



Nurture
Lifelong
Learning



CURRICULUM BOOKLET



At The Arcadia Preparatory School, we deliver a dynamic and innovative curriculum that prepares children to become global citizens of the future.

Our teachers deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage framework for children aged 3-5 years and the National Curriculum for England (NCfE) is taught to children aged 5-11 years.

The NCfE is enhanced with additional programmes to ensure that children receive a well rounded and balanced education.



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EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE



The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) sets standards for the learning, development and care of your child from birth to 5 years of age.

The Early Years Foundation Stage at The Arcadia Preparatory School ensures that children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. It promotes teaching and learning to ensure a smooth transition into the National Curriculum and gives children the broad range of knowledge and skills that provide the right foundation for good future progress through school and life.

The level of progress children should have attained by the end of the EYFS is defined by the 17 Early Learning Goals within the 7 areas of learning.

7 AREAS OF LEARNING

EARLY LEARNING GOALS

PRIME AREAS

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Making Relationships
- Self-confidence and Self-awareness
- Managing Feelings and Behaviour

2. Physical Development

- Moving and Handling
- Health and Self-care

3. Communication and Language

- Listening and Attention
- Understanding
- Speaking

SPECIFIC AREAS

4. Literacy

- Reading
- Writing

5. Mathematics

- Numbers
- Shape, Space and Measure

6. Understanding the World

- People and Communities
- The World
- Technology

7. Expressive Arts and Design

- Exploring and Using Media and Materials
- Being Imaginative

TOP 10 FEATURES OF EYFS



01 AGE-APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

Every child is regularly assessed in accordance with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework and the academic and social progress is analysed, tracked and reported by our teachers and external experts.

02 FOCUS ON PHONICS

We focus on phonics acquisition in Foundation Stage. Phonics Bug, a core online resource, and systematic phonics are our highly effective and proven method of teaching children to read, providing a firm foundation for the development of key literacy skills.

03 ACCESS TO SPECIALIST TEACHERS

Our young learners benefit from regular access to our specialist teachers. These include Art, Music, PE, Arabic and Computing.

04 TECHNOLOGY

Technology is embedded naturally within our learning environments and teachers are trained to utilise the iPad and other interactive technologies wherever appropriate to enhance teaching and learning. Simple and fun coding and programming is introduced to our FS children, ensuring they receive a flying start in this important and developing field of learning.

05 USING OUTDOOR PLAY TO EXTEND CLASSROOM LEARNING

The FS classrooms open into our uniquely designed outdoor play environment, featuring sand and water play allowing children to naturally extend their learning to the outdoors.

06 ENRICHMENT LEARNING

Our FS Programme is enhanced by our enrichment learning, where each child gets to choose from activities that would normally be considered extra-curricular such as martial arts, ballet, football and gymnastics delivered by experts and coaches within our regular school timetable.

07 ACCESS TO ARCADIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Our Foundation Stage children benefit from access to our state-of-the-art primary school infrastructure including a multi-purpose hall, canteen, music and art rooms and our stunning library.

08 ROLE MODEL SUPPORT

Based on our highly effective whole school house system, each child in Foundation Stage is supported by an older child in school who acts as a mentor and role model. Opportunities are planned throughout the year for both formal and informal interaction including reading support, inter-house activities and other fun and interactive challenges.

09 TEACHER QUALIFICATION

All our FS teachers are highly qualified with a minimum of a PGCE degree. We provide a world-class continual professional development programme for our teachers ensuring they remain at the leading edge of early childhood education provision. Our children receive the highest quality education from our motivated and well-trained Early Years Foundation Stage teachers.

10 INCREASED ATTENTION AT FS1

Our unique staffing model ensures three adults are in each Foundation Stage 1 class. We see this as an important aspect of ensuring each child receives the personalised care and individual attention that they deserve.

EARLY YEARS EXPLORERS



At The Arcadia Preparatory School, we acknowledge that children learn best through first-hand experience in relation to themselves, their senses and the world around them. For this reason, we have designed the Early Years Explorers (EYE) programme to supplement the EYFS. This approach is based on the concept that powerful learning is built on harnessing children's natural curiosity in ways that help to develop new skills and understanding in the context of their environment. Children access their curriculum through exploratory learning combined with our ethos to spark imagination and provide a multi-sensory approach to teaching and learning. The programme provides a firm foundation for transition to the National Curriculum for England, which children move to in Year 1.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM FOR ENGLAND

The National Curriculum for England, which was re-designed and modernised in 2014, is based on the concept of mastery of core skills and concepts at each year level, thus building solid foundations for on-going learning. The focus is on ensuring core understanding and key skills are developed at each level across all subjects. Pupils working at a mastery level are extended to apply these understandings and skills in purposeful, cross-curricular ways, employing a range of learning strategies. The curriculum has been designed with the aim that all pupils become well-rounded, articulate and confident 21st century learners.

