



BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

2023-2024

+971 3 719 0000

info@belvedereinternationalschool.com

Hili, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

www.belvedereinternationalschool.com





BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

We believe in the concept of lifelong learning, and in the belief that we are laying the foundations for learning throughout life, in terms of skills, strategies and attitudes. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and an enjoyable experience for everyone. Through our teaching we equip children with the skills, and a broad range of knowledge and understanding, including social, cultural and global themes, necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives. We believe that appropriate teaching and learning experiences help children to lead safe, healthy productive happy and rewarding lives.

Key Members

Principal	Mr Gary Wright
Vice Principal	Ms Antonette Naidoo
Vice Principal	Ms. Claudia Anderson
Head of Arabic	Mr. Rami Afaneh

Aims

We believe that people learn best in different ways. At our school we provide a rich and varied learning environment that allows all children to develop their skills and abilities to their full potential.

Through our teaching we aim to:

- Enable children to enjoy their primary education.
- Enable children to become confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners through the provision of a broad and balanced curriculum with opportunities for creative thinking and creative expression.
- Develop a range of skills and attitudes as well as a concept and knowledge base to promote further learning.
- Foster children's self-esteem, and help them to build positive relationships with other people; and be responsive and productive members of their community.
- Develop children's self-respect, encourage them to understand the ideas, attitudes and values of others, and teach them to respect other people's feelings.
- Show respect for a diverse range of cultures and, in so doing, to promote positive attitudes towards other people.
- Enable children to understand their community, and help them feel valued as part of it; respond to it; and be involved in it.
- Help children grow into reliable, independent and positive citizens.

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Effective learning

We aim to deliver teaching in different ways to address the needs of all our learners. We take into account the different forms of intelligence (for example, mathematical/logical, visual/spatial, interpersonal and musical) when planning our teaching.

Teachers aim to provide a breadth of learning opportunities in the classroom through an approach to teaching which will include the following key aspects:

- Enquiry
- Problem Solving
- Creative thinking; creativity and creative expression.
- Information processing
- Reasoning
- Range of recording skills, including the use of ICT
- Evaluation and reflection
- Self-awareness
- Emotional Intelligence
- Empathy
- Social skills
- Communication

We aim to ensure the best possible environment for learning by developing a positive atmosphere where students feel safe and feel they belong, where they enjoy being challenged, but where they enjoy learning, and know that they will succeed because levels of expectation and challenge for individuals are realistic.

The structure of learning experience:

- To connect the learning with previous experiences and knowledge.
- To give learners the 'big picture' of the whole lesson and its relation and application to real life situations.
- Engage, interest and motivate the learner.
- To explain the learning objectives, and why the lesson is important.
- To present the information in a range of styles.
- To allow opportunities for the students to build up their own understanding through various activities.
- To review what has been learnt, and so increase recollection; and meta-cognition.

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- To provide feedback, celebrating success and reviewing learning strategies.
- To outline the next step in the learning before moving on.

We offer opportunities for children to learn in different ways. These include:

- Investigation and problem-solving, which we favour to develop intellectual capabilities and reasoning and support differentiation.
- Research and discovery
- Group work
- Paired work;
- Independent work
- Whole-class work
- Asking and answering questions
- Talk for writing and speaking and listening
- Use of ICT; podcasts, blogs; film etc.
- Fieldwork and visits to places of educational interest.
- Physical, creative and expressive activities.
- Debates, role-plays and oral presentations.
- Designing and making things.
- Participation in athletic or physical and creative/ expressive activity.

We encourage children to take responsibility for their own learning, to be active and independent learners who develop not only the skills and confidence, but also the key abilities to make a productive contribution to society. We encourage the notion of learning to be extended to all experiences and not just school.

Effective teaching and Learning

We use the National Curriculum for England (NCfE) framework as a delivery tool for teaching and learning.

We believe that this approach facilitates effective teaching as it enables teachers and learners to:

- Develop interests, enthusiasm and drive motivation;
- Plan and develop learning activities with flair and imagination and creativity;
- Make relevant links and connections in knowledge, understanding and skills and concepts;

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- Encourage student engagement and activity in planning the direction of their own studies within the planned framework;
- Some excellent study modules and resources;
- Provide a scaffold for opportunities to apply writing/recording skills.

Teachers plan lessons with clear learning objectives. We take these objectives from the National Strategy/skills for numeracy and literacy and from the IPC. Our lesson plans contain information about the tasks to be set; the success criteria; opportunities for UAE culture, SEND provision, AG&T opportunities, ICT related topics; resources needed; and the way we assess the children's work. We evaluate all lessons through assessment outcomes and plenary feedback, so that we can modify and improve our future teaching impact on learning.

- Teachers establish good working relationships with all the children in the class. We treat the children with kindness and respect. We recognise that they are all individuals with different needs, all our teachers follow the guidelines with regard to discipline and classroom management, and we expect all children to comply with the routines that we jointly devise to promote the best learning opportunities for all. We praise children for their efforts and, by so doing, we help to build positive attitudes towards school and learning in general. We insist on good order and behaviour at all times.
- Teachers try to ensure that all tasks and activities that the children perform are safe. When we plan to take children out of school, we follow a strict set of procedures to ensure safety: the venue is visited, risk assessments are completed, and various permissions are obtained. We inform parents, and obtain their permission, before the visit takes place.
- We employ and deploy teaching assistants and other adult helpers as effectively as possible. Sometimes they work with individual children, and sometimes they work with small groups.
- Our classrooms are attractive learning environments. We change displays at least once a term. We ensure that all children have the opportunity to display their best work at some time during the year. We also use displays as learning prompts/scaffolds for the children as well as exemplars to raise expectations.
- Our teachers may subject teach to their curriculum strengths. We set in literacy and numeracy in Years 1-9. (as appropriate)

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The Role of Parents

We believe that parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to learn. We do all we can to inform parents about what and how their children are learning:

- Listening to parents and sharing information with parents.
- Holding parents' workshops to explain our school strategies. Sending information to parents, at the start of each month, which outlines the topics that the children will be studying during that month at school.
- Sending parents periodic reports in which we explain the progress made by each child, and indicate how the child can improve further.
- Revising our homework approach to engage and enthuse parents to work with their child using links to projects and investigative work.
- Canvassing the opinions and views of parents as part of the home/school partnership.

We believe that parents have the responsibility to support their children and the school implementing school policies. We would therefore like parents:

- To ensure that their child has the best attendance record possible.
- To ensure that their child is equipped for school with the correct uniform and PE kit.
- To do their best to keep their child healthy and fit to attend school.
- To inform school if there are matters outside of school that are likely to affect a child's performance or behaviour.
- Support children's strengths and areas for development e.g. commitment to music practice, out-of hours commitments; sports coaching etc.;
- To promote a positive attitude towards school and learning in general.

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Review Date:	July 2023
Next Review Date:	July 2024

Principal		Date:	27/07/2023
BIS Board of Governors		Date:	27/07/2023

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