





# Igniting the torch of learning in every child















### About Our School



#### Igniting the torch of learning in every child

As a member of the International Schools Partnership (ISP), NIS is dedicated to igniting the torch of learning in every child. Our curriculum ignites curiosity and leadership on a global stage. By promoting students' interests, we develop curious, knowledgeable, self-aware citizens who have the integrity and drive to build a better world. Our aim is to place our students at the heart of all that we do, nurturing their potential to ensure that they learn, lead and influence. We are committed to three guiding principles:

- Amazing learning
- Global vision
- A true sense of community

#### Amazing Learning is central to everything we do

You will see learning that will amaze you. Wherever you think your child might be in any subject or area, we will assure you that they will do better than you can ever imagine possible. We recognize and nurture each student's gifts and talents so that they amaze themselves and inspire others.

#### **Global Vision**

Truly international, our community hails from 82 different countries, a family of highly diverse individuals. The power of the NIS learning community is achieved by recognizing, valuing and connecting the different contributions and talents of all its members.

#### A True Sense of Community

At NIS, students develop a sense of themselves, as well as the world around them, making connections within and between cultures. NIS opens students' hearts and minds so that they embrace challenges and opportunities, share ideas and purpose, and influence others to make a positive difference.

#### Our core values are the foundations that enable:

- Creative Thinkers: Create dynamic and technology enabled risk-takers who can innovate and lead their own learning journey.
- Aspirational and Adaptable learners: Consistently challenged by high standards and aspired to strengthen their skills.
- Reflective Learners: Become active participants in a lifelong learning process, fostering curiosity, creativity and an on-going cycle of self-improvement.
- Effective Communicators: Empower responsible and respectful citizens to voice their own opinion and express themselves in various situations and mediums.

#### We are part of a global group of schools

International Schools Partnership is a global group of 45 schools which ensures outstanding international learning connections, quality assurance and excellent governance.



















### Curriculum

#### **AERO**

NIS follows the American Education Reaches Out (AERO) COMMON CORE Plus curriculum for overseas schools. AERO provides a framework for curriculum consistency across grades K-12 in alignment with research-based trends and ongoing developments within this curriculum worldwide and in the USA.

#### We are a NEASC accredited international school

NEASC works with schools to establish and maintain high standards for all levels of education. Colleges and employers look more favorably upon students who have come from a NEASC accredited school. NIS is one of only a few international schools in Dubai to be awarded the NEASC accreditation.

## Our teachers are highly experienced and passionate about education

NIS foundation rests on quality teachers, dedicated to providing an exceptional education for every child. Our teachers are subjectmatter experts with high expectations, guiding students to become confident, ambitious learners and leaders.



#### Our early years department provides an inspiring start

By balancing learning of the basics with inquiry-based learning, we apply the best of early years research to ensure the best start for our youngest children. Our innovative approach to early childhood education values the child as strong, capable and resilient, rich with wonder and knowledge.

#### **Arabic & Islamic Studies**

Learning Arabic is crucial for both cognitive development and the maintenance of cultural identity. Our Arabic curriculum is a concept- and inquiry-based, based on the UAE national curriculum. Arabic is compulsory for Arab nationals, and Arabic as a foreign language is mandatory for students through to Grade 9. It is compulsory for all Muslim students to study Islamic Studies. The NIS Dubai framework provides the highest possible standard of Islamic education, to develop independent, responsible citizens.



#### **Unique opportunities for Middle and High School**

Our NIS curriculum challenges students at high levels to prepare them for the College Boards Advanced Placement (AP) program. Our students also participate in enrichment activities such as ISP Buddy Exchange Program, the Global Future Leaders Conference and debating, which is integral to the curriculum.

#### We offer a wide range of enrichment activities

NIS provides a wide range of extra-curricular activities to help students cultivate individual interests, talents and develop their social skills. International enrichment trips offer your child the opportunity to explore a diversity of cultures and develop cultural sensitivity and awareness.



## Kindergarten



Our KG children make exceptional progress, and most importantly, have fun whilst learning.

