

What Makes Us Unique



Our Schools Focus Handbook

2024-25



مدرسة جيمس متروبول
GEMS Metropole School
MOTOR CITY

Discover
LEADERSHIP

GEMS
EDUCATION



Introduction

Dear Community,

Welcome to the comprehensive handbook for our four-school focus, an integral part of our commitment to providing a robust and future-ready education. As the Principal of GEMS Metropole School, I am proud to present this guide, which outlines the unique features and core strengths of each of the schools offerings, designed to prepare our students for both academic success and excellence.

The purpose of this handbook is to serve as a detailed resource for understanding the diverse opportunities available to our students. It underscores the importance of our educational philosophy for each school that integrates high-quality academic instruction with exceptional expectations, ensuring our students are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary for their future endeavours.

As school leaders, it is imperative that we carefully follow and ensure these focuses are embedded in every aspect of our educational delivery. You are the driving force behind the successful implementation of these principles, and your leadership is crucial in creating an environment where these values thrive. Your dedication and commitment will inspire our students to reach their full potential, both academically and personally.

This handbook is more than a guide; it is a testament to our shared vision for our school community. By working together to uphold and promote these foci, we will continue to provide an outstanding educational experience that prepares our students for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our school's mission.

Warm regards,
Nav Iqbal
Principal | CEO | CIP lead





Our Vision

An inspiring and inclusive community hub, developing future leaders

Our Mission

Inspire, lead and exceed our potential

Our Values

Compassion, Empathy, Kindness, Leadership & Respect

Discover **LEADERSHIP**



The Metropole Curriculum Journey

At Metropole, our programme of learning embodies the GEMS Education core values and ensures that students receive a high-quality education in a happy, supportive and nurturing environment, where they are encouraged to explore and take risks. Teachers plan challenging, well-organised and interesting lessons which engage and motivate our students. There are regular opportunities for leadership, enquiry based learning, critical thinking, decision-making and problem solving where students are encouraged to take an active role in the learning opportunities they encounter. All staff have high expectations of both students and each other.

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum – FS1 and FS2

Children learning in Foundation Stage follow the statutory Early Years Foundation Stage framework (EYFS) for teaching and development. This stage is very important in a child's life as it helps prepare your child for school 'readiness' as well as for their future learning and successes. Children learn skills, acquire new knowledge and demonstrate their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development: Communication and Language, Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World and Expressive Arts and Design. All 7 areas of learning are used to plan children's learning and activities. Teachers make sure that the activities are suited to your child's unique needs.

The National Curriculum of England Years 1-11

From Years 1-11 students follow The National Curriculum of England and are exposed to a wide range of compulsory subjects which includes: Mathematics, English, Science, Computing, Design and Technology, History, Geography, Art and Design, Music, Physical Education, Modern Foreign languages. The national curriculum is a non-textbook curriculum which provides pupils with an introduction to the essential knowledge they require to be educated citizens. It introduces pupils to the best that has been thought and said, and helps engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievements.

Ministry of Education Curriculum

Alongside the Early Years Curriculum and National Curriculum of England, students also study the Ministry of Education Curriculum. Through this, students learn Arabic, Islamic Studies and Moral, Social and Cultural Studies. The UAE leaders along with GEMS Metropole promote the learning and using of Arabic language as it is considered a fundamental pillar of the Emirates national identity, its people's history and its deep-rooted traditions. The Arabic framework supports both native and non-native Arabic speakers. This framework illustrates the levels expected to be achieved by the learner in each of the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing). Where Arabic is the student's non-native language, the curriculum links the achievement of these levels to the number of years spent in studying Arabic, regardless of the learner's current grade.

THE Forest School - Infants (FS1-Y2)

The Forest School offer a distinctive outdoor learning approach to education; providing unique selling points and features that set them apart from traditional educational environments. The Forest school offers an exceptional and enriching educational experience that promotes holistic development, environmental awareness, practical skills, and overall wellbeing. These features make the Forest school a compelling alternative to traditional educational models; appealing to parents and educators seeking a more natural, hands-on approach to learning, where students explore and discover



Our Areas of Focus

USP OVERVIEW

	WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE	DESCRIPTION
FOREST SCHOOL	Outdoor Learning Environment	<p>Immersive Nature Experience: Learning takes place in a natural outdoor setting, fostering a direct connection with the environment and the world in which we live in.</p> <p>Seasonal Learning: Students learn about the seasons and the impact of change which enhances their understanding of natural cycles and the wider world</p>
	Holistic Development	<p>Physical Development: Activities like climbing, building, and exploring help develop gross and fine motor skills.</p> <p>Emotional and Social Development: The forest school environment encourages teamwork, resilience, and independence.</p> <p>Cognitive Development: Problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity are enhanced through hands-on activities in the forest school and farm .</p>
	Child-Led Learning	<p>Personalised Learning: Children have the freedom to explore their interests and learn at their own pace in the forest school and natural classroom setting.</p> <p>Curiosity-Based Approach: Learning is driven by curiosity and discovery, promoting deeper engagement.</p>
	Environmental Stewardship	<p>Sustainability Education: Students learn in the farm about ecology, conservation, and sustainable practices, fostering a sense of responsibility towards the environment.</p> <p>Respect for Nature: Regular interaction with the natural world instils respect and appreciation for the environment through the forest school learning and farm.</p>



