tuition for private schools in Dubai is generally expensive.

Parents are also usually required to pay an enrolment fee and/or deposit (usually no more than 10,000 AED), part of which is often refundable. They may also have to buy supplementary material like uniforms, bus services, stationery and textbooks.

It's important that expats factor all of these costs into their annual budget, especially as the concept of a 'lucrative expat package' is increasingly becoming a thing of the past. Some companies still provide education allowances for families with children, and others will grant a general living allowance that's inflated to cover school expenses, but many companies don't – in which case their basic salary will need to be large enough to cover the costs. But they shouldn't be afraid to negotiate for an allowance, since the worst an employer can do is refuse.

Private schools usually require payment in instalments before the beginning of each school term, although it can happen that the year's fees will need to be paid up front.

SCHOOL TERMS AND SCHOOL DAYS

All schools in the emirates have to comply with a uniform three-term school calendar that's laid out by the UAE Ministry of Education. Dates differ slightly from year to year, but the general structure remains the same and students have to attend school for 189 days in the year. Thankfully, the dates leave space for expats to escape the heat of summer in August, as well as allowing for an end of the year holiday.

- Autumn term – early September to early December
- Spring term – early January to late March
- Summer term – mid-April to early July

Most schools have on-site cafeterias where students can eat lunch brought from home, or where they can purchase a cooked meal in cash. Students are generally not allowed to leave school premises during this time.

The school week runs from Sunday to Thursday, and school hours vary depending on the institution, but do not start earlier than 7.30am and generally don't run later than 2.45pm.

LOGISTICS: SCHOOL UNIFORMS, BUS SERVICES AND TEXTBOOKS

Even if their new school upholds their home country's curriculum, teaching language and education philosophy, there will most likely be a few nuances that will take some getting used to.

For one, schools in Dubai require students to wear uniforms, which can usually be bought at a school shop or designated school uniform stores. Many schools frown upon unhealthy snacks and some won't allow fizzy drinks or sweets onto the campus at all.

Additionally, parents may need to purchase materials that aren't easy to come by in the UAE, but which are necessary for the children's education.

Finally, some schools may offer a bus service at an extra charge but many don't – leaving expat parents to make their way through the heavy traffic, congestion and poor driving practices to drop their children off.

HOMESCHOOLING

Though homeschooling was virtually unheard of in the Middle East until fairly recently – Dubai included – there is a network of parents in the city who educate their children at home with the help of online academic systems and support groups.

But it shouldn't be seen as an alternative for parents trying to gain admission for their children into their school of their choice. Officially, the Ministry of Education doesn't recognise homeschooling, and while they don't prevent it, they also don't regulate it. In practice, sometimes the Ministry will recognise a child's homeschooling in some cases, but in other cases it won't – meaning that children often need to repeat grades if they enrol in a UAE private school.

Parents considering homeschooling their child in Dubai should carefully weigh the pros and cons of their decision, and consult with organisations that offer support to parents who choose to homeschool their children in the emirate. One of the most prominent among these is the Dubai and Northern Emirates Homeschooling Association which can be found online.

NURSERY SCHOOLS

Expat parents with children too young to start primary school will find numerous options for nursery schools in Dubai (there are even a few Montessori nursery schools). But they should be prepared to pay almost as much for the more popular nurseries as they would for a regular school.

Individual nursery schools will have their own age requirements will have their own requirements, but they broadly accept children from as young as three months to five years old. Most schools open for four to five hours in the morning and close at lunchtime from Sunday to Thursday. But some allow parents to choose how many days a week their children will attend, allow early drop-offs, provide

lunches, or have optional afternoon programmes for working parents. Again, expats will need to check with each school.

Alternatively, parents who decide to keep their little ones at home should be aware that most playgroups in Dubai are suited to younger toddlers. There are plenty of other parents in the same boat, however, and many activities that can be enjoyed together. A parent-run playgroup is a good way to make friends and occupy one's children.

TERTIARY EDUCATION

Expats are entitled to pay to attend one of the emirate's tertiary institutions, but most parents send their kids back home for university. Still, a growing number of expats receive their higher education in Dubai.

Several colleges and universities offer foreign-accredited courses in the arts, technology, engineering, sciences, business and management. The Dubai International Academic City complex hosts 27 academic institutions – many of which are branches of foreign universities – that offer more than 400 programmes. The smaller, more established Dubai Knowledge Village in the heart of New Dubai also houses a number of tertiary institutions.

Several London-based institutions have MBA programmes in Dubai, including the London Business School and the Warwick Business School, in addition to numerous local schools like the CBL Dubai Business School.

TIPS FOR CHOOSING A SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD

Whether a seasoned expat who has had to sift through countless school choices or a first-time assignee who's never had to do much more than pack lunches, it's always a good idea to consider a few key principles when deciding about a child's education.

Luckily, the choices are narrowed down because foreigners don't have access to public education in Dubai; but there are still many decisions to be made when it comes to the curriculum, teaching philosophy, extra-curricular facilities and the general experience offered by individual schools.

THE EXPERIENTIAL ELEMENT

This is not typically the first thing on an expat parent's mind, but it is an important element that's worth serious consideration. Relocation can be challenging for young students and it isn't strange for parents to ask how moving might affect their children's lives. It is a normal anxiety that many expats deal with, and the best way for parents to address it is to think carefully about their child's preparedness for a new school context and their ability to enjoy, succeed and grow.

Anything radically different from a child's previous experience must be considered with great care. It is important for parents who plan on moving overseas to evaluate their children's needs and abilities and try to find a school that best aligns with their priorities. If a child has special needs, parents need to be certain that a prospective school can cater for them. Similarly, it is important for a school to offer courses or activities that develop and foster a child's interests and talents.

