



The Schools Compared.com Top Schools Awards, the UAE's **definitive** School Awards, recognising the region's most outstanding schools, teachers and educationalists, today publishes full information for entering the Eleventh of this year's Awards: The Schools Compared.com Top Schools Award for Best International Baccalaureate School in the UAE 2021.

Entry for each of the remaining individual Awards are being published daily between now and the **8th May 2021**. For details of the Awards published to date, [click here](#).

This Award recognises those schools that provide the solus IB programme for students. The Award is open to all solus fully accredited IB schools and there is no requirement on schools to provide all four IB programmes to be considered. Accredited International Baccalaureate schools which blend the IB programme with an alternative international curriculum, should enter for the Blended International Baccalaureate Award, full details of which are published on the 25 April 2021.

First Steps

Please complete this application form to enter your school for The Schools Compared.com Top Schools Award for Best International Baccalaureate School in the UAE 2021.

Please only enter for those Awards in which you believe you have a very powerful case to be considered by judges. It is far better to enter for a single Award – and complete the application for this with **passion** and **depth of insight**, than apply for multiple awards, and stretch your ability to make your case too thin.

Not entering for an Award, does **not** preclude any school from being considered. **All schools in the UAE** are considered within the judging process, drawing on expertise and data across Which Media. Entering for an Award, however, does ensure that we have access to accurate, up-to-date information on your school – and information strengthened by your decisions on how to answer the following questions.

Please use the questions as a guide; you may wish to draw out other strengths to support your case.

Formal entry for this award must be submitted with the agreement of the Headteacher of the school.



Career-related
Programme



Diploma
Programme



Middle Years
Programme



Primary Years
Programme

BREADTH OF COURSE PROVISION AND MEETING THE NEEDS OF ALL CHILDREN

Aim for 1000 - 2000 Words

Support the case that your school provides outstanding breadth of (as applicable) academic, technical and ECA options for students to ensure that every child at your school can meet his or her individual ambitions, potential, and ability in full. Provide paragraphs answering the following: (1) How our facilities develop an outstanding education, academic and/or technical and whole child, for students at our school; (2) Our outstanding teachers; (3) Breadth of subject choice and how it specifically meets the needs of our intake policy; (4) What makes us different and where we excel; (5) Our slipstream graduation universities/colleges/industries; (6) Our financial investment in our teachers and students; (7) Our ethics; (9) Our approach to parents (10) Our alumni.

ENSURING THAT NO CHILD IS LEFT BEHIND

Aim for 200 - 500 Words plus relevant statistical tables

Support the case that your school provides value added achievement to ensure that every child leaves your school meeting or exceeding baseline (1) academic and (2) whole child expectations on joining your school. Please include a paragraph explaining why your school does/does not provide the International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme option for your students.

INVESTING IN CHILDREN

Aim for 250 - 500 words.

Support the case that your school ploughs back a percentage of investment into facilities and/or teacher salaries and/or resources and/or school improvements and/or specific initiatives to financially support parents/families, year-on-year, to improve and/or sustain education for children. Please detail your approach and investments. Please include a paragraph on how your school has sought to assist families and students impacted by Covid 19. Discuss where you have focused the resources of your school during the last two years and the rationale for doing so. You may wish to provide context through discussion of previous investment and planned future investment over the next five years.

THE STRENGTHS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE CURRICULUM

Aim for 500 words to 2000 words.

Describe how and why an all-through International Baccalaureate Curriculum Education sets the global benchmark for an outstanding education for students. What are the stand-out features of an archetypal International Baccalaureate Curriculum education - and how does your school meet and improve on these. Explain how you believe and hope an International Baccalaureate education will evolve over the next 10 years, and how your school is preparing for the opportunities ahead. Finally, consider the view that "[T]he UAE is uniquely placed to bring out the strengths of an International Baccalaureate education for students, strengths that alternative curriculum approaches cannot match."

STRENGTHENING YOUR CASE

Aim for 500 Words

Focused on achievements this year and in the last full pre-Covid year, provide information that is not included above that supports your application to be considered the benchmark International Baccalaureate School in the UAE "against the odds." Discuss how Covid 19 has impacted on the academic and whole child life of your school and how your school has responded.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Aim for 1000 - 2000 words.

Collate a document with evidence supporting the above, together with all areas of provision, investment, innovation and achievement that supports your school being considered the benchmark school for an International Baccalaureate Curriculum education in the UAE. This should include *at least 2* quotations each from current students and parents at your school. A quotation should be included from each Head of Department at your school outlining their ambitions for students and what makes their Department stand-out. Finally, a contextualising quote should be included from the School Principal highlighting the ethics, history, achievements of the school and its contribution to education, historic, current, and planned, in the UAE. We are looking for passion, inspiration, meaningfulness, and clear investment in the school's sense of purpose, values and deep-seated commitment to an IB Curriculum education for students in the evidence provided in this section.



MAKING AN IMPACT IN YOUR APPLICATION

As part of the following application, you will strengthen your case considerably by *sending the following survey links to your students, teachers and parents*, asking them to independently provide feedback on your school as part of your entry to the Top Schools Awards 2021.

Teachers should complete the survey here:

<https://whichschooladvisor.com/uae/surveys/the-teacher-survey>

Parents should complete the survey here:

<https://whichschooladvisor.com/uae/surveys/school-survey>

Older students (Grade 10-12/Year 11-13) should complete the survey here:

<https://whichschooladvisor.com/uae/surveys/the-student-survey>

The statistical results of these surveys are valued, shared with judges and used in our decision making.

In addition we use data provided to us under your school profile on the Which Media database. This can be accessed through our sister site *WhichSchoolAdvisor.com*.

In particular please complete the following sections from the Admin:

- Facilities
- Sports offering
- Scholarships and Bursaries
- Details
- Demographics
- Memberships and accreditations
- General info
- Fees

It is critical that the data relied on by judges is accurate and up-to-date. If you do not have a school account on our sister site, *WhichSchoolAdvisor.com*, please request one so you can update your review and admissions data here:

<https://whichschooladvisor.com/uae/school-signup>



COMPLETE ENTRY

Please collate the above information in a Word document. High resolution (inspirational) photography, relevant film, PDF(s), together with any audio files, should be submitted separately with the Word file. Please also include a School Prospectus if that has been produced.

When your application is completed, these should be sent, in a single email, titled SCTSA21 IB PURE with your School Name, to:

SCTSA@schoolscompared.com

Please note: unless you *specifically identify information that is confidential and sensitive and not for publication, any information sent to us may be published and become a statement of public record. It is vital therefor that information provided is accurate.*

Completed entries must be received no later than 7th July 2021.