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	WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE	DESCRIPTION
FOREST SCHOOL	Practical Skills Development	<p>Survival Skills: Activities may include fire building, shelter construction, and tool use in forest school lessons.</p> <p>Farming and Foraging: Learning about plants, growing food, and foraging teaches practical life skills.</p>
	Health and Wellbeing	<p>Physical Health: Regular physical activity in an outdoor setting promotes overall physical health.</p> <p>Mental Wellbeing: Time spent in nature has been shown to reduce stress, anxiety, and improve mental health.</p>
	Community and Collaboration	<p>Team Building: Many activities require cooperation; helping to build strong teamwork skills.</p> <p>Community Involvement: Often involves the local community and fosters a sense of belonging and social responsibility.</p>
	Hands-On Learning	<p>Experiential Learning: Emphasis on learning through doing, which enhances retention of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Multi-Sensory Approach: Engaging multiple senses (sight, sound, touch, smell) helps reinforce learning experiences.</p>
	Connection to Curriculum	<p>Integrated Learning: Subjects such as science, geography, art, and physical education are naturally integrated into outdoor activities.</p> <p>Real-World Application: Learning is context-based and often directly applicable to real-world situations.</p>



THE Values School - Juniors (Y3-Y6)

A value school focuses on instilling core values in its students, emphasizing character development alongside academic achievement. By integrating core values into every aspect of the school experience, the school prepares students to be responsible, empathetic, and ethical individuals who can contribute positively to society. This holistic approach to education makes the Values School an attractive option for parents and students seeking a comprehensive and meaningful educational experience, where values build character.



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	WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE	DESCRIPTION
VALUES SCHOOL	Values-Based Curriculum	<p>Integrated Values Education: Core values such as respect, kindness, empathy, and compassion are woven into every subject and activity.</p> <p>Character Education Programs: Dedicated programs and workshops that focus on developing students' moral and ethical reasoning.</p>
	Holistic Development	<p>Emotional Intelligence: Programs aimed at enhancing students' emotional literacy, self-awareness, and empathy.</p> <p>Social Skills: Emphasis on developing effective communication, teamwork, and conflict resolution skills.</p>
	Community Engagement	<p>Service Learning: Students participate in community service projects, fostering a sense of social responsibility and civic duty.</p> <p>Parental Involvement: Active involvement of parents in school activities and values education to reinforce learning at home.</p>
	Leadership and Personal Growth	<p>Student Leadership Opportunities: Roles and responsibilities that encourage students to develop leadership skills and take initiative.</p> <p>Personal Development Plans: Individualised plans that focus on personal goals, strengths, and areas for improvement.</p>
	Ethical and Moral Framework	<p>Ethical Decision Making: Teaching students to make decisions based on ethical considerations and moral principles.</p> <p>Moral Role Models: Staff and older students serve as role models, demonstrating the school's core values in their actions and behaviour.</p>



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VALUES SCHOOL	Positive School Culture	Value-Driven Policies: School policies and codes of conduct reflect and reinforce the core values of the school. Celebration of Values: Regular events and assemblies that celebrate and reward demonstrations of the school's values and sense of identity.
	Global Citizenship	Global Perspectives: Curriculum includes global issues and encourages students to think about their role in the world. Cultural Awareness: Programs, curriculum and activities that promote understanding and appreciation of different cultures and global issues.
	Character Recognition	Awards and Recognition: Regular recognition of students who exemplify the school's values, through awards and public acknowledgment. Values Ambassadors: Students chosen to represent and promote the school's values both within the school and in the wider community.



THE Active School - Prep (Y7-Y9)

Active Minds | Active Bodies | Active Citizens

At the Active School, we cultivate well-rounded students who excel academically, athletically, creatively, and as active community members. Our comprehensive and engaging curriculum is designed to foster Active Minds through a practical, student-led, and enquiry-based approach, both inside and beyond the classroom. We promote Active Bodies through our Mustang Athletes across core sports and Stallion Performers in dance, drama, and music. Active Citizens are developed through our Active Baccalaureate, which encourages engagement at school, at home, and within the community.



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	WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE	DESCRIPTION
ACTIVE SCHOOL	High-Quality Sports Facilities	State-of-the-Art Infrastructure: Modern and well-maintained facilities such as stadiums, gyms, swimming pools, and courts for various sports. Specialised Equipment: Access to high-quality sports equipment, services and resources tailored to specific sports.
	Expert Coaching	Professional Coaches: Highly qualified and experienced coaches who have expertise in their respective sports. Personalised Training Programs: Customised training plans to cater to the individual needs and goals of each student-athlete
	Integrated Curriculum	Balanced Education: A curriculum that seamlessly integrates academic subjects with sports training, ensuring students excel in both areas. Sports Science Education: Courses in sports science, nutrition, psychology, and physiotherapy to support athletic development
	Competitive Opportunities	Regular Competitions: Opportunities to compete at regional, national, and international levels, fostering a competitive spirit and exposure. Talent Identification and Development: Programs focused on identifying and nurturing sporting talent from a young age.



