

**RAISING  
STUDENT  
ACHIEVEMENT  
EVERY DAY,  
EVERY WAY**



**DUNECREST  
AMERICAN  
SCHOOL**



## MISSION

To provide a holistic American international education that inspires students to discover their talents, pursue their passions, and make a positive impact on their communities and the world beyond.



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## VISION

To be a vibrant learning community  
that nurtures global leaders.

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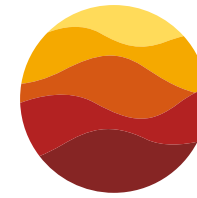
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Follow us, we're social!

Look for Dunecrest American School on your favorite social media platforms, via the handle [@dunecrestdubai](#)

## RAISING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT EVERY DAY, EVERY WAY



**DUNECREST  
AMERICAN  
SCHOOL**

Dear Families,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Dunecrest American School. Our school opened in the Fall of 2018 and we will continue to write our history with every new day.

Our mission at Dunecrest is "to provide a holistic American education that inspires students to discover their talents, pursue their passions, and make a positive impact on their communities and the world beyond."

We will achieve this mission by living our principles every day and in every endeavor. We will also achieve our mission by being active participants in our vision "to be a vibrant learning community that nurtures global leaders."

Dunecrest American School seeks to graduate young people whose creativity and independence of thought sustain their continuing inquiry and reflection, whose interest in others and the world around them surpasses their self-concern, and whose passion for learning pushes them beyond what they already know.

At Dunecrest we believe in the foundational importance of scholarship, the value of dialogue, and the need for academically curious young people to belong to a kind, creative, diverse, and joyful community. We challenge our students to engage deeply in learning, appreciate one another, and grow into adults who are intellectually adventurous, ethically sure-footed, and generous of heart and spirit.

We encourage you to become part of our educational community and partner with us on our journey of educational excellence.

Educationally Yours,

**Bill Delbrugge**  
Director  
Dunecrest American School



*At Dunecrest we believe in the foundational importance of scholarship, the value of dialogue, and the need for academically curious young people to belong to a kind, creative, diverse, and joyful community.*



## 40 YEAR LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

an  **Esol Education** school

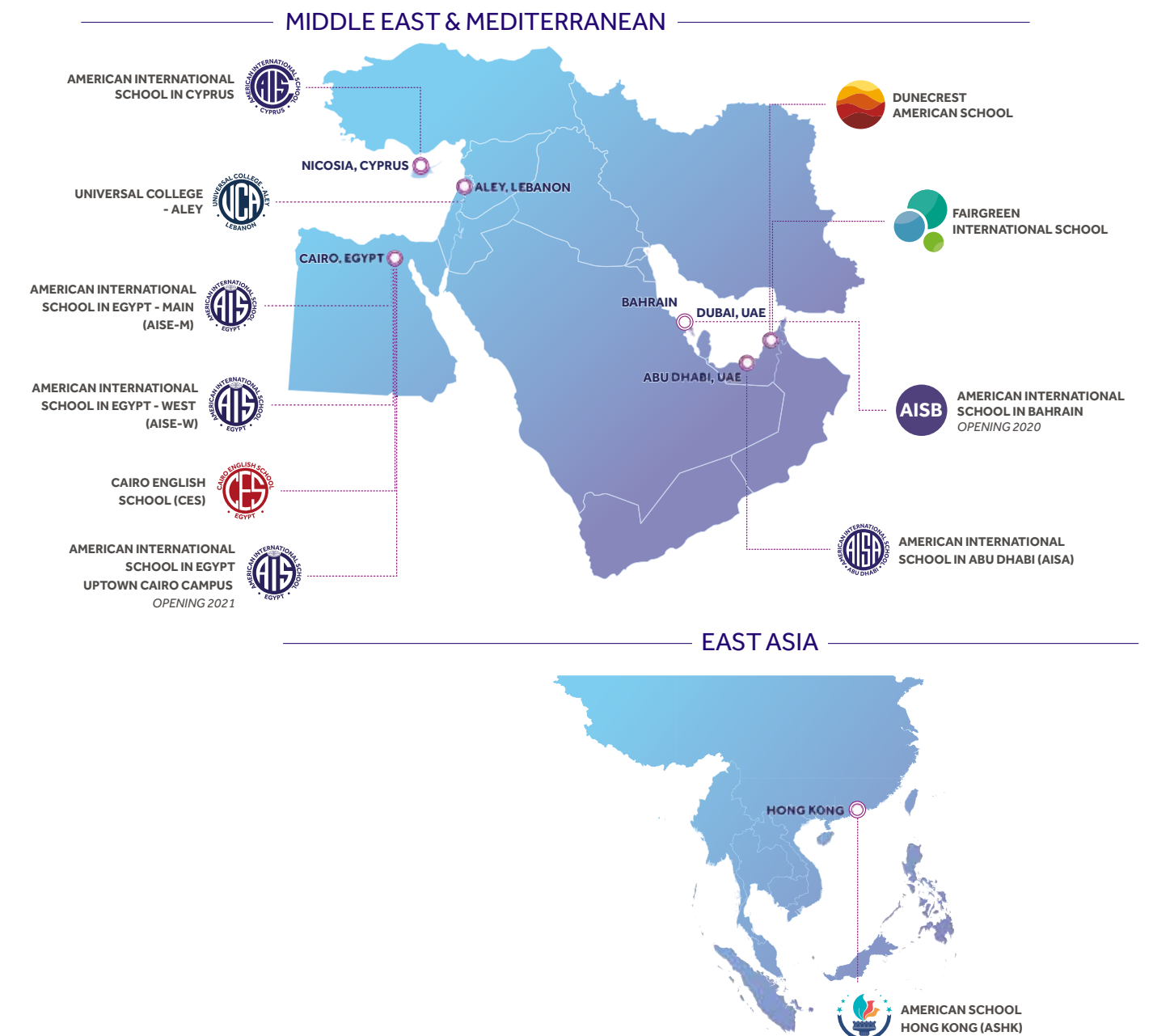
Dunecrest is Esol Education's new flagship school in Dubai, part of a network of exceptional international schools around the world in locations such as Abu Dhabi, Hong Kong, Cairo, Nicosia and Lebanon.

