

EXCELLENCE
CREATIVITY
PASSION
RESPECT
COLLABORATION

APPLICATION PROCESS AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A FUTURE SHAPED
BY OUR CHILDREN





CONTENTS

01. AL FORSAN NURSERY

- WHICH YEAR GROUP DO I APPLY FOR?
- PROGRESSION TO THE NEXT YEAR IN THE CURRENT SCHOOL
- WHAT CURRICULUMS ARE OFFERED?
- HOME LEARNING
- EXTENDED HOURS ACTIVITIES
- NURSERY TIMINGS AND REGISTRATION OPTIONS
- APPLICATION PROCESS
- HOW CAN I BOOK A TOUR OF THE SCHOOLS?
- CONTACT US

02. ALDAR ACADEMIES

- WHICH YEAR GROUP DO I APPLY FOR?
- APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 10 ONWARDS AT OUR ENGLISH NATIONAL CURRICULUM SCHOOLS
- APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7 FROM ALDAR ACADEMIES' PRIMARY SCHOOLS
- PROGRESSION TO THE NEXT YEAR IN THE CURRENT SCHOOL
- WHAT CURRICULUMS ARE OFFERED?
- APPLICATION PROCESS
- HOW CAN I BOOK A TOUR OF THE SCHOOLS?
- CONTACT US
- WHICH SCHOOL DO I APPLY TO?

SECTION 1

AL FORSAN NURSERY

WHICH YEAR GROUP DO I APPLY FOR?

Aldar Academies' Admission Policy requires children to be a minimum of 2 years of age for pre-FS1 and 3 years of age for FS1 on or before the 31st of August. Aldar Academies is regulated by ADEK and we are required to operate in line with ADEK (Department of Education and Knowledge) regulations.

The entry age requirement for **2018-2019** are as follows:

Year curriculum

FS1	1 st September 2014 to 31 st August 2015	(3 years of age on or before 31 st August 2018)
Pre-FS	1 st September 2015 to 31 st August 2016	(2 years of age on or before 31 st August 2018)

The entry age requirements for **2019-2020** are as follows:

Year curriculum

FS1	1 st September 2015 to 31 st August 2016	(3 years of an age on or before 31 st August 2019)
Pre-FS	1 st September 2016 to 31 st August 2017	(3 years of an age on or before 31 st August 2019)

PROGRESSION TO THE NEXT YEAR IN THE CURRENT SCHOOL

All current pre-FS1 children will automatically roll up to the next year group in your child's current nursery school. Therefore, you do not need to apply for next year to secure your child's place.

All current children in FS1 will need to apply for a place at another school.

Parents with children enrolled in Al Forsan Nursery will have access to priority enrolment into any of our seven Aldar Academies, subject to availability of places.

WHAT CURRICULUMS ARE OFFERED?

Al Forsan Nursery's high-quality curriculum is built upon the sound principles of English EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) Statutory Framework.

We place our focus particularly on the rapid acquisition of language, since the ability to communicate effectively underpins all other learning. Our main language of instruction is English but our unique programme will also include a distinct Arabic dimension, so students will also start the process of learning to read and speak Arabic at an early age.

Children's minds and bodies grow and develop rapidly from birth to 4 years of age. This is why a developmentally appropriate and high-quality method of education is crucial for their early years.

Your child will enjoy being encouraged to partake in active learning with guidance to explore inspiring educational environments, both indoors and outdoors. Utilising high-quality resources, expert staff will promote excellent learning opportunities through effective interaction with all children. Your child will quickly build their self-esteem, develop independence, and demonstrate confidence. A combination of the following interconnected areas of learning will provide an appropriate, well-balanced education for your child.

Our Nursery students receive a solid foundation in the key areas of learning and development, primarily taught through play and practical activities.

Prime areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language Development
- Physical Development

Specific areas of learning:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Expressive Arts and Design
- Understanding the World

Appropriate exposure to all of the above areas of learning lays the foundation for success and will fully prepare your child for a successful transition into any primary school.

Our daily routine ensures that children have sufficient time to enjoy the balanced and healthy packed lunches parents send in from home. The children have a mid- morning snack break and a lunch break.

HOME LEARNING

Since our children are so young, there is no formal homework set at Al Forsan Nursery, although the nursery staff will regularly offer suggestions about how you can help your child learn at home. Sometimes, you may be invited to attend informative parent presentations to learn more about techniques and strategies we recommend to use.

EXTENDED HOURS ACTIVITIES

Al Forsan Nursery offers a wide selection of extended hours options. Typical extended sessions may include activities such as language development through song, science experimentation, creative arts, sports, music exploration and storytelling.

Parents may choose to make use of these facilities directly with Al Forsan International Sports Resort at exclusive discounted rates.

NURSERY TIMINGS AND REGISTRATION OPTIONS

The Nursery operates from Sunday to Thursday from 07:30 am – 2:30 pm, with the option of extended hours until 4:30 pm, subject to demand. Al Forsan Nursery offers a competitive fee structure with flexible registration options for parents; the yearly fee is AED 39,900 full time and AED 33,000 for a part time place.