CURRICULUM

Most expats tend to choose a curriculum that aligns with that of their home country, but it is also important to make sure that the curriculum is challenging enough for their children. This point is central to the decision-making process, especially for parents with kids in secondary school approaching the time when college applications begin.

Those with older kids should find out about the standardised test the curriculum is geared toward as well as which diploma is granted upon graduation. It is worth noting, for instance, that the International Baccalaureate curriculum is accepted in many countries.

Besides these fundamentals, it is also important to have a close look at the extra-curricular options a school offers. The best institutions will have a balanced blend of sports programmes, encourage their students to take part in community activities, and offer a range of cultural activities such as art, debating and music.

TEACHERS AND CLASS SIZES

A school is only as good as its teachers, who are arguably the determining factor that influences a child's education and development. Though it can be difficult to find out how 'good' a teacher is, there are some basic questions that parents can ask to draw some general conclusions.

Find out about the qualifications the school requires its teachers to have and whether it encourages them to take part in professional development courses. Find out about the average teacher turnover and, above all else, find out about the average class size. Even the best teachers can become swallowed by a giant sea of eager students.

Lastly, visit the school and meet the teacher to find out how friendly, enthusiastic and knowledgeable they are about the school and its curriculum.

PROXIMITY

It's essential for expat parents to consider their geographic proximity and travel time to and from school. Although traffic isn't as congested as destinations like Bangkok and Beijing, it still exists and long commutes with little ones in the back seat can be challenging. Dubai is considered to be the most

congested city in the Middle East, and spending hours every day commuting to and from work isn't unusual.

Furthermore, some local drivers are notorious for speeding and recklessness, and thick fog presents an additional danger. Avoiding freeways and spending as little time behind the wheel as possible can reduce a lot of tension.

Expats who can't avoid living far away from their children's school should find out if it has a bus transport system that goes past where they live – but these services usually cost extra.

NURSERY SCHOOLS

There are numerous nursery schools in Dubai, including schools that offer alternative learning models like the Montessori approach. Popular nurseries can cost as much as regular schools and have long waiting lists, so expats should enquire as soon as possible.

Some of the most prominent nursery schools in Dubai include:

Alphabet Street Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Alphabet Nursery is divided into three age groups, including Toddlers (14 months to two years), Nursery (two to three years) and Foundation (three to four years and over), each with age-appropriate classrooms that promote children's creative interaction with their surroundings and teachers. This is a truly international nursery which embraces a mix of Montessori and Early Years (British) curriculum education programmes to encourage positive, stimulating growth and development, free expression and healthy communication skills. All staff members are qualified in First Aid. There is also a school bus with well-trained, responsible staff. Parents are encouraged to visit the nursery at any time.

British Orchard Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

The British Orchard Nursery is run by UK-educated staff and is a well-equipped facility complete with sand pit, baby ball room, music and movement room, library, swimming pool, indoor and outdoor play areas, themed classrooms, and even a gym and fitness centre. There's also CCTV to allow parents to be part of their little ones' school day from home. Children are divided into five age groups from six months to four years, with classes based on the English curriculum's Foundation Stage. Activities are based on the understanding that kids learn through play, so the school day is fun and multi-modal.

Children's Oasis Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Children's Oasis Nursery opened in 2002 in Umm Suqeim, with additional branches in Burj Dubai and Palm Jumeirah. The school accepts children from three months up to four years old. Children are divided into four age-specific groups. The school aims to encourage children to believe in themselves and grow into confident, caring individuals. Daily activities are aimed at stimulating each child's physical, emotional, social and intellectual growth while remaining fun and exciting.

Dovecote Nurseries

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Dovecote Nurseries are a group of premium quality nursery and childcare facilities in Dubai. They follow the British Early Years Foundation Stage 0 to 5 and offer the same standard of care and educational experience that parents would expect to find in any accredited British nursery. However, Dovecote Nurseries are suitable for children of all nationalities. Staff are UK trained and qualified, and the schools accept children from one to four years old and are feeders for Repton School and Foremarke School. Dovecote Nurseries are designed and resourced to the highest standards to provide the very best childcare and pre-school preparation. They believe in giving children limitless opportunities to learn through imagination, creativity and play, while offering parents the peace of mind that comes from knowing their children are receiving childcare of the highest standard. Dovecote has strong ethical, environmental and moral commitments that guide its whole approach to childcare.

Emirates British Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

The Emirates British Nursery is a popular nursery for children aged three months to three years, with separate branches in Mirdif and Umm Sequim. The school follows the British curriculum's Early Years programme and aims to provide a holistic approach to teaching and learning where each child's talents and potential are recognised and nurtured. Teaching staff are multilingual and there is an in-house nurse. Children are divided into four themed age-specific groups, each with its own learning area and age-specific equipment and facilities.

Emerald City Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English and Arabic

Emerald City Nursery is a popular nursery in Jumeirah 2 and is part of the Beautiful Mind Nurseries group, which has four other schools in Dubai. The curriculum is a combination of the British Early Years Foundation Stage, the New Zealand Early Learning programme and Montessori teaching methods.

The school accepts children from two months to four years old. Teachers are all trained in First Aid and are highly qualified. There is also a CCTV for parents to monitor their little ones from home.

Humpty Dumpty Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Humpty Dumpty Nursery was established in 1991. With branches in Al Bateen and Khalifa City A, the nursery provides full and part-time care for children between the ages of one and four years in small, well-supervised and age-appropriate groups. It provides a secure and caring environment designed to nurture a child's social development while learning through play, social interaction, self-discovery and self-expression. The curriculum is a British based, Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum which is both formulative and progressive, and supports children in reaching developmental milestones and age-appropriate learning objectives.