KEY STAGE 1 Year 1 and 2	KEY STAGE 2 Year 3 to 6
English (Reading, Writing and Speaking)	English (Reading, Writing and Speaking)
Mathematics	Mathematics
Science	Science
Arabic	Arabic
Computing	Computing
Art and Design Technology	Art and Design Technology
Geography	Geography
Islamic Studies (Muslim Pupils)	Islamic Studies (Muslim Pupils)
History	History
Music	Music
Physical Education	Physical Education
	French (Years 5 and 6)

YEAR 1

For children in Year 1, the first term is crucial for the transition from the Foundation Stage to the National Curriculum for England. Lessons are delivered in a way that considers learning styles and age-related expectations whilst building on knowledge gained in the Foundation Stage.

Children in Year 1 study the core subjects: English, Mathematics and Science, and the remaining foundation subjects are linked, where possible, through a common topic that relates to the skills and age-related expectations. Phonics lessons are delivered to build foundations for reading and spelling.

INTEGRATED TOPICS OF STUDY

SEPT-OCT	NOV-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	APR-MAY	MAY-JUN
Senses and The Human Body	Celebrations	Investigating Robots	Weather Patterns	Animal Kingdoms	Journeys and Voyages

YEAR 2

Year 2 children continue to broaden their knowledge in the NCfE subjects and Arabic. Muslim children start with Islamic Studies.

Children in Year 2 study the core subjects: English, Mathematics and Science, and the remaining foundation subjects are linked, where possible, through a common topic that relates to the skills and age-related expectations.

Depth of learning is important in this year group as children are taught to apply their prior knowledge to demonstrate mastery of the curriculum at the end of Key Stage One.

INTEGRATED TOPICS OF STUDY

SEPT-OCT	NOV-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	APR-MAY	MAY-JUN
Healthy Choices	Time Travelling	Materials and Properties	Where We Live	Plants, Animals and Habitat	Microhabitats

YEAR 3

Children move into lower Key Stage Two and continue to study the core subjects: English, Mathematics and Science. Foundation subjects are linked, where possible, through a common topic that relates to the skills and age-related expectations required of the national curriculum. A regular spelling programme is introduced to enhance and encourage correct spellings at all times.

Independence is fostered in many different ways and children are encouraged to develop a range of strategies to strengthen this ability. One such activity is field trips, whereby children visit a variety of locations and discover ways to work in both large and small teams.

INTEGRATED TOPICS OF STUDY

SEPT-OCT	NOV-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	APR-MAY	MAY-JUN
Home and Host Countries	Local Area Fieldwork	Properties of Plants, Animals and Humans	Light and Space	Dubai and The UAE	Egypt

YEAR 4

For children in Year 4, expectation develops particularly with regard to focus and application. Children are expected to study topics for longer periods of time and thus develop strong connections between their learning.

Children in Year 4 continue to study the core subjects: English, Mathematics and Science and the remaining foundation subjects are linked through a common topic that relates to the skills and age-related expectations required of the national curriculum; however, this is not always possible and lessons may remain as discrete subjects.

INTEGRATED TOPICS OF STUDY

SEPT-OCT	NOV-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	APR-MAY	MAY-JUN
Inventors Through History	Roman Life	Coasts and Oceans	Food Chains	Viking Life	Viking Life

YEAR 5

Children enter upper Key Stage 2. They develop their knowledge through meaningful, real experiences and begin to use the spoken language to underpin the development of their reading and writing. Pupils are encouraged to read widely to establish an appreciation and love of reading, and to gain knowledge across the curriculum.

Learning is linked, where appropriate, but this is not always possible and some lessons are more likely to be taught in a unique manner.

Pupils are taught French for Year 5 and upwards.

INTEGRATED TOPICS OF STUDY

SEPT-DEC	JAN-APR	MAY-JUN
Ancient Greece	Life Cycles	Earth and Space

YEAR 6

The end of Key Stage 2 is a critical time for children to begin a new journey and as children enter Year 6, preparations begin for entry to secondary school.

Lessons continue to be delivered through National Curriculum subjects and emphasis is focused on mastery of the entire curriculum. Year 6 teaching and expectations bring together all the skills that have been taught previously and allows for opportunities for children to demonstrate deep understanding.

INTEGRATED TOPICS OF STUDY

SEPT-DEC	JAN-APR	MAY-JUN
Early Islamic Civilisation	Comparing People and Places	Dinosaurs and Fossils



TALK FOR WRITING

Children from FS1 to Y6 are taught the tools of Talk for Writing. This powerful programme utilises the principles of how children learn. Pupils are provided with opportunities to practice and rehearse their writing and imitate key language before putting pen to paper.

All teachers are trained in the principles of Talk for Writing and expectations are differentiated to remain in line with the age-related expectations of the National Curriculum.

ENRICHMENT LEARNING PROGRAMME



The Enrichment Learning Programme (ELP) is a unique offering which provides extra-curricular and enriching experiences for children within the school day. This removes the need for parents to pay for and manage after school activities and the school is able to ensure quality control during our extended school day.