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	WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE	DESCRIPTION
ACTIVE SCHOOL	Holistic Development	<p>Physical Fitness Programs: Emphasis on overall physical fitness, including strength training, agility, and endurance.</p> <p>Life Skills Training: Development of essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, discipline, and time management.</p>
	Academic Support	<p>Flexible Scheduling: Academic schedules that accommodate training and competition needs, ensuring students do not compromise on their studies.</p> <p>Tutoring and Mentoring: Academic support services, including tutoring and mentoring, to help student-athletes/performances balance their academic and sports/active commitments.</p>
	Career Pathways	<p>Scholarship Opportunities: Guidance and support in securing sports scholarships in school and for higher education institutions.</p> <p>Career Counselling: Professional advice on career opportunities.</p>
	International Exposure	<p>Exchange Programs: Opportunities for international exchanges and training camps with partner schools and sports academies worldwide.</p> <p>Global Competitions: Participation in International competitions, providing exposure to different playing styles and cultures. Including DASSA</p>
	Performance Tracking	<p>Regular Assessments: Continuous assessment of athletic performance and progress through standardised testing and performance metrics.</p> <p>Individual Progress Reports: Detailed progress reports that help student-athletes understand their strengths and areas for improvement.</p>



THE Future School - Seniors (Y10-Y13)

Our Future school that offers a robust combination of iGCSE, A-Level and vocational qualifications is designed to equip students with the academic prowess and practical skills necessary for future success. A school with a strong academic and vocational qualification offering stands out for its comprehensive and balanced approach to education, blending academic rigor with practical skills training. This dual focus ensures that students are well-prepared for both higher education and the workforce, making them adaptable and competitive in an ever-changing global landscape. These unique features and selling points make such institutions highly attractive to students and parents seeking a well-rounded, education, where our students can be the future.



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	WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE	DESCRIPTION
FUTURE SCHOOL	Diverse Curriculum Offering	<p>Wide Range of A-Level Subjects: Extensive selection of iGCSE and A-Level courses covering sciences, humanities, arts, and social sciences, allowing students to tailor their studies to their interests and career aspirations.</p> <p>Vocational Qualifications: Comprehensive vocational programs such as iBTECs, EPQ, and other industry-recognised certifications that provide practical skills and direct pathways to specific careers.</p>
	High Academic Standards	<p>Strong Academic Track Record: Proven success in academic results with high percentages of students achieving top grades in iGCSEs and A-Levels.</p> <p>University Preparation: Rigorous academic preparation for higher education, including support for university applications and entrance exams.</p>
	Professional and Technical Skills	<p>Hands-On Learning: Vocational courses that include practical training, workshops, and real-world projects.</p> <p>Industry Placements: Opportunities for internships and work placements in various industries to gain practical experience and professional networking.</p>
	Personalised Learning	<p>Individualised Support: Tailored academic guidance and support plans to meet the specific needs and goals of each student.</p> <p>Mentorship Programs: Access to mentors who provide advice on both academic and career-related decisions.</p>
	Community and Industry Connections	<p>Local and Global Partnerships: Collaborations with local businesses, industries, and international organizations to provide students with a broad network and real-world opportunities.</p> <p>Guest Speakers and Industry Experts: Regular visits and lectures from professionals across various fields to inspire and educate students.</p>



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FUTURE SCHOOL	Expert Teaching Staff	<p>Qualified Educators: Teachers with extensive experience and expertise in their respective fields, both academically and vocationally.</p> <p>Industry Professionals: Vocational courses often taught by industry professionals who bring real-world insights and connections to the classroom.</p>
	Career Guidance and Support	<p>Dedicated Careers Department: Comprehensive career counselling services to help students explore options and plan their future careers.</p> <p>CV and Interview Preparation: Workshops and resources to help students prepare for job applications and interviews.</p>
	Strong University Links	<p>University Partnerships: Collaborations with top universities that may offer early admissions programs, scholarships, or special consideration for graduates through GEMS4Life and directly.</p> <p>University Visits and Fairs: Opportunities for students to visit universities and attend higher education fairs to gather information and make informed decisions.</p>
	Future-Focused Curriculum	<p>STEM Emphasis: Strong focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects to prepare students for future careers in high-demand fields.</p> <p>Entrepreneurship Education: Programs and courses that encourage entrepreneurial thinking and commerce, linked to the Business Incubator working space.</p>
	Strong and Active Alumni Network	<p>Alumni Engagement: Active involvement of alumni who can provide mentorship, internships, and job opportunities for current students.</p> <p>Success Stories: A track record of successful alumni who have gone on to prestigious universities and prominent careers.</p>



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