Jebel Ali Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

The Jebel Ali Nursery Group was established in 1976, making it one of the oldest and best-loved British nurseries in Dubai. The school prides itself on being a friendly family nursery with good facilities in beautiful settings – with branches in Marina Village, Meadows Village, Umm Sequeim, Dubai Healthcare City, Lakes Village and Arabian Ranches Village. Through the British Early Years curriculum, the school aims to allow children to fulfil their potential and grow in knowledge and confidence.

Jumeirah International Nursery School

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

At the Jumeirah International Nursery School, teaching is based on the British Early Years Foundation Stage of the English National Curriculum. The school accepts children from six weeks to 4 years old and there are four age-specific groups. The school's excellent facilities are custom-designed to be stimulating and fun for young children and include bright classrooms, a bike track, a water play area, soft ball pit and a library. There is also a transport system available for children upwards of three years old.

Kangaroo Kids Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

With branches in Burj Dubai and Umm Suqeim, Kangaroo Kids Nursery focuses on customised learning to fulfil each child's potential, recognising that each child is unique. The curriculum is based on the

knowledge that children learn through play, social interaction and hands-on activities, including field trips, games and songs. The nursery campuses are well-equipped with stimulating classrooms, shaded areas, a library with computers, indoor gym, heated swimming pool and CCTV so parents can watch their little ones from home.

Kids Cottage Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Kids Cottage Nursery accepts children from two months to four years old. The school's educational approach is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage, developed to foster independence, confidence, self-esteem and a love for learning. Its experienced and well-trained teachers provide a fun, stimulating environment where art, music and movement are integrated into the daily routine. The school is a spacious, custom-designed facility in the heart of Jumeirah, with separate, well-lit and well-equipped classrooms, a physical education room and a large outdoor play area with AstroTurf, grass and a sandpit.

Kids Island Nursery & Cocoon Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

The school follows the British curriculum's Early Years Foundation Stage programme and accepts children from nine months to four years old. Kid's Island School and its sister school, Cocoon Nursery, are on separate campuses but both are in walking distance of each other in Dubai's Umm Suqeim area. The campuses are custom-built, bright and spacious and include a gym, outdoor play areas, activity room, library and playrooms. They also host fun holiday camps during vacations, which follow the same schedule as the school term.

Little Land Nursery & Montessori Centre

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Established in 1994, Little Land is centrally situated on Jumeirah Road near the Dubai Municipality building. The school has three nursery school classes for children from 14 months old, and three Montessori classes for children from two-and-a-half years old to four years old. The owner and nursery co-ordinator are both qualified nurses and all teachers hold pre-school teaching qualifications. Facilities include a sand pit, water play area, shaded play areas, and a wide selection of toys and materials.

SuperKids Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

SuperKids Nursery in Mirdif aims to provide a comfortable 'home from home' for little ones. The school's approach is based on the English curriculum's Foundation Stage and offers a balance between artistic and practical activities to encourage rapid early development and help children overcome any disadvantage. The school has five bright classrooms into which children are divided by age, from 11 months to four years old. The outdoor play area is well equipped with playhouses, a water play area, music area, gym, slides and bicycles. There is also a transport system and optional hot lunches.

Wonder Years Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Wonder Years Nursery follows the British Early Years curriculum and accepts children from 18 months to three years old. The school has a brand-new, purpose-built facility in Dubai Sports City that provides a natural, stimulating environment to allow children to explore the world around them, both indoors and outdoors, at their own pace. The school's approach is play-centred and thematic, and seeks to unlock the child's potential by stimulating all five senses.

Yellow Brick Road Nursery

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English and Arabic

Yellow Brick Road Nursery is a popular nursery in Al Garhoud that opened in 2001. The school accepts children from two months to four years old and combines the Early Years Foundation Stage programme of the British curriculum with the New Zealand curriculum, as does its sister school, Emerald City Nursery. Facilities are excellent with a fully equipped music room, library, play areas and nursery dining area. The spacious outdoor play areas include a vegetable garden and swimming pool.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Expats can choose from numerous international schools in Dubai. Space can be limited, especially in primary schools, so it's important to start the enrolment process as soon as possible. Some of the most prominent ones are listed here, but parents should contact schools directly to get the most up-to-date information and enquire about admission policies.

American School of Dubai

Address: PO Box 71188, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.asdubai.org

Email: registrar@asdubai.org

Telephone: +971 04 395 0005

Gender: Co-educational

Curriculum: American



Background

The American School of Dubai (ASD), previously the Jumeirah American School, was founded in 1966 to meet the needs of the North American expatriate community. The first of its kind, the school has become one of the most well-known American schools in the Emirates. It currently has over 1,600 students on roll. The sprawling campus covers includes beautiful landscaped gardens, water features, modern buildings, and state-of-the-art facilities including wireless connectivity, two libraries, an auditorium, a theatre, music rooms, athletic tracks, a soccer field, other large playing fields, separate elementary and secondary gyms, two swimming pools, elementary play areas and two cafeterias.

What the school says

“The American School of Dubai, an independent, non-profit organization, offers what is best about American education in order to provide an educational experience designed to promote the maximum potential of its students. The school will challenge and assist students to become intellectually adept, thoughtful, and ethical contributors to a global society.”

What the inspectors say

“The school’s ethos was one of its main strengths, with outstanding behaviour of students at all grade levels, and with caring and supportive interactions observed between students and adults throughout the school. Students and teachers used the outstanding information and communication technology (ICT) resources creatively to extend and support their teaching and learning. The large facility provided opportunities for students to engage in numerous academic, creative, and athletic activities.”

Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau, May 2012

Curriculum

The American School of Dubai follows a curriculum comprised of a programme of core required subjects to prepare students for entrance into US colleges. Students also take a number of electives which are designed to enhance the core programme and allow them to discover and nurture their unique abilities and interests.

