



Al Ain English Speaking School

Parent Engagement Policy

1. INTRODUCTION

At Al Ain English Speaking School all parents are valued as part of our school community. Children benefit most when we work in partnership with their parents. We are committed to communicating with parents to improve our knowledge of the needs of their children.

2. PURPOSE

- To set out ADEK's expectations in relation to schools' engagement with parents.
- To explain the guidelines for the parent-school agreement and parent handbook.
- To involve parents in their child's learning journey. This involvement goes beyond academic support to include emotional, social, and holistic development. Parents are encouraged to participate in activities that support their child's educational objectives.
- To promote effective communication between schools and parents and offer opportunities for parents to actively participate in their children's education.

3. PARENT-SCHOOL AGREEMENT

All parents are required to sign a parent-school agreement prior to their child's enrolment in the school and annually upon re-enrolment which shall:

- outline the obligations of each party and require parents to accept the full set of school policies.
- shall include a code of conduct for parents when interacting with the school community, and an acknowledgment of the Student Code of Conduct.

4. STUDENT LEARNING AND PROGRESS

- AAESS engages parents in the planning of their child's education when their active engagement is required (e.g., placement decisions, pullout, and push-in support decisions) and obtains consent where required.
- Where external specialist support is provided, the school shall follow up with parents who are expected to monitor the student's progress and periodically update a school-nominated member of staff.

5. ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

- AAESS encourages students to do their best in internal and external assessments in collaboration with parents.

6. CURRICULUM TRANSFER AND EQUIVALENCY

- The school supports and guides parents considering a curriculum switch, informing them of the potential impact on learning continuity and challenges that may arise. Additionally, the school will inform parents about UAE equivalency requirements and require them to sign an undertaking if they choose not to seek equivalency.

7. STUDENT PERFORMANCE REPORTS

- AAESS shares student termly reports with parents and offers opportunities for parents to meet with teachers at least once per term to discuss their child's learning progress.

8. HOME LEARNING SUPPORT

- The school encourages home-based learning support to promote parent-student interaction in the home environment for all students.

9. ENGAGING PARENTS IN THEIR CHILD'S WELLBEING

- AAESS encourages parents to pack healthy and balanced meals and snacks for their child, using sustainable practices, and inform them of food restrictions.
- The Student Mental Health Policy is communicated to all parents on the school website. AAESS ensures school counsellors and teachers inform parents of any identified counselling needs for their child, requirements related to confidentiality and parental consent, and implications for parents who refuse to give consent.
- The school will inform parents about their inclusive admissions processes, when necessary, requests for clinical assessment reports, and any inability to accommodate students if applicable. Additionally, parents are expected to attend regular progress updates in the decision-making regarding any modified curriculum pathways that may affect equivalency requirements.
- AAESS encourages parents to support their child's participation in extracurricular activities and facilitate this by sharing the ECA calendar and other important details.
- The school engages parents in supporting their child's digital learning and monitoring digital device usage outside of school hours to ensure safety. Parents will be made aware of the school's digital policy and student's consent will be taken prior to taking photographs and videos of the students.
- AAESS is mandated to allow access to Department of Health (DoH) appointed health providers and facilitate their task of conducting the school-based immunisations for students and their parents in line with DoH guidelines.

- In the event of a medical emergency the school nurse will inform the parents of the required intervention
- AAESS will inform parents, with regular reminders, to adhere to maximum weight limits for students' school bags. A student's school bag shall not exceed 5-10% of a child's body weight when packed (considering individual factors such as the student's overall health, physical strength, and any existing health conditions).

10. PARENT INVOLVEMENT AND NOTIFICATION

- The school provides opportunities and actively promotes attendance to visit the school and meet the principal, teachers, and other staff through workshops, celebrations, etc.
- AAESS encourages parent volunteering and will inform those interested of the requirements from ADEK.
- The school has a Governing Board that includes at least one parent representative with voting rights.
- At the Parent Committee Annual General Meeting at least one parent representative per year is elected to serve as a liaison between the teachers and parents.
- The school has a Parent Committee which is a liaison between parents and the school and that is responsible for parents' involvement in school. Parent involvement is actively encouraged and supported to encourage engagement.
- AAESS publishes its inspection rating and report on their website and makes these available to parents.
- Before transferring student information to third parties, parental consent is sought after, ensuring parents receive copies of any reports on student information submitted to ADEK.
- The school calendar is shared with parents via email, website, WhatsApp, etc once it has been approved by ADEK.
- Parents will be informed about the school's bus service and communicate parent obligations and associated information regarding drop-off and pick-up protocols and authorised persons, parking, and use of non-school bus transportation.
- AAESS communicates with parents using various Media (e.g., school newsletters, telephone calls, SMS, e-mails, letters and meetings) and considers the accessibility needs and preferences of parents.
- In emergencies, AAESS has a mass notification system in place to quickly communicate information to parents (e.g., text message system, public address system, or mobile apps)
- A record of all written communication with parents is kept ensuring communications are clear between school staff and parents.

RELATED DOCUMENTATION

ADEK School Student Behaviour Policy

ADEK School Digital Policy

ADEK School Inclusion Policy

ADEK School Cultural Consideration Policy

ADEK School Student Administrative Affairs Policy
ADEK School Educational Risk Policy
ADEK School Curriculum Policy
ADEK In-School Specialist Policy
ADEK School Assessment Policy
ADEK School Student Performance Reports Policy
ADEK School Wellbeing Policy
ADEK School Quality Assurance Policy
ADEK School Health Eating and Food Safety Policy
ADEK School Student Mental Health Policy
ADEK School Extracurricular Events Policy
ADEK School Digital Policy
ADEK School Safeguarding Policy
ADEK School Child Protection Policy
ADEK School Reporting Policy
ADEK School Extracurricular Activities and Events Policy
ADEK School Calendar and Public Holidays Policy
ADEK School Calendar and Public Holidays Policy
ADEK School Compliance Policy