With a heritage of 40 years of excellence, Esol Education has earned an exceptional reputation as a leading provider of high quality international K-12 education, serving over 11,000 students across nine schools in the Middle East and Mediterranean.

Esol Education aims to develop well-rounded global citizens who are socially responsible lifelong learners. With a view towards preparing young people to meet the call of the 21st century, we measure our success through our students' progress, performance and wellbeing.

Focused on providing the highest standards of educational excellence, all Esol Education schools enjoy the benefits of experienced leadership, dedicated teachers and superlative facilities.

Our teams of educators use research-based, progressive teaching methods tailored to children's individual needs, putting students at the forefront of their learning. Bright and articulate, Esol students take great pride in their education, going on to attend leading universities across the world.



## WORLD'S LEADING UNIVERSITIES

### University Profile

Dunecrest is a proud Esol Education school, with a long history of student achievement above world averages in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) and other quality graduation programs, with some exceptional students achieving perfect scores, attained by only 0.32% of students worldwide. With a successful post-secondary preparation program in the senior years, 100% of our graduates go on to tertiary education. Our students are accepted into universities or colleges in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Europe, the Middle East, or elsewhere, with several placements in the world's top 50 schools (ranked by Reuters and the Times Education Supplement) including Harvard, Stanford, Oxford, Yale, MIT and Columbia.

Like our sister schools, Dunecrest provides professional college placement counseling to help our students determine which institutions best suit their individual abilities and interest, and maximize their chances for admission to the institution of their choice. The colleges and universities that have offered admission to Esol school graduates include:



Stanford University



Imperial College  
London







Campus  
Footprint

**40,000**  
sq. meters



Campus  
Capacity

**1200**  
students



Half-Olympic  
Sized Pool

**25 m.**



**ARTS**

Performing  
Arts & Fine Arts  
Program

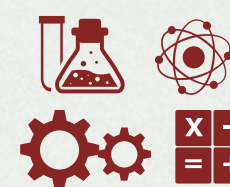


**400 m.**  
Running Track



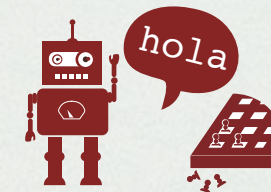
**PBL**

Hands-on  
Project Based  
Learning



**STEAM**

Learning with  
Tech Zones &  
Maker Spaces



**ECA**

Extra-curricular  
Activities





# OUR PILLARS

DUNECREST AMERICAN SCHOOL WAS FOUNDED IN 2018.  
WE WILL CONTINUE TO WRITE OUR HISTORY WITH EVERY  
NEW DAY.