Fees

Annual fees for 2015/2016 are 54,839 AED for Kindergarten 1, 58,978 AED for Kindergarten 2 and 75,297 AED for Grade 1-12. From Kindergarten 2 upwards, there is an additional facility fee of 12,120 AED a year. There is also a once-off capital of 22,000 AED. Children who occupy a company-reserved seat are exempted from these charges.

Location

The school is located at the intersection of Al Mafraq Road (316th Street) and Hessa Street (331st Street), opposite the Saudi German Hospital in Al Barsha.

From the head teacher

“Although the facilities are indeed superb and represent some of the finest in the Middle East, it is the commitment to the mission and ASD Core Values - Compassion, Excellence, Integrity, Respect and Responsibility - that serve as a foundation for the learning experiences that prepare students to successfully navigate their future.

As you learn about ASD, you will begin to develop an understanding of what is unique about our school. ASD is an independent, not-for-profit American community school. Our not-for-profit status enables ASD to focus on the quality of education over satisfying investment expectations of shareholders. Tuition helps fund the cost of education to deliver on our educational mission that is dedicated to educating the whole student. ASD continues to build on the rich and extensive history of nearly 50 years to continuously improve the quality of learning experience provided to 1,650 K1 - Grade 12 students.”

Dr Brent Mutsch, Superintendent

Bradenton Preparatory Academy

Website: www.bradentonprepdubai.com

Email: dubaicampus@bradentonprepdubai.com

Telephone: +971 4 449 3600

Fax: +971 4 449 3670

Gender: Co-educational

School hours: Pre-K: 8.30am to 1.30pm.

K1: 8.30am to 2.30pm.

K2-Gr 12: 8.30am to 3.30pm.



Background

Bradenton Prep Academy (BPA), a GEMS Global Network School is modelled after the highly successful and sought-after Dubai American Academy. BPA benefits from the experience of its sister school in providing an outstanding college preparatory educational program, offering an Enriched American curriculum based on the Common Core Standards.

The school's purpose-built, modern campus has excellent facilities. The spacious classrooms feature plenty of natural light and make use of modern equipment. The school is part of Dubai Sports City, allowing students the use of the world-class facilities as part of the PE and extra-curricular programs. Both its experienced teachers and its students come from all over the world, providing a fantastic opportunity for students to learn in a diverse setting.

Cambridge International School, Dubai

Address: PO Box 60835, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.gemscis-dubai.com

Email: info_cis@gemsedu.com

Telephone: + 971 4 282 4646

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English



Background

CIS-Dubai has a student body of 2,300 representing over 70 nationalities. The spacious campus is divided into two: the primary school (kindergarten to Year 6) and the secondary school (Year 7 to 13). This UK-curriculum school's combination of good facilities and excellent teaching staff mean that students consistently achieve results well above the UK national average. Facilities include a large covered swimming pool, cricket nets and playing fields, an indoor sports arena, multi-purpose hall, separate, well-equipped, grassed playing area for kindergarten and early primary school as well as well-equipped music, art and science facilities. The school has a strong sporting tradition with inter-house and inter-school events held throughout the year. Field trips have an outdoor focus and include rafting, mountain biking, camping, rock climbing, canoeing and diving trips.

Clarion School Dubai

Physical address: D-13, Al Asayel Street, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.clarionschooldubai.com

Email: adiaz@clarionschooldubai.com

Telephone: +97 4 457.4321

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching Language: English

Ages: 3 to 18.



Curriculum

An American school curriculum that is aligned to the highest level of US Standards including the New York State Common Core + 15. The curriculum is also aligned to the Partnership for 21st Century Learning which ensures that critical competencies and characters traits are supported and developed. A strong STEAM focus runs through the school.

What the school says

At Clarion, our vision starts with a fundamental question: How do we prepare our children to take full advantage of life's opportunities as collaborative, productive and responsible members of a global community? We define it as developing active learners who are passionate, curious and can think critically so that they can continuously evolve, adapt and contribute in a rapidly changing world.

In order to accomplish this, Clarion School offers a challenging, engaging and supportive educational program, enriched by collaboration with our parents, strengthened by strong external partnerships and delivered by the highest standard of teachers. Our class teachers all have Master's Degree in Education and are experts in identifying a child's interests and learning styles and then developing inspirational and creative opportunities to develop each student's individual potential.

At Clarion we believe the strong foundational skills of literacy, numeracy and science are critical, but not enough to allow our children to succeed in a rapidly changing world. We also nurture intellectual curiosity, reflection and higher order conceptual thinking through an innovative and experiential curriculum.

Fees

Fees are paid per semester and annual fees are listed below:

Pre – K	43,000 AED
KG1	55,000 AED
KG2	64,500 AED
Grade 1 -5	76,500 AED

From the Headmaster

Welcome to Clarion School, a place that believes in the power of curiosity that lives within each and every child. Our mission is to ignite and keep alive their endless quest for discovery. A child with a curious mind will forever be empowered for the possibilities of an undefined future.

At Clarion, we provide children with “deep” learning experiences that are rich, meaningful and engaging. We do this where children are challenged to think in a trans-disciplinary fashion. This not only allows us to develop their strong foundational literacies within different subjects but the

competencies of collaboration and critical thinking as well as the character traits of grit and responsibility that are so critical in this rapidly changing world.

Our innovative curriculum encourages children to critically think for themselves and become active participants in their own learning.

However, to make this a reality is not easy and that is why we are collaborating with one of the premier educational institutions in the US. It is also why we require all our class teachers to have a Master's Degree in Education. Our educators have the experience, training and passion to identify your child's interests and learning styles and then develop inspirational and creative opportunities to develop their individual potential. It is also why we have large amount of time dedicated for teacher collaborative planning and why we are the only school in the region to have a Head of Professional Learning.