The NIS KG curriculum provides challenging and professionally-validated standards with specific learning goals for every area of learning, without losing sight of this unique stage of a child's development.

#### Our unique approach:

- Develops children to be open-minded, to understand and appreciate their own culture, whilst being open to the perspectives, values and traditions of others
- Encourages personal and independent learning which allows them to explore what they enjoy
- Challenges children with ideas and concepts, encouraging them to ask questions and develop their critical thinking skills

KG children's attainment and progress are regularly evaluated with internal and external benchmark assessments such as DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment) and MAP (Measures of Academic Progress). Learning is constantly evaluated to check progress, and to ensure there are never any lost opportunities for learning.

#### **KG English and Math Program**

We specialize in providing a highly effective program to develop children's early English and Mathematical skills. Our Read Write Inc phonics and literacy program ensures every child benefits from individualized learning of sounds, which improves their reading fluency and understanding. This daily guided reading program triggers their imagination and nurtures a love of reading. All our children experience early success in reading, writing and spelling.

Our skilled teachers use Numicon and a variety of hands-on resources to develop children's mathematical skills. Numicon is a multi-sensory approach enhancing children's achievement across all mathematics ability levels. Every class has a full Numicon set and additional math resources to assist children to mathematically reason through the use of real objects.

#### **KG** Facilities

Each classroom has dedicated centers covering the key areas of early development, whilst drawing on the children's interests. Teachers encourage children's active engagement through an inquiry-based approach designed to promote dialogue and thinking. Our learning areas offer a creative and supportive environment in which young children play and learn together. Our outdoor facilities are superb with a huge grass playing field and dedicated outdoor learning areas. The KG pool encourages water confidence and early water safety skills. Children love visiting their library to choose books and meet with their older reading buddies.







## **Elementary School**

The Amazing Learning taking place in our NIS Kindergarten (KG) department provides a solid foundation for our excellent Elementary school teachers to build upon.

**Our curriculum:** The AERO Standards promote an inquiry-based approach to learning, where the rigor of the standards is taught in an integrated way. Subject-specific skills, knowledge and concepts are not taught in isolation. They are learnt and applied in meaningful contexts that excite and motivate children to take risks with their learning and really push themselves to make the best possible progress.





Our teachers equip learners for life: At NIS, we connect students' learning with the outside world so they can develop a sense of self-worth, an ability to engage with and think critically about the world around them, and celebrate its diversity.

**Bringing learning to life:** Our Grade 3 students follow 'Footprints From the Past' and find themselves in a world surrounded by dinosaurs. Grade 4 students investigate their favorite snack by researching its history, manufacturing process, and understanding how it reaches the consumer. Meanwhile, our Grade 5 children go on a 'Mission to Mars' to investigate what it might be like to live on another planet!

**Our monitoring and assessment** process provides tracking across the school and accurate information to parents in a consistent and accessible way.

Our teachers believe in the power of reading. They use a variety of classroom activities and resources to encourage children to explore books through drama, role play and illustration. This encourages the children to think and talk in-depth about these books, which in turn provides inspiration for their own creative writing, subsequently raising standards.





**Mathematics in our modern world** is much more than just calculations. At NIS, we ensure our children adopt a flexible approach to problem solving, which is underpinned by a rigorous approach to learning basic skills.

#### We have some of the best learning facilities in Dubai at NIS Elementary:

- Digital learning through Google for Education ensures our students are at the cutting-edge of technology with computer labs, internet, and multi-media facilities, 65-inch interactive screens, Chromebooks and iPads for use across the curriculum.
- We have two well stocked libraries, a practical science and technology lab, a large multi-purpose gymnasium, an indoor heated swimming pool, a shaded outdoor auditorium, and an indoor dance studio.
- The children also enjoy large age-appropriate outdoor learning and play areas, with a real grass sports field and a garden area to grow their own fruits and vegetables.

**Learning beyond the classroom:** We provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and field trips, and our Grade 4 and 5 students have the opportunity to attend a three-night camping trip. These experiences provide children with a lifetime of wonderful memories, and helps them develop self-reliance, teamwork skills, and confidence to overcome new challenges.