Each term, parents are invited to choose from a dynamic and diverse range of activities for their child. Every pupil has the opportunity to experience a variety of activities and to develop new skills. We regularly communicate with parents to enhance the offered range of activities whilst maintaining access to popular choices.

All sessions last for one hour and are delivered both by our own teachers and assistant teachers as well as by highly trained, external coaches and experts, experienced at delivering age-appropriate activities for primary group children.

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children receive three sessions weekly and Foundation Stage children receive a one-hour session weekly.

The Enrichment Learning Programme (ELP) is made up of two elements, all delivered within the school day:

1. Sports and physical development specialist activities provided both by external coaches and Arcadia staff (for children selected for sports squads and teams, these sessions may be used for squad training)
2. Teacher-led enrichment activities across a wide and varied range of non-physical experiences delivered by external coaches and Arcadia staff



ENRICHMENT LEARNING PROGRAMME - OPTIONS

TERM 1 - PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

FOUNDATION STAGE *(One hour per week)*

Ballet	Football	Zumba	Gymnastics	Karate
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YEARS 1 TO 5 *(Two hours per week)*

Ballet	Football	Martial Arts	Dance	Tennis
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Squad Training
(for selected teams)

TERM 1 - OTHER ENRICHMENT OPTIONS

YEARS 1 AND 2

French	Spanish	Drama	Arabic Music	Crafts
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Collage	Painting
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YEARS 3 TO 5

Junior MBA	French	Spanish	Origami	Jewellery Making
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Cooking	Reading Club
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HOMEWORK SUPPORT



Homework support is provided for all key stage children within the school day. Sessions are allocated and designed by class teachers to target specific areas of learning, which are identified as requiring additional practice and rehearsal.

Children benefit from the expertise within school to guide and support them. Once homework is completed at school, parents need not support additional work at home (unless at the parent's request) thus saving 'family time'.

Homework sessions are shared with parents regularly through the learning app, with achievements and areas of current focus provided to parents, to allow them to support their child's learning and development.

MORAL EDUCATION

The Moral Education curriculum is a new initiative of the UAE government and is now implemented in all schools from Year 2 upwards.

The programme offers four strands of teaching and learning, which are: Character and Morality, The Individual and the Community, Civic Studies and Cultural Studies.

Moral Education is underpinned by thinking, learning and communication skills, which support development through the programme in its entirety.

JUNIOR MBA



*"How wonderful it is no one needs to wait
a single moment before starting to improve the
world."*

- Anne Frank



This innovative programme brings together children's innate creativity with the skills of entrepreneurship. Designed and led by specialists and experts, the Junior MBA is unique to The Arcadia Preparatory School and allows pupils' to explore the opportunities, which stem from entrepreneurial thinking.

The aim of the programme is to inspire and teach pupils the basics of entrepreneurship from a young age.

The Junior MBA programme is offered to all pupils from Year 1 upwards as an enrichment option, and covers areas such as finance, management, marketing and social entrepreneurship. Upon completion of the programme, children present their business ideas to their parents and peers.

ARCADIA HAPPINESS PROGRAMME

Delivered as an Enrichment Learning Programme option, the aim of this purpose-designed programme is to fully educate the whole child, ensuring happiness and contentment within pupils. Elements of this progressive curriculum include:

- » teaching children to make healthy choices regarding diet and nutrition
- » developing exercise programmes to promote a healthy body and mind
- » creating opportunities for pupils to appreciate and practice 'giving and gratitude'
- » digital detoxification

We embrace the concept of Mindfulness; enabling pupils to calmly acknowledge and accept their thoughts and feelings. The curriculum allows for pupils to practice Mindfulness by means of discussion groups, breathing techniques and self awareness strategies.



ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

GIFTED AND TALENTED

Pupils showing high performance capability in areas such as the arts, sport, maths, science, reading and writing will receive challenge in lessons for their specialised areas and have opportunities to represent the school in competitions.

SEND

Pupils identified as having a Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND) are provided with a bespoke programme of support. The Learning Support team monitor and deliver additional intervention as required.

EAL

Pupils who use English as an Additional Language (EAL) or are new to English (EAL-B) will benefit from extra support in lessons, with specialist teachers for intervention and booster sessions.

THE ARCADIA VALUES

As a school, we have high aspiration for our pupils, staff and school community. This is reflected in 'The Arcadia Values', a set of ideals to which we all aspire on a daily basis:



POSITIVITY



RESPECT



TOLERANCE



CREATIVITY



INDEPENDENCE



COMPASSION

These values form a thread running through all aspects of school life including teaching, learning and design and implementation of our enriched curriculum. The Arcadia Values are also embedded within our Behaviour programmes ensuring children understand and strive towards these in age appropriate ways, every day of their school lives.

THE ARCADIA PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Orchid Street, District 9,
Jumeirah Village Triangle, Dubai, UAE
T: +971 4 552 2600 | F: +971 4 558 5122
E: info@arcadia.sch.ae
www.arcadia.sch.ae