# CREATIVITY

Learning is embraced when it is personalized, when the learner's interests, preferences, strengths, contributions, and prior knowledge are sufficiently honored. Dunecrest American School fosters curiosity about the world by creating learning situations that stimulate thinking and inquiry while providing time to experiment and to make sense of what is observed. Learning is both a personal process of discovery and a collaborative process that leads to a deeper appreciation of knowledge and academic growth.

# INDEPENDENCE

Students and teachers need time alone to explore their own thoughts, make their own connections, and create their own ideas. They also need opportunities to exchange their reflections with other students and teachers. We must ask our students what they believe in, so they can know themselves and their role in the world. We must give our students the tools of rigorous and passionate intellectual inquiry and self-expression so they can grow. Every aspect of Dunecrest American School encourages both students and teachers to become increasingly more responsible for directing their own personal and collective learning.



# WELLNESS

The interaction between student and teacher is the heart of our school. All that we do must stem from enhancing that relationship. Our mission is to challenge the minds, excite the imaginations, and train the bodies of the students in our care. We guide our students to make healthy choices and to have respect for their own minds and bodies. We lead them to distinguish right from wrong, and to choose to do what is right so they can develop into responsible and courageous citizens. At Dunecrest American School, exacting inquiry and thoughtful conversations foster the life of the mind, instruction and actively promote fitness and health, and the daily interactions of faculty and students build integrity and nurture empathy, and kindness.

# INTERNATIONAL MINDEDNESS

In our commitment to help our students be internationally minded, we demonstrate how to be colleagues and friends, so they act with respect and love. As a school community with these purposes and responsibilities, we will engage the larger communities of city, nation, and world of which we are a part. Both diversity and inclusion increase the richness of ideas, creative power, problem-solving ability, and respect for others. At Dunecrest American School, students investigate and value their different histories and talents as well as those of other communities and cultures. Because learning and growth at Dunecrest American School arise from each individual's engagement with others, students and faculty value the differences they bring to enrich the community they share.



# SERVICE

In life and at school we are crew, not passengers. Students and teachers are strengthened by acts of service. One of Dunecrest American School's primary roles is to prepare students with the attitudes and skills to learn from and be of service to others. Our school is committed to uniting knowledge, service and good moral values to foster our students' desire for humankind's common good, and to increase their capacity for mutual and self-respect. We prepare our students to learn confidently for the rest of their lives, and to give generously and joyfully to others. We seek to develop students who combine proven academic ability, intellectual curiosity, and determination with decency, good character and service.

# INNOVATION

Learners are most engaged when the learning community challenges them with interesting and achievable objectives. Learning happens best with passion, challenge and the essential support to experience success. People discover their abilities, values, passions, and responsibilities in situations that offer adventure and the unexpected. At Dunecrest American School, we help students overcome their fears and discover their innate ability to innovate and solve real world problems. Individual and group development are integrated so that the value of friendship, trust, and group action is clear. The school culture is grounded in principles of trust, respect and responsibility. Faculty and staff continually teach students how to responsibly use their access to technology to enhance knowledge and learning. Students are encouraged to compete, not against each other, but with their own personal best and with rigorous standards of excellence.





## PERSEVERANCE

All students need to be successful if they are to build the confidence and capacity to take risks and meet increasingly difficult challenges. However, it is also important for students to learn from their failures, to persevere when things are hard, and learn to turn challenges into opportunities. The challenges that students meet at Dunecrest American School and the support they receive have a common purpose: to stimulate their development as individuals and as members of their local and global communities.

## FEEDBACK

Learners require regular, timely, and user-friendly feedback in order to understand goals, to produce quality work, and to meet high standards. Learning and innovation are fostered best in communities where student and teacher ideas are respected and where there is mutual trust, provided by a caring adult monitoring the progress of each child and advocating for their best interest. Older students mentor younger ones, and students feel physically and emotionally safe. This is the Dunecrest American School's focus on "Raising Student Achievement Every Day, Every Way."