I am truly excited to be the Head of Clarion and part of this inspirational journey with you. The future is now and it is an exciting place to be.

- *Dr. Kandace Williams*

Superintendent, Clarion School

Deira International School

Address: P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.disdubai.ae

Email: registrar@disdubai.ae

Telephone: +971 4 232 5552

Fax: +971 4 232 5151

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

School hours: 7.50am to 12.30pm in FS1

7.50am to 2.45pm in Years1 to 13.



Background

Deira International School is a private, not-for-profit school in Dubai Festival City, founded in 2005. It has a diverse student body that consists of more than 1,500 students from 80 nationalities. It aims to provide a high-quality international education which remains sensitive to UAE culture and tradition.

The primary and secondary schools each have their own well-equipped buildings with a library, art block, music rooms, and computer and science laboratories. The school also has a gym, a business studies centre and a grass sports field. The school follows the National Curriculum for England and later the IB Diploma Programme in Years 12 and 13.

Dubai American Academy

Address: P.O. Box 32762, Al Barsha, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.gemsaa-dubai.com

Email: Communication_daa@gemsedu.com

Telephone: +971 4 347 9222

Fax: +971 4 347 6070

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

School hours: 7.45am to 12.00pm for Pre-K and KG1,
7.45am to 2:40pm for KG2
7.45am to 2:45pm for Grades 1 to 12.



Background

The Dubai American Academy, part of the GEMS education group, was founded in 1997 and now has an enviable reputation among expat parents in Dubai. It is a large school, with about 2,300 students from pre-kindergarten up to Grade 12. The school follows an American curriculum, with senior students having the option of studying towards the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB). With a wide range of nationalities, this is a great school for English-speakers and kids with little English alike. The school also has excellent state-of-the-art academic, co-curricular and sports facilities.

Dubai British School

Address: P.O. Box 37828, Springs 3, Emirates Hills, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.dubaibritishschool.ae

Email: General: reception@dubaibritishschool.ae

Admissions: admissions@dubaibritishschool.ae

Telephone: +971 4 361 9361

Fax: +971 4 360 9294

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

School hours: 8am to 1.45pm (Foundation Stage)
8am to 2.30pm (Years 1 to 6)
8am to 3.15pm (Years 7 to 13)
The school closes at 1:30pm on Thursdays



Background

Dubai British School is a thriving school of over 1000 students, situated in the Springs area of Emirates Hills. It's part of the Taaleem educational group, and encourages students to participate in academic, sport and cultural pursuits to broaden their knowledge and hone their skills and talents. Facilities include music rooms, science laboratories, a dance and drama studio, tennis court, football pitch and a gym.

Dubai College

Address: P.O. Box 837, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.dubaicollege.org

Email: General: dubcoll@emirates.net.ae

Admissions: admissions@dubaicollege.org

Telephone: +971 4 399 9111

Fax: +971 4 399 9175

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

School hours: 7.50am to 3.35pm, 1pm on Thursdays



Background

Dubai College opened in 1978 to meet the expat community's educational needs as an independent, non-profit school. Situated in the heart of the New Dubai district, today the school enjoys an enviable reputation with expat parents, and was rated "outstanding" in the Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau's 2014/5 report. Its 19-acre grounds include well-equipped classrooms, a science block with 13 laboratories, three design and technology suites, five computer suites, four art studios, a canteen and a music centre with teaching and recital areas, 12 practice rooms and a recording studio. There are also three drama studios, a library, a dedicated Sixth Form Centre and a state-of-the-art, 900-seat auditorium. There are grassed playing fields which incorporate several pitches, cricket nets, four all-weather tennis courts, a competition-size swimming pool and a multi-purpose hall.

Dubai English Speaking School (DESS)

Address: P.O. Box 2002, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.dessdubai.com

Email: dess@dessdubai.com

Telephone: +971 4 337 1457

Fax: +971 4 337 8932

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

School hours: 8am to 2.30pm



Background

DESS has been a stalwart of English private schools in Dubai since 1963. As one of the oldest schools in Dubai, DESS has an excellent reputation among expat parents for its good track record in sports, the performing arts and academic achievement. The school accepts pupils from the Foundation Stage up to Year 6.

Emirates International School

Address: P.O. Box 6446, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.eischools.ae

Email: mail@eischools.ae

Telephone: +971 4 348 9804

Fax: +971 4 348 2813

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

School hours: 7.40am to 2.50pm



Background

Established 1991, The Emirates International School was the first in Dubai to offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme. It is a large school with two campuses that cater to more than 3,600 pupils from Early Years 1 to Year 13. The campuses are complete with green spaces, shady trees and walkways in prestigious residential areas. The school is comprised of low-rise buildings and excellent facilities, including computer laboratories, science labs, drama and music studios, libraries, a theatre, swimming pools, multi-purpose sports halls, fully-equipped gyms and sports pitches.

English College, Dubai

Address: PO Box 11812, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.englishcollege.ac.ae

Email: admissions@englishcollege.ac.ae

Telephone: +971 04 394 3465

Gender: Co-educational

Curriculum: British (IGCSE, A-Levels)

Teaching language: English



Background

The English College Dubai (EC) opened its doors in 1992, maintains a good reputation with expat parents and currently has about 700 students. Its facilities include a gym, swimming pool, soccer field, music room, drama studio, arts room, science room and computer labs. There is a broad programme of extra-curricular activities on offer, including sports like basketball, ice skating, swimming, scuba diving and aerobics, as well as various cultural activities from screen printing and cooking to debating.