Like all of ISP's schools around the world, here at NIS we want the levels of learning our students reach to truly amaze them and their parents. It's what our schools are for.

Quite simply, we measure our success by the success of our students.



## Middle and High School

The NIS Middle and High School departments are focused on guiding our scholars through their academic requirements, while developing lifelong learners that are able to navigate an ever-changing, interdependent global society. Teachers tailor their training to students' needs, ensuring that all learning styles and levels are met.

**Middle School scholars** are provided with opportunities to develop their core academics, and are also exposed to arts, music, business, physical education, social studies, as well as French and Arabic. Our teachers provide ongoing support to scholars as they develop their critical thinking skills with a variety of student-centered instructional methods.

**High School scholars** are provided with opportunities to experience a variety of courses that appeal to their educational interests. Teachers at the High School level facilitate scholars' learning by exposing them to a variety of educational experiences in and outside the classroom, both within the UAE as well as internationally. Our students are encouraged to try new experiences.

Parents are encouraged to be active participants and are given opportunities to engage with our Counseling Department as scholars matriculate through NIS. Parents are always kept up-to-date with their children's progress, as well as upcoming events and important dates. Internships enable our older students to experience the world of work before graduating. It is the goal of NIS to have a true triangle of support for all scholars to ensure their academic success.







#### **Amazing Learning opportunities**

During the academic school year our students are provided with a range of Amazing Learning opportunities. These activities enable students to enhance their depth of knowledge, to improve themselves as independent scholars, and help them connect their learning to real-life situations.

#### We offer Advanced Placement courses

Colleges and universities welcome students who have studied Advanced Placement courses and who demonstrate a strong commitment to learning and self-development. We are one of a few American curriculum mid-market schools in Dubai offering Advanced Placement (AP) courses in Physics, Chemistry, Biology, American Language and Composition, Calculus, and are adding AP Seminar and AP Research in the near future. The school also offers a breadth of top level elective courses (from Grade 9 to 12).







#### **University, Career Guidance and Future Choices**



Our well-established career guidance and counseling program develops our students' competence in self-knowledge, education and career planning. Students receive career counseling from Middle School upwards to enable them to make informed choices about their electives according to their chosen career pathway. Our school counselors help all students in the areas of academic

achievement, personal development and career development, ensuring our students become productive, well-adjusted adults of tomorrow.

Through our partnerships with the American University in Dubai, University of Balamand and the Canadian University Dubai, we ensure our students are at the forefront of scholarship opportunities in every subject.











### **Facilities and Resources**

#### **Wonderful School Facilities**

Situated alongside the Green Community in Dubai Investment Park, our students have access to some of the best school facilities in Dubai, with vast green outdoor learning and play areas, including:

- a large floodlit sports field with well-maintained grass;
- a large multipurpose gymnasium and tennis court;
- a Senior and Junior science lab;
- a heated swimming pool;
- a small training pool for KG children;
- a specialist art and music room;
- a shaded auditorium and indoor dance studio, and;
- two well-stocked libraries.

## Our Information and Communications Technology (ICT) offerings are among the best in Dubai, and we are a Google For Education school

Committed to a progressive digital learning platform, we are continually investing in new technology to enhance

our teaching and learning. We ensure that students use cutting-edge technology including:

- computer laboratories with internet and multi-media facilities;
- 3D printing equipment;
- 65-inch interactive screens;
- 120 Chromebooks and 120 iPads for classroom use:
- electronic keyboards and Sibellius (score creation software) enables students to compose their own music and record in notation;
- blue bots remote conrolled, programmable characters for KG.

As a Google For Education school we receive updated support and resources to develop digital readiness programs for our students. This helps to prepare them with the skill set they need to thrive in the future.