The background is a solid dark red color. It features three broad, wavy, horizontal lines in a lighter shade of red, creating a sense of movement and depth. The lines are positioned roughly in the upper third, middle third, and lower third of the frame.

**WHO  
WE  
ARE**



## Our Philosophy

Dunecrest American School provides a co-educational, English language, college preparatory program of studies as well as The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program that culminates in awarding eligible students an American High School Diploma and/or the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

A holistic education is provided that encourages high standards of academic achievement, meaningful collaboration, and personal development, while supporting the unique needs of each learner.

We encourage the expression of multiple perspectives in a safe and nurturing learning environment, such that the cultural identity of each student is valued.

We prepare students to contribute to and thrive in a multicultural society. We support students in the development of skills and learning strategies.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and wellbeing. Learning explicitly addresses guided and independent inquiry and investigations, skill development, and thinking strategies for finding solutions to the complex challenges posed in developing a sustainable and peaceful world.

## Our Curriculum

Dunecrest American School offers a comprehensive, standards-based curriculum that places the student at the center of instructional and programmatic decision-making.

The school will cater for students from Pre-K to Grade 12. The curriculum will be based on the U.S. Common Core Standards and U.S. AERO (American Education Reaches Out) Standards for Grades KG2-12, while for Pre-K and KG1, the Creative Curriculum® for Pre-school early years learning model will be used.

In addition to an American High School Diploma with Advanced Placement options, the school will also offer a separate International Baccalaureate Diploma Program option for students in Grades 11 and 12.

Through STEAM activities students will learn to think critically, collaborate with peers from diverse cultural backgrounds, and use creativity to solve unique challenges through an interdisciplinary program.



## Accreditation

### Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges

With a 30-year relationship with Esol Education, Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA) is the accrediting body for Dunecrest American School. Recognized by the United States Department of Education, MSA is among the premier accrediting associations in the world and has been accrediting colleges and schools in the United States for over a century.



### International Baccalaureate Organization

Dunecrest offers the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme® (IBDP) in Grades 11 and 12. Most of our sister schools in the Esol family are authorized IB World Schools, sharing a commitment to developing distinctive, high quality programs of international education. Only schools authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) as IB World Schools can offer any of its programs.



## Character Education Words of the Month

At Dunecrest American School we develop students who are:

- SEPTEMBER • **PRINCIPLED**
- OCTOBER • **COMMUNICATORS**
- NOVEMBER • **OPEN-MINDED**
- DECEMBER • **CITIZENSHIP**
- JANUARY • **INQUIRERS**
- FEBRUARY • **RISK-TAKERS**
- MARCH • **CARING**
- APRIL • **REFLECTIVE**
- MAY • **KNOWLEDGEABLE**
- JUNE • **THINKERS**



**DUNECREST PRIDE**

*You have it in you!*

**CREST**

**C**reativity  
Think out-of-the-box,  
be curious, dream.

**R**espect  
Be polite, listen,  
help others.

**E**xcellence  
Be confident, optimistic,  
always do your best.

**S**ervice  
Value others, cultivate trust,  
encourage.

**T**eamwork  
Work in collaboration, create a shared vision,  
listen to voices.



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**TODAY AT  
DUNECREST  
AND IN THE  
FUTURE**



## Our Commitment

With a mission “to provide a holistic American education that inspires students to discover their talents, pursue their passions, and make a positive impact on their communities and the world beyond,” Dunecrest American School offers students unparalleled opportunities to undertake problem solving and exploration via hands-on activities.

Dunecrest American School will live the commitment to unite knowledge and good moral values. It seeks students who combine proven academic ability, intellectual curiosity, and tenacity with decency and good character. At Dunecrest American School, exacting inquiry and thoughtful discourse foster the life of the mind, instruction and activity promote fitness and health, and the daily interactions of faculty and students nurture integrity, empathy, and kindness. Because learning and growth at Dunecrest American School arise from each individual's engagement with others, the richness of education here requires diversity in all its dimensions; students and faculty value the differences they bring to the community they share.

The challenges that students meet at Dunecrest American School and the support they receive have a common purpose: to stimulate their development as individuals and as members of society. Dunecrest American School seeks to graduate young people whose creativity and independence of thought sustain their continuing inquiry and reflection, whose interest in others and the world around them surpasses their self-concern, and whose passion for learning pushes them beyond what they already know.