Foremarke School

Address: Dubiotech, Emirates Road, Al Barsha South, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.foremarkedubai.org

Email: info@foremarkedubai.org

Telephone: +971 (0)4 818 8600

Gender: co-educational

Teaching Language: English

Ages: 3 to 11



Background

Foremarke School opened in September 2013 and has fast gained a reputation for providing a holistic education in world class facilities. Students are at the centre of the school, which was even built with its pupils' needs in mind – from the interior design to classroom acoustics. The school is partnered with the Foremarke Hall, a Repton Preparatory School.

What the school says

“Together with our parents, who are truly involved partners in the children's education, we aspire to produce well rounded, well grounded, young people with a thirst for knowledge and a zest for life. We encourage the development of thoughtful children, confident and independent, while demonstrating a strong respect for others characterized through care and courtesy. These attributes, combined with an aspiration to academic success, are the foundations for successful transition to a choice of quality senior schools both locally and overseas.”

What the inspectors say

“Foremarke School benefits from excellent facilities. Effective leadership has enabled a positive and friendly ethos to become quickly established, and a high standard of teaching is already making a positive impression on pupil attainment. Teachers at Foremarke are conscientious and hard working.

The classroom resources are superb and age appropriate. Teachers use them very well to enrich their teaching and provide an interesting learning environment. Staff are enthusiastic when delivering lessons and this enthusiasm ensures that pupils are eager to learn”

Quality Assurance Inspection from Repton School, UK, January 2014

Curriculum

The only British Prep School in the UAE, Foremarke School caters to pupils from Foundation Stage 1 (Nursery) to Year 6, following the Early Years Foundation Stage and the National Curriculum for England; which it adapts and extend as necessary. In emulating its highly-regarded UK partner school, Foremarke Hall, class sizes are small and its teachers are highly qualified and experienced.

Fees

From FS1 to Year 6, fees are AED 65,000 to AED 85,000 and payable per term. There is a one off, non-refundable, facilities fee of AED 20,000 payable on acceptance of place. The facilities fee is payable on acceptance of place for any siblings but will be refunded in full once that child leaves the school. There is a registration fee of AED 500 and an assessment fee of AED 1000 for new applicants.

From the Headmaster

“What is unshakeable is our resolute determination to offer the very highest standard of British preparatory school education here in Dubai, unique to the Gulf region; no more than sixteen children in each class; our high expectations of the children, academically, in the creative arts, on the sports field, in the music room and not forgetting their manners, appearance and behaviour; our association and close working relationship with Foremarke Hall School in the United Kingdom; our remarkable school site; the fact that we are one of just two Independent Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) World Hub Schools; the later and therefore calmer start to the school day; the opportunity to avail of a full three course lunch (thanks to Chef Gary Rhodes) with children sitting at tables headed by my colleagues; our positive relationships with parents; the employment of highly experienced and skilled teachers and then, finally, the atmosphere of the school – the simple fact that we all want the very best for our children in a truly superb environment. Inspiring excellence. Nurturing respect.

Whether you are considering a move from an existing school in the United Arab Emirates, or you are moving to Dubai from abroad, I would like to encourage you to contact us with any queries or questions you may have and, better still, visit us for a tour; I very much hope that I will get the opportunity to welcome you and your children (wearing our rather smart purple uniform) into our Foremarke family.”

Mr Alistair Bond, Headmaster

What the parents say

“We are extremely happy with our decision to send our daughters to Foremarke School. The building is simply stunning, but most importantly, the teachers are amazing. As parents, we are very impressed with how the Headmaster and Deputy Headmaster are so committed to the children and the success of the school. Our daughters look forward to going to school each morning and Foremarke is the first

school or nursery that they have gone to with a smile on their faces. We would not consider any other school in Dubai for our children.”

Mrs Aitken, a Foremarke parent.

Jumeirah English Speaking School

Address: PO Box 24942, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.jess.sch.ae

Email: jess@jess.sch.ae

Telephone: +971 0 4 394 5515

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching Language: English

Curriculum: British



Background

This excellent non-profit school opened in 1975. It was rated 'outstanding' in the Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau's 2014/5 report, has a comprehensive staff training programme and strives for excellence in teaching. JESS has a good reputation among expat parents in Dubai for its bona fide open-door policy and high standards. Its fantastic facilities include temperature-controlled swimming pools, sport-specific fields and courts and a well-equipped music centre with practice rooms. There are extra-curricular clubs for all kinds of sports, from water-polo to hockey, as well as numerous music and performing arts opportunities. Some clubs, such as skiing, horse riding and rock climbing, take place off site.

Jumeirah College

Address: PO Box 74856, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.gemsjc.com

Email: info_jcd@gemsedu.com

Telephone: +971 04 395 5524

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: British (IGCSE, A Levels)



Background

Founded in 1999, Jumeirah College is a well-established and respected school with a good reputation among expat parents and an excellent academic track record. The College has over 1,000 students of about 60 nationalities. Its beautiful campus is situated in the heart of the prestigious Jumeirah suburb. And its excellent facilities include interactive whiteboards in every classroom, wireless internet, an extensive library and information centre, art studios, music rooms, drama studios, science laboratories as well as indoor and outdoor sports facilities. Extra-curricular activities range from traditional sports like rugby and football to skiing and sailing, as well as cultural clubs like drama, photography and textiles. The school has a vibrant music department with a choir and wind ensemble, and lessons in various instruments are offered.

The Millennium School

Address: P.O. Box 32446, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.gemsmillenniumschool.com

Email: the2ksch@emirates.net.ae

Telephone: +971 4 298 8567

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: Indian



Background

As the name suggests, the Millennium School was started in 2000 and aspires to be “the school of the Millennium.” The school has a student body of around 2,800 expat students, and follows an international version of the CBSE (Indian national curriculum). The excellent on-campus facilities include an auditorium, basketball courts, a tennis court, football field, swimming pools, and the sporting facilities include a separate covered activity area for primary school students. Extra-curricular are varied and include clay modelling, robotics, modern dance, yoga and karate, among others.