Timings for FS1

- a) Compulsory – 5 days Sunday to Thursday
 - 7.30 am to 2.30 pm
- b) Extended timings subject to availability
 - 7.30 am to 3.30 pm • 7.30 am to 4.30 pm

Timings for Pre-FS

- c) Sunday to Thursday (3 or 5 days subject to availability - however, it is recommended that all children attend 5 days). Available timings:
 - 7.30 am to 12.30 pm • 7.30 am to 2.30 pm
- d) Extended timings subject to availability
 - 7.30 am to 3.30 pm • 7.30 am to 4.30 pm

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Admissions for the nursery are open year-round for both FS1 and Pre-FS students.
- Apply online at aldaracademies.com to begin the application process.
- You will receive an autoreply to confirm your application. Please ensure that this is checked.
- In due course and subject to a school place becoming available, you will receive an email requesting additional information. A playdate will then be arranged for your child. On completion of the playdate you will be contacted by the admission team within 5 days to advise you of the outcome of the playdate and next steps.
- Upon confirmation from the Admissions, an offer of a nursery place will be sent to you via email. The offer email will contain an acceptance letter, a registration fee invoice, a parent information pack containing important information regarding the nursery and an essential documents and forms pack.
- The signed offer letter, essential documents and forms, along with proof of payment of the registration fee must be returned to Aldar Academies within 10 days to secure your child's place at the nursery. The registration fee is deductible against your child's tuition and is non-refundable. Please also note that Tuition Fees must be payable prior to your child joining the nursery. If your acceptance is not received within 10 days, we reserve the right to offer the place to another child and your child will be moved back to the waiting list.
- **Documents required are:**
 - ▶ Completed acceptance letter
 - ▶ Proof of registration or tuition fee payment
 - ▶ Child's Emirates ID card (if your child is currently in the UAE)
 - ▶ Passport of the student and both parents
 - ▶ Residence VISA of the student and both parents (not applicable to Emiratis and GCC nationals and diplomats.)
 - ▶ Birth certificate
 - ▶ Proof of Address
 - ▶ Passport-size photograph of student
- Towards the end of the current school year, pre-FS and FS1 parents with confirmed places that have been offered and accepted will be to advised you of our staggered intake process. At the beginning of the year, FS1 and pre-FS operate on reduced hours, to approximately 2 hours per day for the first one or two weeks.



HOW CAN I BOOK A TOUR OF THE SCHOOLS?

The full tour schedule and booking system are available at the top of the Aldar Academies website homepage aldaracademies.com

An email can also be sent to principal@alforsannursery.sch.ae and subject to availability and nursery schedule, the principal will be happy to accommodate your request.

CONTACT US

admissions@alforsannursery.sch.ae

Please visit our website for school specific information, including term dates.

aldaracademies.com

SECTION 2

ALDAR ACADEMIES

WHICH YEAR GROUP DO I APPLY FOR?

Aldar Academies' Admission Policy requires children to be a minimum age of 3 years old for FS1 and 4 years old for FS2 on or before 31st August, or 3 years 8 months for KG1 and 4 years 8 months for KG2 on or before 31st August. Aldar Academies is regulated by ADEK and we are required to operate in line with ADEK (Department of Education and Knowledge) regulations.

For students in Abu Dhabi, the entry age requirements for **2019-20** are as follows;

Year curriculum

FS1	1 st September 2015 to 31 st August 2016	(3 years of age on or before 31 st August 2019)
FS2	1 st September 2014 to 31 st August 2015	(4 years of age on or before 31 st August 2019)
Year 1	1 st September 2013 to 31 st August 2014	(5 years of age on or before 31 st August 2019)
Year 2	1 st September 2012 to 31 st August 2013	(6 years of age on or before 31 st August 2019)

Grade curriculum

KG1	1 st January 2015 to 31 st December 2015	(3 years 8 months of age on or before 31 st August 2019)
KG2	1 st January 2014 to 31 st December 2014	(4 years 8 months of age on or before 31 st August 2019)
Grade 1	1 st January 2013 to 31 st December 2013	(5 years 8 months of age on or before 31 st August 2019)

Age during the academic year being applied for	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18
English Curriculum	FS1	FS2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12 Post 16	Y13
American Curriculum		KG1	KG2	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7	G8	G9			

Applications from students currently registered in a school.

Children transferring between schools are considered in Year/Grade groups and must have completed the previous academic year to be permitted to move into the next Year/Grade group.

Year and Grade curricula are followed successively i.e.;

- If your child is currently in Year 5 you must apply for Year 6 for the following academic year.
- If your child is currently Grade 5 you must apply for Grade 6 for the following academic year.

However, if you are moving between year and grade curricula the following applies;

- If your child is currently in Grade 5 you must apply for Year 7 (equivalent of Grade 6) for the following academic year.
- If your child is currently in Year 5 you must apply for Grade 5 (equivalent of Year 6) for the following academic year.