At Dunecrest American School we believe in the foundational importance of scholarship, the value of dialogue, and the need for academically curious young people to belong to a kind, creative, diverse, and joyful community. We challenge our students to engage deeply in learning, appreciate one another, and grow into adults who are intellectually adventurous, ethically sure-footed, and generous of heart and spirit.

*“Dunecrest American School will live the commitment to unite knowledge and good moral values. It seeks students who combine proven academic ability, intellectual curiosity, and tenacity with decency and good character.”*



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**LIFE AT  
DUNECREST**

# Life at Dunecrest

The lives of Dunecrest American School students are diverse. They come to understand and prepare for the world as well as to be actively engaged in it. Community is an integral part of what it means to be a Dunecrest American School student. So too are moments where quiet reflection or one-on-one discussion allows insight into one's identity and encourages personal growth to take place.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD

As Early Childhood Education and Elementary School students arrive at school, they are encouraged by a collective energy. This is an important time for students to experience and celebrate the diversity of friendships and their broader community. As the day formally begins, they will separate into specific tasks and focused effort. From the ingredients of storytelling to concrete explorations of mathematic concepts, from the lyrics of a song to the rigors of art, learning often occurs actively. Comprehension occurs together as much as it does alone, sparked equally by a teacher's observation as by the thoughts of a fellow student. Relationships with each other and with teachers thrive through mutual inspiration.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

The capacity to learn intensifies throughout Middle School. Students encounter increased complexities and the realities of constant change, so life skills are emphasized. Physical education ramps up because healthy bodies enable healthy minds. Service to each other and to our community becomes an important constant and a part of a healthy balance. Meanwhile, academic challenges continue to spread far and wide, encouraging students to excite and surprise themselves.



## HIGH SCHOOL

High School students are engaged in focused activity, honing skills to serve them throughout life. They will grapple with moral questions through Religion, English, and History courses. They will embody a playwright's idea by acting it out. They will understand mobile technologies by writing code. They will converse in French or Spanish. There is so much to do. Alone and together, High School students engage in song, volunteer work, varsity sports, and preparation for college admissions. They publish, they plan and they present. They share who they are becoming with the world. It is a very full life, yet marked all the while with moments of peaceful, reflective insight. What better way is there to prepare for what comes next?



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# **EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

## Early Childhood Center and Elementary School

The school day begins abuzz with enthusiasm as students arrive. The Dunecrest American School Early Childhood Center and Elementary School is a nurturing and encouraging place, where students are given room to experiment and explore, to question and observe. They are eager to share what they find with teachers and classmates alike. Learning here is always an active experience.

Our teachers are passionate, curious, creative and invested in their students and the world around them. School life for these ages is varied, springing from individual focus on specific tasks to larger participation that builds interdependence and relationship skills. It is as much about learning how best to be oneself as learning how to collaborate successfully with peers and the world at large.

Early Childhood Center and Elementary School students engage in structured activities with Secondary School students, as well as the entire Dunecrest American School community. Whether it is fourth graders working on reading and art projects with kindergarteners or small groups of students from mixed grades decorating the dining hall for a Thanksgiving feast for our grandparents, students at Dunecrest American School share with each other and forge connections among the rest of the school.

Through these interactions, Early Childhood Center and Elementary School students learn what is expected of them while making their own unique contributions. It is these connections, opportunities, and conversations that define the ongoing life of Dunecrest American School students. Here, students begin to build bonds with each other and with the diverse and wonderful world outside our walls.



*The curriculum calls us to strengthen our children's confidence, independence, and love of learning and to inspire a desire to contribute to their community*

## The Curriculum

Dunecrest American School's Early Childhood Center and Elementary School curriculum carefully considers all aspects of a child's development: cognitive, physical, emotional and ethical. The curriculum calls us to strengthen our children's confidence, independence, and love of learning and to inspire a desire to contribute to their community.

Dunecrest American School's attention to ethical matters is rooted in the belief that the early years of learning are most important in developing a child's positive disposition toward learning and life.

Our curriculum evolves through conversations among faculty and administrators, balancing Dunecrest American School's academic expectations with the most productive current educational practices and philosophy. Our youngest children learn to value self-expression and creativity through speaking, reading, writing and the arts.