GEMS Modern Academy

Address: P.O. Box 53663, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.gemsmhs.com

Email: contactus@modernhighschool.com

Telephone: +971 4 326 3339

Fax: +971 4 326 3402

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English



Background

The Modern Academy, Dubai is part of the GEMS education group of schools. Having opened its doors in 1986, this established school has a good reputation among parents looking to place their child in an ICSE (Indian-curriculum) school, and received “outstanding” rating from the Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau in 2015. The school has about 3,700 pupils in kindergarten up to Grade 12. Facilities are modern and the school is well-equipped with a large library, science and computer laboratories, an art room, an auditorium, an Astroturf field and various sport-specific courts.

Nord Anglia International School Dubai

Address: Al Barsha 3, Dubai

Website: www.nasdubai.ae

Email: admissions@nasdubai.ae

Telephone: +971 (0)4 2199 999

Gender: Co-educational

Curriculum: British

Teaching language: English

Age: 1 to 14 (pre-kindergarten to Year 10)



Background

Nord Anglia International School Dubai is part of Nord Anglia Education, the world’s leading premium schools organization. Nord Anglia Education’s global family of 41 international schools provides outstanding education

to over 32,000 students from preschool through to the end of secondary education at 34 locations in 15 countries.

Nord Anglia International School Dubai is an academically selective British international school following the highest standards of UK independent education for students aged 3 years to 16 years. At NAS Dubai; values such as respect, good manners and social confidence are woven into the fabric of our school. Families, teachers and students are supportive of these values and are active members of our community.

Our exceptional, well-qualified teachers lead classes with no more than 20 students provide an inspiring environment to encourage and teach your child to become an ambitious learner while studying an internationally enriched British curriculum. Our enhanced language curriculum in Mandarin, French, German, Spanish and Arabic will facilitate your child in becoming a truly global citizen.

Wherever your child lives, our Global Campus will help your child explore the world and develop a truly international perspective through outstanding online, in school and worldwide experiences. Our Global Campus connects 32,000 Nord Anglia Education students around the world to collaborate, discuss and learn together every day.

Global Campus Online

Your child will discuss, collaborate and learn from their peers around the world in our vibrant online learning community. Through challenging activities, discussions and tailored resources, Global Campus Online enables your child to lead their own learning and develop transferable skills

Global Campus In School

In addition to the globally recognised curricula each NAE school provides, such as the English National Curriculum or the International Baccalaureate, our schools will expand your child's horizons with a global perspective. For example, we ensure we choose topics that will engage and enable our students to learn all about the world around them, making sure they benefit fully from their international experience.

Global Campus Worldwide

We have designed experiences to allow our students to explore the world and collaborate with their peers. For example, your child can develop their passions through initiatives such as our Global Orchestra, which this year will be held in New York City.

What the school says

We have a clear focus on high academic standards through our High Performance Learning agenda, which is based on the work of our Education Director, Professor Deborah Eyre of Oxford University.

We focus on good manners, social graces and respect. Sports, music and the arts are seen as integral, not add-ons to our work. Our students will be selected via a rigorous interview process.

We are always aware that each and every pupil is someone's child.

Curriculum

Nord Anglia follows the British National Curriculum, which is enhanced to reflect both the school's international setting and their high expectations for students. It offers a wide range of modern foreign languages including French, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic and German.

Fees

Fees range from 60,000 AED a year for the Nursery phase to 86,000 AED for Year 10. Fees can be paid annually or per term. There is also a non-refundable 500 AED application fee.

From the head teacher

“When we bring children into this world, we know that our first responsibility is to teach them to be kind and understanding; to be responsible, confident, brave and bold; to know when to lead and when to work with others; to aim high but show humility, integrity and respect.

We also have a responsibility to give them opportunities. These opportunities are unlocked through the provision of the best possible education in the best possible school; a school with a challenging and rigorous academic environment, which also stresses personal qualities. A school in which students are able to develop the tools that will serve them in later life. |

As parents, we want them to make their mark on the world, and we want them to help make it better. At the Nord Anglia International School Dubai we believe a school can play a crucial role in helping both those dreams become a reality. We will enable students to apply what they learn to a changing world full of possibilities. We will help your child to flourish.” – *Mike Embley, Principal*

Raffles International School

Address: PO Box 122900, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.rafflesis.com

Email: info@rafflesis.com

Tel: South Campus: +971 0 4 4271200

West Campus: +971 0 4 4271351/2

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: South Campus: Montessori/Cambridge Primary

West Campus: IB



Background

Raffles International School opened in 2007, and has grown to consist of two campuses and several nurseries. Its South Campus caters for kindergarten to Grade 8, while the West Campus caters from kindergarten to Grade 12. Facilities include classrooms equipped with the latest instructional audio-visual facilities, tutorial rooms, a theatre, art rooms, a dance studio, music rooms, science and computer laboratories, a soccer field, a sports hall, swimming pools, as well as basketball, badminton and tennis courts. In addition to a wide variety of sports, the co-curricular programme includes programmes in music, dance, drama and theatre to develop confidence and communication skills while, in fine arts, students learn painting, pottery and ceramics. Pupils are allowed to take one free extra-curricular class a week, or as many paid classes as they wish. These vary widely and include jazz ballet, fencing, yoga and languages, among others.