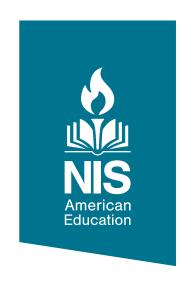






#### PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

# AMAZING LEARNING central to everything we do





#### **Dear Parents.**

Welcome to Nibras International School (NIS), a part of the International Schools Partnership (ISP). On behalf of our entire team, we are incredibly excited to have you as a member of our educational community. Through the support of ISP, we are proud to offer ever-improving facilities and our school is filled with amazing opportunities for each of our students to grow, develop and become the person they aspire to be. Our goal is to continue to work together, with our parents, to find ways to make NIS even better! We embark on this journey with a pledge to consistently provide your child with Amazing Learning experiences. I want you to know that your child is at the heart of everything we do.

NIS also offers Advanced Placement (AP) courses - a program in the United States and Canada created by the College Board which offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students.

During the school year, we will emphasize the growth and development of each student and work hard to ignite their passions. We strive to:

- provide Amazing Learning for every student, every period, every day!
- unlock their passions and help them to find their talents.
- help them understand that continued success is not always easy, it takes hardwork to learn and develop.
- help them understand that you should have fun along the way.

Your child will leave NIS as confident, competent and responsible young adults with a strong set of skills, academically and personally to guide not only their future but the future of our world. At NIS, our students play an integral role in their own education. They will learn to work independently as part of a team, and be prepared to play their part in creating a future that benefits our society. We build the foundation of this "Family" through a loving and caring leadership team; emphasis on the importance of meaningful relationships; the delivery of relevant and engaging lessons; and effective communication so that our children can become contributing members of the global community.

We look forward to a very positive and productive year together! We extend a special invitation to you, to join our school activities and events whenever possible. We value your involvement and support in your child's education! Your active participation is key to the success of your students. We encourage you to contact school leaders if/when the need arises, and to stay informed about your school and community.

Again, welcome to NIS and to our wonderful learning community, a place alive with energy, enthusiasm, and a high standard of excellence! It is, indeed, a place where opportunities abound! Here's to an AMAZING new school year as we work together to make our school a great place where learning takes place each day!

Sincerely,

Mike Cipriano Principal, NIS







#### **BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

## Offering unique opportunities for our students

#### **Extra-Curricular Activities (ECAs)**

There are many benefits for students who engage in a broad range of extracurricular activities. This exposure allows them to experience new opportunities, develop new talents, enhance their social skills and support their academic progress. The activities offered at NIS are always growing and developing. They include, but are not limited to:

#### **Sports**

NIS offers a wide range of sports, both during Physical Education classes and after school including basketball, football, volleyball, badminton, tennis, and much more. Swimming starts in KG. The refurbished multipurpose hall, tennis court and grass pitches are increasing participation in local and national competitions, resulting in more sports activities being hosted at NIS Dubai.

NIS has recently partnered with AC Milan Academy Dubai – a well-established football school that provides training following the official AC Milan methodology.

#### Counseling

Our students have access to high quality emotional support via our dedicated, highly qualified and experienced counseling team. These dedicated counselors ensure every student has a trained adult to talk to and address their individual needs and anxieties. Support is provided in social, emotional and learning aspects of life at school.

All students receive university entrance and careers counseling including face-to-face time with numerous universities. Students regularly comment on the quality of support provided which adds to their well-being.

Our counselors ensure every child's needs are fully met through a dedicated program of additional language learning, career and counseling support.

#### English as an Additional Language (EAL)

At NIS, English Language Learners (ELLs) are evaluated using the IDEA Online iPT English Proficiency Test which gives the accurate proficiency level of a student. If their English language is at beginner or early developing levels, pull-out interventions will be arranged as required with one-on-one support in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

English Language Development (ELD) and Sheltered Instruction (SI) are the two main models in the EAL program focusing on the following:

- Phonology: the sound system of English
- Morphology: the forms and formation of words
- Syntax: the rules and structure of the English language
- Semantics: the meaning of language, including vocabulary and academic language
- Language functions: the purposes of language use
- **Pragmatics:** the appropriate use of the English language in various contexts







#### **BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

#### **Support for Students of Determination**

The Student Support team provides support for children of determination (additional learning needs). Team members ensure that the academic, social, emotional and behavioral needs of all our children are being met.