Their thirst for inquiry grows through instruction in Math, Science, Technology and Social Studies. Students begin the study of Arabic and English and delight in learning new words, culture, and accent.

Strong bodies and strong friendships are built through classes that rotate from the gymnasium to the swimming pool.

Students at all levels engage in processes of expression, problem solving and discovery as they gain fluency in the languages of the arts.

This program at Dunecrest American School gives students opportunities to express themselves in their own unique voices and intends to inspire a lifelong love of the arts. Introductory courses in the arts are designed to give students a solid foundation, understanding, appreciation, and insight into the challenges and joys of the creative process.

Advanced coursework aims to give students the tools, skills, and passion to continue to make and study art at the university level and beyond. In social studies, students begin to understand their world by focusing first on themselves, their families, and classmates.

They then begin to look outward at the greater Dunecrest American School community and its neighborhood, in Dubai, and, finally, at the global community. By learning to understand themselves and others, children gain a respect for all, those whose experiences are similar to their own and those whose experiences are different.

The Early Childhood Center and Elementary School curriculum attempts to stimulate the intellects, hearts, and bodies of its students. Community service projects that are interwoven into the curriculum in each grade will include projects such as making collections for a local food pantry, participating in a walk-a-thon, and making crafts to raise money for a children's cancer hospital.

All these experiences help make students confident, happily engaged learners with strong social skills.

*Learning here is always an active experience. Our teachers are passionate, curious, creative and invested in their students and the world around them*



# Program Overview

We believe that children can best acquire a rich body of knowledge and the skills needed for future learning through a curriculum that is developmentally appropriate and that builds upon itself year after year. It is our belief that our curriculum is an expression of the Dunecrest American School mission, which is to provide a holistic American international education that inspires students to discover their talents, pursue their passions, and make a positive impact on their communities and the world beyond.

We realize that the early years of a child's academic life are crucial ones in establishing a positive attitude toward school and life and in generating an enduring passion for learning. We value a young child's natural desire to learn through creation and self-expression. We strive to build upon our students' natural curiosity, while instilling in them a spirit of cooperation, a respect for others and for their ideas, a strong moral foundation, and a satisfaction in personal intellectual growth.

Classroom instruction is complemented by weekly participation in a variety of special subject areas. These include Library, Science, Technology, Music, Art and Physical Education. Although these disciplines are separated for discussion in this guide, the Early Childhood Center and Elementary School program is perceived and planned as an integrated whole.

Our curriculum is the result of on-going conversations among faculty and administration. As such, it reflects our tremendous respect for Dunecrest American School's rich academic expectations and our deep involvement with current educational practices and philosophical thought. It is a document that will continue to grow and evolve.



## TECHNOLOGY

Early Childhood Classrooms and Elementary School classrooms are equipped with computers, iPads, interactive and programmable hardware and a variety of educational apps. These are chosen to support and extend work in the curriculum and to deepen the students' understanding of effective uses of technology to further their learning in a variety of curricular areas.

## LIBRARY

The environment of the library is warm and inviting, and it is laid out with the needs of young students in mind. The library shelves are filled with collections of picture books, easy-to-read books, short novels and easy non-fiction. Fiction and non-fiction books for upper elementary school students are also plentiful. There are also reference, biography, and a professional collection for faculty. Computer databases provide additional reference information for research projects.

Classes come to the library during a scheduled library time. The librarian spends the first portion of each session engaging the students in some form of whole-class reading activity. These activities may include reading stories of general or particular interest (depending on the time of year, the needs of individual classes, etc.), or book talks and presentations of new acquisitions. In the older grades, the librarian teaches the students various research skills based on topics integrated with the classroom curricula. Sometimes the librarian spends time simply talking with the students about reading activities in which they are currently involved. The teacher and the librarian guide the students in selecting books to take home. Selections are guided primarily to encourage the students to develop a love of reading, but they also serve to support and enhance the classroom Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, and Science programs. The librarian is always eager to help teachers find books to enrich classroom theme-units or genre studies.

The library program includes celebrations of themes presented at various times throughout the academic year. These may take the form of book and art displays, library assemblies, or visits from authors, storytellers and performers from around the world.



