

27 May 2022

Taaleem confirms the new ownership of Jebel Ali School, Damac Hills, Dubai

Tarek Alami Chair of JAS Board of Governors today stated:

"I am pleased to announce that Jebel Ali School, with the full support of our external stakeholders, has joined the renowned Taaleem Group, an established and highly respected provider of outstanding education throughout the UAE. This partnership, that has become possible following extensive and constructive discussions with our landlord, delivers a truly sustainable solution to resolve the school's rent obligations towards our landlord and paves the way for Jebel Ali School's continued growth. On behalf of the JAS Board of Governors and Leadership Team, I would like to emphasize our excitement about the opportunities this unique partnership presents for the JAS community. Under the umbrella of the Taaleem family of schools, Jebel Ali School will continue to deliver exceptional whole school academic provision, building on our enviable reputation as a happy and thriving community school, and centred around our ethos that "better is always possible".

Alan Williamson CEO Taaleem replied:

"Over the last academic year there has been a remarkable amount of hard work, deep discussion and decision making by both the Jebel Ali School (JAS) Board, their School Management and Taaleem to bring us to where we are today. Great credit is due to the JAS Team for their unwavering quest to preserve the school's independence and secure a bright and achievement filled future for the JAS Community. The JAS Team were rightly concerned, cautious and careful to ensure they found the right partner to secure their future. The utmost priority for them was preserving their independence, long history, traditions, and enviable reputation. During the process, it was extremely important to ensure that the partnership was right for both parties and a union of both hearts and minds was achieved. Both parties are determined to ensure that the school continues to thrive, and the partnership is symbiotic in every sphere.

Taaleem appreciates greatly Jebel Ali School's long-standing heritage, reputation, community loyalty and strong brand presence. We firmly believe in the vision and values of JAS and are committed to supporting the JAS journey to 'Outstanding'.

For your further information, we confirm that the 'Debenture Scheme' will no longer be available for newly applying families or supporting corporate sponsors. Parents/corporates that have applied for places in 2022-23 or future years will have their debenture(s) returned in full.

We greatly appreciate that current parents and corporate entities have invested in the school in the form of their debenture(s). Taaleem recognises that this investment has been vital to support the school's aspirations and to significantly help develop it to where it is today.

However, we feel that it is only fair and equitable, and with the agreement of all stakeholders, are committed to reimbursing current debenture holders. This will be a phased, equal payment over the next 5 years to refund the full amount of the debenture(s). The payments will be refunded by Taaleem directly into the debenture holder's bank account. This applies to both personal and corporate debentures. Please be assured that this phased payment will not affect any of the school's planned development or Taaleem's commitment to significantly invest in the school.

Further details of the 'Reimbursement Schedule' will be shared with you in due course.

Any parent leaving the school will, of course be fully reimbursed, in line with the current policy. Those leaving in future years will be reimbursed in full minus any prior reimbursement payments."