NIS provides specialist support to students in various ways:

- A variety of assessment methods to monitor performance and progress.
- Individualized Education Plans (IEP) that specify the structure of support, category of eligibility, child's areas of need and strength, interventions, and goals.
- Specialized in-class support and modifications that are tailored to the child's individual needs.
- Tiered levels of support based on the child's response to interventions.
- Regular communication between parents, teachers and the Student Support Team.



**Model United Nations (MUN)** - Open to Grades 8 and above, MUN is a school team with a rigorous selection process. Academic excellence in all classes is a requirement, alongside attendance at meetings twice a week and enrollment in International Relations (Social Studies elective). Selected MUN scholars will attend conferences in the UAE and abroad.

**CultureLab** - An amalgamation of scholarly interests with an international twist; cultural workshops, film critiques, music analyses, theatre arts opportunities, political debates, artistic expression, ethnographic studies, community needs assessments, and elevated discussions add to the realm of after-school enrichment.

**NYUAD Institute Lecture Series** - Attending a university lecture series can be an eye-opening experience for our scholars. The NYU Abu Dhabi Institute brings people together to experience new ideas and discuss pressing global issues.

**WORLD Walls** - Students create boards to promote international mindedness across our curriculum by displaying content related to international diversity within the current unit of study.

**Educational Visits** - Students from KG to Grade 5 participate in visits which include historical, scientific and adventure activities to enrich the curriculum and support amazing learning.

**International Travel** - Students will participate in targeted international travel opportunities to showcase their talents and experiences in their areas of interest. The following initiatives and dates are tentative:

- CAMPS International (Kenya, Spring 2019)
- Elementary Residential (Dibba, UAE, March 2019)
- Peace Corps Shadow Project (Mozambique, Spring 2019)
- Girls Orphanage (Mumbai, India, Spring 2019)
- Outward Bound Excursions (Oman Spring 2020)
- Buddy Exchange Program (please refer to the International Schools Partnership insert for more information)







#### **FAQS**

# Igniting the torch of learning in every child

# NIS American Education

#### The School Day

The school gates open at 7:30am. All students are expected to be settled in class by 7:45am. School day ends for KG at 1:00 pm, and for Elementary, Middle and High at 2:45pm.

#### **Transportation**

The below fees are confirmed for the 2018-19 academic year. Should an increase in fees be approved by KHDA, the school will notify all parents and publish this on our website. One-way bus service for all routes is 65% of the mentioned fees.

Bus Route	Annual Fee (AED)
Dubai Investment Park 1 & 2, Green Community, IMPZ	6,000
Al Furjan, Discovery Gardens, The Gardens Jabel Ali Village, Ibn-e-Batuta Gate, Sports City, Motor City, JVC & JVT, Arjan, Al Barsha South, Mudon, Layan Community, Remraam	7,500
Arabian Ranches, Barsha 1,2 & 3, Al Quoz & Al Khail Gate, Al Safouh, Umm Suqeim, JBR, JLT, Tecom, The Lakes, Dubai Marina, Badrah Jabel Ali, Palm Jumeirah, Jumeirah 1 & 2, Meadows, Springs, The Villa, Expo Village Dubai South/ Damac Tenora	8,500
Silicon Oasis, Warsan Village, Academic City, Falcon City, Nashema Town Square / Mira (Qudra Street), Downtown Jabel Ali, Sahara Meadows 1 and 2, Al Ghadeer	10,000
Bur Dubai, Health Care City, Mirdif	10,500

#### Uniform

All students are required to wear the school uniform and sports kit. This is not included in the tuition fees. You can purchase the uniform from our partner Trutex who have a shop on the school campus.

#### **Textbooks and Chromebooks**

NIS uses textbooks during the learning journey. Textbooks can be purchased from the book shop which is located on the school campus. Textbooks are not included in the school fees. Starting in Fall 2019/2020 Academic Year, students (Grade 5 - 12) will be required to bring a chromebook to school.