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND FITNESS

The Early Childhood Center and Elementary School Physical Education and Fitness program is designed to keep students active and involved in physical activity. Our goal is to foster enjoyment in activity, enhance socialization skills, and to build a conceptual knowledge of movement, fitness and sport skills. Various units of games/activities, sport skills, dance, swimming and fitness tests are all part of the students' experience. All lessons emphasize being active, fitness components, cooperation, sportsmanship and having fun.



**MIDDLE  
SCHOOL**



## Middle School

The Middle School program is intended to carry out Dunecrest American School's mission and, in so doing, to serve the needs of the student in Grades 5 through 8. In particular, the program has been designed to help young people acquire knowledge and skills through discovery and conversation, to inspire a love of learning, and to develop individuals who are productive and fulfilled members of their communities.

Upon entering the Middle School in Grade 5, students begin the journey towards becoming more independent thinkers in Grade 8, working hard along the way to acquire the skills and understandings necessary for success in the High School. During this journey, they gradually take ownership of the learning process, build and value friendships with peers and relationships with teachers, and come to appreciate their own individuality and their responsibility to the wider community.

The Middle School program is dynamic, challenging, and rich in the opportunities it presents students to connect with their teachers and with the material they will encounter. Teachers in the Middle School are specialists with young adolescents and are encouraged to maintain high standards tempered by their deep appreciation for the developmental capacities of the middle grades student. In addition to cognitive growth, the Middle School program allows teachers, in partnership with parents and advisors, to also encourage mental, physical, and ethical development.

*"A well-educated mind  
will always have more  
questions than answers."  
- Helen Keller*





**HIGH  
SCHOOL**



# High School

Students in the High School celebrate the responsibility of keen inquiry. The atmosphere is wonderfully academic, vibrant with insight. We do not ask students to simply take a formula or a procedure and regurgitate it in different contexts. We encourage them to wrestle with underlying concepts and see how complex ideas function. This curiosity spans classrooms, stages, laboratories, and playing fields. Through small close relationships among teachers, students, and their families, we forge genuine collaboration. We emphasize partnership, to nurture the capacity to respect ourselves and each other as independent, engaged, and virtuous citizens who recognize the essential interdependence of all members of the community, from neighborhood and city to nation, hemisphere, and world.

Performing arts, rich and varied extra-curricular offerings, and community programs also contribute to Dunecrest American School's unique tapestry. Opportunities abound to explore, strengthen, and cultivate numerous interests and peer relationships. We encourage students to take risks and to learn from their mistakes. You will see our motto, "Raising Student Achievement Every Day, Every Way," woven throughout the days and months, as hard work and moral distinction come alive through critical thinking and compassion for one another.

The entire school comes together regularly for community time. These gatherings offer performances, insights, and ideas, presented as often by students as by guests and faculty. In these gatherings, we grasp and discuss topics we face within our school walls, in our city, our nation, and the world. They are times to fuse individual and communal strength and understanding.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The High School runs on a semester system. Courses meet for a full year and are worth one credit.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR AMERICAN DIPLOMA PROGRAM

- 4 credits of English: English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12
- 4 credits of History: World History I, World History II, U.S. History, Business Studies
- 4 credits of Mathematics: Integrated Math I, Integrated Math II, Pre-Calculus, Calculus
- 4 credits of Science: Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry, Physics
- 2 credits of an Additional Language: Arabic, Arabic

- as a Foreign Language, French, Spanish
- 4 credits of Arabic for Arab Nationals
- 1 credit of Visual or Performing arts
- 2 credits of Physical Education

## IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME® (IBDP)

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme® (IBDP) is a challenging program, recognized by universities around the world for the academic depth, breadth, and rigor it represents. IBDP works to develop the whole student along with academic excellence. Hence, IBDP has become recognized as one of the strongest educational experiences available in secondary education today.

The IBDP prepares students for effective participation in a rapidly evolving and increasingly global society as they:

- Develop physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically.
- Acquire breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, studying courses from six subject groups.
- Develop the skills and a positive attitude toward learning that will prepare them for higher education.
- Study at least two languages and increase understanding of cultures, including their own.
- Make connections across traditional academic disciplines and explore the nature of knowledge through the program's unique theory of knowledge course.
- Undertake in-depth research into an area of interest through the lens of one or more academic disciplines in the extended essay.
- Enhance their personal and interpersonal development through creativity, action and service.

