



BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

CENSORSHIP POLICY

2024-2025

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info@belvedereinternationalschool.com

Hili, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

www.belvedereinternationalschool.com





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The aim of this policy is to make sure our books, plays, news reports, films, radio programs etc. are examined for the purpose of suppressing parts deemed objectionable on moral, political, military or other grounds. It is a change in the access status of material, made by a governing body or representative and these changes include exclusion, restriction, removal and age/grade level changes.

Key members

- SLT Members

Types of censorship:

The types of censorship that the school is aiming to consider objectionable are:

- Any content that contradicts with the ethics and morals of the UAE including nudity and dating.
- Any content that contains material which express hate to religion.
- Any content that is not in line with UAE laws.
- Any Internet content that allows or assists users to access blocked content;
- Any content that is relevant to gambling;
- Any content that provides information on purchasing, manufacturing, promoting and using illegal drugs.

Book and Internet censorship

Study of Islam is compulsory for Muslim students in private schools. Therefore, BIS has strict rules on the books and internet contents that are available to the children. BIS doesn't teach subjects or use textbooks or visit any website that offend the religion, defame any religion, or contravene the country's moral sensibilities. Although the school guarantees freedom of expression, the school monitors every single piece of media that is brought into the school. BIS censors everything that it finds inconsistent with religious, cultural, and moral values of the country as a whole and the school in specific. The main topics that are focused on are pornography, material deemed insulting to Islam, and criticism of the country's rulers.

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Censorship and Cyber bullying at home

The school is the center of the children's lives. Online harassment may take place at home, but the fall out is often seen at school and can interfere with the educational environment. The teaching is to align to be good digital citizens. BIS as a school has the responsibility to educate the children so they use the technology correctly. Our teachers do not limit the discussion to computer class or Internet safety day, they bring it up in any capacity, in any instance, in any classroom. As well, our teachers are encouraging parents to be involved in their children online lives.

APPENDIX 1: Belvedere International School Sensitive Topics Display and Usage Policy

This policy has been written using information provided by a number of sources including ADEK and is designed to inform all staff working in the school environment about the display and usage of topics that may cause offence to students, parents or visitors to the school.

Every member of staff should ensure that they have read this policy and that they understand it. If they need clarification on any point, then it is their responsibility to seek guidance from a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) immediately.

The following topics and content are to be avoided.

The topics and notes below pertain to displays in classrooms, corridors and all public spaces and also to any literature, handouts, worksheets, digital resources etc. used in the School. ***Topics within an examination syllabus can be taught but clarification MUST be sought first.***

- It is against UAE educational law to mention Israel as a country.
- Judaism as a religion, anything mentioning Jew or Jewish.
- Judaism as a religion, anything mentioning Jew or Jewish.
- 6 pointed stars should not be used or displayed
- World War II topics dealing with Hitler and the Holocaust
- Erroneous information (or defamation) about Islam or the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and against UAE educational law.
- Drawings or pictures depicting any Islamic prophet, Allah, Angels etc.
- Strong negative emotional books.
- Pictures or drawings which violate public manners.
- Anything that promotes negative habits such as drug abuse, mixing of men and women, promiscuity, drinking alcohol etc.

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- Writings on alcohol, love scenes, non-Muslim worshipping and entertainment places (night clubs etc.).
- Negative images of family life, child abuse, foetal alcohol syndrome.
- Falsely demonstrating historical fact.
- Erroneous information (or defamation) of the government, history, heritage or society of the UAE.
- Any pictures, drawing or mention of Pigs, pork or pork products.
- Any mention or illustration of magic in any of its forms.
- Evolution as a factual account of Man's development.
- Any detailed references to family celebrations and commemorations such as births, marriages and funerals.
- Communism as a political movement.
- Any customs that contradict the teaching of Islam.

This policy also covers the use of language within the School. With a polite and respectful approach to everyone else at the heart of the Schools ethos the following guidance should not need any explanation or justification. The following will not be tolerated and any instances should be reported immediately to a member of staff for action:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Swearing | • Tribalism |
| • any defamation of Islam | • Sexual language |
| • Racism | • Disrespectful language |

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