Regent International School

Address: P.O. Box 24857, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.risdubai.com

Email: info@risdubai.com

Telephone: +971 0 4 360 8830

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: British (IGCSE, A Levels)



Background

Regent International School is a UK-curriculum day school for pupils in Years 1 to 12. The school provides a good-quality, holistic education in a safe and nurturing environment. RIS has a state-of-the-art, purpose-built campus with over 40 classrooms, ICT technology throughout the campus, multi-media zones and a networked library. It also has fully-equipped science, art, design, technology, music and ICT facilities; outdoor playgrounds, a swimming pool, age-appropriate play structures and a multi-purpose hall. It offers numerous extra-curricular activities, including everything from a Lego club for junior pupils to a string ensemble, school newspaper, language clubs and traditional sports for older students.

Repton School, Dubai

Address: P.O. Box 300331, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.reptondubai.org

Email: info@reptondubai.org

Telephone: +971 4 426 9393

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: British, IB



Background

Although it only opened in 2009, Repton School has already made its mark as a top British-curriculum school in Dubai. Modelled on an established English boarding school, Repton places emphasis on academic achievement as well as a strong sporting culture. The school has state-of-the-art, modern facilities on a 1.3-million square foot campus in Nad Al Sheba with around 2,200 pupils. Nevertheless, Repton believes that each child has individual needs to be cherished and nurtured. There is an excellent variety of after-school activities catering for individual talents and team work. These include weight training, documentary club, astronomy club, scuba diving and yoga, among many others. Sport is taken seriously with a number of inter-school and inter-house sporting fixtures during the year. Main sports include rugby, football, cricket, swimming, netball, football and rounders.

GEMS Royal Dubai School

Address: PO Box 121310, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.royaldubaischool.com

Email: s.rudolph_rds@gemsedu.com

Telephone: +971 4 288 6499

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: British



Background

Having opened in 2005 as a primary and secondary school, GEMS Royal Dubai School reverted to be only a primary school in 2010. With around 1,100 students on role, the school forms a close-knit community with students, teachers and parents of over 60 nationalities. The school is a GEMS Centre of Excellence for ICT to Enhance Learning, and teaching spaces are outfitted with digital whiteboards and full Internet connectivity. The ever-growing list of extra-curricular activities ranges from ballet, karate, football, swimming, tennis and art on the premises to horse riding at a nearby stables.

GEMS Wellington International School

Address: P.O. Box 37486, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.wellingtoninternationalschool.com

Email: reception_wis@gemsedu.com

Telephone: +971 4 348 4999

Fax: +971 4 348 6595

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

School hours: Foundation Stage 1: 8.30am to 12.30pm

Foundation Stage 2: 8.30am to 2pm

Elementary and High school: 7.45am to 3pm



Background

GEMS Wellington International School was rated as “outstanding” by the Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau in 2014. This excellent English curriculum school accepts students from the Foundation Stage (3 years old) up to Year 13. It has fantastic state-of-the-art facilities including fully interactive white boards, wireless connectivity and laptops, a well-equipped library, dance studio, drama studio, café, three art studios, gym, AstroTurf field, an indoor and outdoor swimming pools, various sport-specific courts and fields, and it even has its own television and radio studio.

The Westminster School

Address: P.O. Box 27016, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.gemsws-ghusais.com

Email: westmst@emirates.net.ae

Telephone: +971 4 298 8333

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: British (IGCSE, A Levels)



Background

The Westminster School is one of the largest schools in the region, with a student body of around 5,000 pupils comprised of more than 70 nationalities. Facilities include purpose-built classrooms for all academic subjects, a multi-purpose auditorium, a well-equipped library, six science laboratories, music and art and craft rooms, computer laboratories and a school cafeteria. The school emphasises all-round development through a balanced programme of co-curricular activities that encourage team spirit, exploration and the development of each student's potential, including field trips, projects and leadership camps. Inter-house competitions are held in sports, public speaking, dance, quizzes, art, music and essay writing. After-school activities include everything from drama and debating to elocution and cooking. Sports include basketball, table tennis, badminton, football, hockey and chess, among others.

The Winchester School

Address: PO Box 38058, the Gardens, Jebel Ali, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.thewinchesterschool.com

Email: secretary@winchester.sch.ae

info_win@gemsedu.com

Telephone: +971 4 8820444

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: British



Background

The Winchester School, Jebel Ali aims to provide affordable, good-quality British-curriculum education. The school has a 3,400-strong student body representing 90 nationalities and a multi-national staff. Facilities are good and include a spacious, multi-purpose auditorium, a number of sports fields, well-equipped art and music rooms, science laboratories, multi-media computer laboratories and two well-resourced libraries. There's a wide range of extra-curricular activities for an extra fee, including everything from clay modelling to badminton and basketball. A number of co-curricular activities and events – such as spelling bees, debates, poetry competitions and field trips abroad – are held annually.

GEMS World Academy

Address: PO Box 126260, Al Barsha South, Dubai, UAE

Website: www.gemsworldacademy-dubai.com

Email: info_gwa@gemsedu.com

Telephone: +971 4 373 6373

Gender: Co-educational

Teaching language: English

Curriculum: IB



Background

GEMS World Academy, Dubai has a multi-national student body with over 2,000 students. Its state-of-the-art facilities include a planetarium, roof-top Peace Garden, spacious and ICT-rich classrooms, and a Symphony Centre for the performing arts. After-school activities change every semester, and include everything from rock climbing and tennis to newspapers and public speaking, in addition to some additional paid-for activities held off site, such as golf and skiing. The school's kindergarten facilities are particularly good. There is an after-school care programme for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students, which runs until 3.30pm each day.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Expat Arrivals International Schools Guide online for a list of international schools at nursery, primary and secondary level in Dubai.

<http://www.expatarrivals.com/dubai/international-schools-in-dubai>

For more information on moving to Dubai, including accommodation, healthcare and transport in the emirate, have a look at our Expat Guide to Dubai:

<http://www.expatarrivals.com/dubai/moving-to-dubai>