## AUTHORIZATION & RECOGNITION

Only schools officially authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) may offer the IBDP and register candidates for an IB examination session. There are over 2,450 IB World Schools in more than 140 countries.

The IBDP has shown that students are well prepared for university work and the program has earned a reputation for rigorous assessment, giving IB Diploma holders access to the world's leading universities. These include institutions such as Cambridge, Harvard, Heidelberg, McGill, MIT, Oxford, Princeton, Rotterdam Erasmus, Sorbonne, UBC and Yale.





**BALANCED  
LEARNING**



# Balanced Learning

At Dunecrest American School, we are committed to offering a well-balanced program that complements our core academic offering, and is challenging and engaging for students. Here we believe that education is not solely about academics. Learning is a continuous and holistic process that engages the whole child. High-quality teaching supports students in their journey to discovering their place in the world and understanding their responsibility to contribute positively to it. Students engage in hands-on learning, design, exploration and innovation, and are given a broad range of choices, enabling them to pursue their individual passions.

## WORLD LANGUAGES

The World Languages Department considers the study and acquisition of language to be a gateway to understanding other cultures. At all levels, teachers aim to instill enthusiasm for the target language, inspiring learners to advance their ability to communicate effectively.

- The languages offered at Dunecrest include:
- Spanish
  - French
  - Arabic (in two pathways)
    - Arabic as a Foreign Language (AFL)
    - Arabic for Native Speakers

## TECHNOLOGY

Our Technology learning goals are embedded within the curriculum at every grade level, with the aim to instill digital fluency and responsible digital citizenship. At Dunecrest, we design our technology program based on leading-edge standards provided by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE).



- Some of the courses offered include:
- Computer Science
  - Coding
  - Robotics

## ARTS

Our Arts department seeks to provide opportunities for students to explore their potential for personal expression and growth through visual arts, music, theater, and dance. While these disciplines each have their own techniques and concepts, they share a common set of educational values encompassing craft and discipline, collaboration, mutual respect, individuality and self-discovery.

- At Dunecrest we offer:
- Choir
  - Concert Band
  - Theatre Arts
  - Visual Arts
  - IB HL/SL Visual Arts

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Dunecrest's Physical Education department aims to provide children with a good foundation of skill development and cognitive understanding of sport and fitness. Activities are designed to help students increase their self-confidence and self-esteem through physical activity so that they will become adults who understand the benefit and value of a physically active and healthy lifestyle.

- Some of the activities available to our students:
- Basketball
  - Soccer
  - Swimming
  - Track & Field
  - Volleyball

## ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

Much of what defines Dunecrest American School's culture, beyond its academic, artistic, and athletic excellence, lies in the opportunities available through extra-curricular clubs and activities. These programs help students forge friendships, learn to work collaboratively, take on leadership roles, manage their time, and engage in the larger world. Through exposure to new interests, students deepen their knowledge about themselves and the human condition, while savoring the pleasures of possibility.

- Some of the clubs on offer at Dunecrest are:
- Academic Games
  - Chess Club
  - Coding Club

- MUN
- National Junior Honor Society
- National Honor Society
- Photography Club
- Spirit Club
- Student Government
- Theatre Troupe
- School Newspaper
- Yearbook

## ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS

### XL - EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

At Dunecrest American School, we believe in fostering compassion and kindness to each other, the world and all its inhabitants. Through experiential learning opportunities our students extend their curricular knowledge outside the classroom through educational and service opportunities within the UAE and beyond.

These experiences empower students to discover their talents, pursue their passions, and make a positive impact on their communities and the world beyond. Our XL program covers:

- Global Action Program

Students will participate in an International Trip that directly enhances the curricular needs of each grade level. Our trips aim to support curricular learning by providing hands-on experiences that help students make connections and apply their knowledge. These trips have service learning components that prepare students with the attitudes and skills to learn from and be of service to others.

- Students who participate will:
- Build Resilience
  - Cultivate Confidence
  - Connect with Other Cultures
  - Build Community
  - Become Active Social-Changemakers

- Explore UAE

This signature program connects students with our local environment, exposing them to a range of cultural, environmental, and service opportunities within the U.A.E. Students have the choice of participating in overnight educational adventure camps or staying within Dubai and completing daily field studies.







**DUNECREST AMERICAN SCHOOL**

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