#### Campus and Facilities

International Schools Partnership (ISP) have invested significantly in the premises since 2018 and many of the facilities have been upgraded. NIS has a large real-grass field including a floodlit full-size football pitch, a KG swimming pool, a refurbished heated swimming pool with a full-time lifeguard, a multi-purpose gymnasium, a music room, an art room, a drama room, a covered amphitheater, an Elementary and a Secondary library (both with latest interactive boards), science labs, and a renovated cafeteria.

#### Extra-curricular Activities (ECAs) and Educational Visits

The majority of ECAs and visits are included in the tuition fees. ECAs offered by external suppliers and some optional educational visits will incur separate fees, which will be clearly advertised.





# Dedicated to transforming learning for our students





Part of International <sup>®</sup> Schools

**Partnership** 















The NIS Dubai approach to learning ensures the best possible progress for all students. **Our American curriculum (AERO)** blends the Common Core Plus curriculum for overseas schools, exposing students to the rigor of American academia, as well as providing a future-proof skill set designed for them to excel in an international environment.

### Why choose NIS?

- We are one of the few American curriculum schools in Dubai offering Advanced Placement courses for high school students, as well as a breadth of top level elective courses (for Grades 10 to 12).
- NEASC Accredited: We are one of the few schools in Dubai to be awarded this globally recognized standard of
  excellence, through which students are accepted in to the best international universities.
- Part of the International Schools Partnership (ISP), a global family of 45 schools, which ensures outstanding international learning connections, quality assurance and excellent governance.
- Our students benefit from a strong focus on academic standards and high behavioral expectations as well as high
  enjoyment levels in learning.
- You will always know how well your child is progressing through our progress tracking platform, accessible to all parents.
- Through excellent recruitment we employ highly qualified teachers resulting in low teacher turnover.
- 'Amazing Learning' is central to everything we do wherever you think your child might be in any subject, we assure you that they will do better than you can ever imagine possible.
- Well-being and happiness are a priority and our students are safe and feel valued, happy and successful.

## Quality affordable American Education

Part of















**14** Curricula



## AMAZING LEARNING central to everything we do

#### MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

NIS is a genuine educational community which takes multiculturalism to heart. Cross-cultural tolerance, understanding and diplomacy are just as important for our future leaders as any other classroom subject. NIS provides invaluable exchanges beyond the confines of school, such as **Model United Nations**, **ISP Buddy Exchange Program, Global Future Leaders Conference** and many more international leadership activities. All initiatives are selected to bring about unified change in our students' outlook so they may in turn change the world. We want our students to LEARN, LEAD, INFLUENCE.



#### **BUDDY EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

The ISP Buddy Exchange Program will enable reciprocal exchanges between ISP schools for a period of one month for students aged between 14-17 years of age. It is an experience that promises to offer students amazing and diverse learning opportunities within a safe and secure environment.

The program will deliver a unique international and cultural learning experience; enabling students to develop their language skills, share good practice and cultivate long-term friendships across the world.



#### **FACILITIES**

Our school is situated alongside the Green Community in DIP. Our students have access to some of the best school facilities in Dubai with vast outdoor learning and play areas including:

- a large floodlit sports field with well-maintained real grass;
- a large multipurpose gymnasium and tennis court;
- a Senior and Junior science lab;
- a heated swimming pool;
- a small training pool for KG children;
- a specialist art and music room;

- a commitment to digital learning through Google For Education, ensuring students are at the cutting-edge of technology with computer labs, internet, multi-media facilities, 3D printing equipment, 65-inch interactive screens and 120 Chromebooks and 120 iPads;
- a shaded auditorium and indoor dance studio, and;
- two well-stocked libraries.

#### CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO ARRANGE AN AMAZING LEARNING TOUR

ANNUAL FEES	
KG Classes	AED 22,827
Grades 1-3	AED 25,479
Grades 4-6	AED 31,761
Grades 7-9	AED 38,394
Grades 10-12	AED 45,374









## AMAZING LEARNING central to everything we do

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