GRADE TO YEAR EQUIVALENCY CHART

Grade System	KG2	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	
KG1 [4 Years of age by Dec 31 st]														
Year System	FS2	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13
FS1 [3 Years of age by Aug 31 st]														

Year group equivalency for children transferring from outside the UAE is subject to ADEK pre-approval. Aldar Academies' Admissions Officers will review applications and advise parents of the appropriate year/grade according to individual circumstances.

APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 10 ONWARDS AT OUR ENGLISH NATIONAL CURRICULUM SCHOOLS

Year 10 is the first year of I/GCSEs. In this year group children are studying subjects chosen as their 'Options'. Option choices are available on our school specific websites and will be discussed with the school directly, following a successful in school assessment.

Year 11 children are midway through their I/GCSEs. Therefore, it is not advisable to move your child to begin a new school for Year 11, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Year 12 places for children are offered depending on children's I/GCSE results. Children are expected to achieve grades A to C in 5 I/GCSE subjects.

Year 13 children are midway through their A-Levels / International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB Diploma) and it is therefore not advisable to move your child to begin a new school for Year 13, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

It is important for students to be aware that they must achieve the Equivalency Certificate and graduate from high school to attend a university in the UAE or another GCC country. Therefore, all students studying in British Curriculum Schools are required to complete Year 13 to meet the minimum school graduation requirements of the Equivalency Certificate. It is important to understand that Year 13 is equivalent to Grade 12.

In addition, students must gain the Shahadat Al-Thanawiya Al-Amma if they wish to gain employment in the UAE in the future, as Federal Law dictates that all government employees must have the Shahadat Al-Thanawiya Al-Amma.

Students studying the English National Curriculum or IB Diploma currently have to achieve (from the specified list of approved Ministry of Education subjects):

1. At least five (5) I/GCSE Grades of 2 (or Grade E) or above
2. Gain the full IB Diploma; or one A Level at Grade D or above; or two AS Levels at Grade D or above
3. Pass the UAE Ministry of Education Arabic studies examination in Year 12 or Year 13
4. Pass the UAE Ministry of Education Islamic Studies examination in Year 12 or Year 13 (Muslim students only).

APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7 FROM ALDAR ACADEMIES' PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Al Muna Academy, The Pearl Academy and Al Mamoura Academy (boys): Students will have a Year 7 school place reserved at Al Bateen Academy, however, please also apply online to guarantee your child's place.

Al Mamoura Academy (girls): Students will roll automatically into Year 7 in Al Mamoura Academy, so there is no need to re-apply. Female students can also apply online to Al Bateen Academy subject to availability.

Al Yasmina Academy and Al Ain Academy: Students will roll automatically into Year 7 of their current school, there is no need to re-apply.

West Yas Academy: Students will remain on roll for their entire duration of their schooling.

PROGRESSION TO THE NEXT YEAR IN THE CURRENT SCHOOL

All current children will automatically roll up to the next year group in your child's current school, therefore you do not need to apply for next year to secure your child's place.

WHAT CURRICULUMS ARE OFFERED?

Aldar Academies' schools follow either the English National Curriculum or the American Curriculum. All students also complete a programme in Arabic and Social Studies in accordance with the UAE Ministry of Education requirements and our Muslim students follow an Islamic Studies programme.

The English National Curriculum is among the most in-demand study options in the world, respected for its high academic standards and focus on developing confidence and individual thinking. The learning pathway is delivered through enquiry or 'project-based learning', a method of teaching which inspires a love of learning and deepens a student's knowledge by challenging them to complete real-world tasks. In this way, the English National Curriculum is considered to be one of the most engaging of all.

Students work towards the I/GCSE qualifications before progressing to A-levels – two of the most rigorous, reliable and highly regarded examinations available. The subjects taught include vocational options, which offer students a clear pathway to further education or their chosen career.

A-levels, like I/GCSE qualifications, are recognised worldwide by leading universities, helping students gain access to their preferred university in the UK or elsewhere abroad. As a result, the English National Curriculum is popular among expatriate families travelling between countries.

The Curriculum is defined by 'key stages' (KS); Key Stage 1 and 2 in Primary School. In addition to offering education from Key Stage 1 to 2, Aldar Academies' Primary Schools offers Foundation classes for 3 to 5 year olds.

Students begin their secondary school years in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9), and then move into Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11). During KS4 children sit a range of UK national exams GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) and IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education). If students achieve the required grades they go onto an advanced level of study which is a prerequisite for university, either via the British A-Levels or the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

Al Yasmina Academy and Al Ain Academy offer I/GCSE and A-Levels and Al Bateen Academy offer I/GCSE (Years 10 and 11) and the IB Diploma Programme (Years 12 and 13).

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) is an influential qualification with a global perspective. Designed to develop students physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically, the diploma strives to broaden the minds of students helping them think critically and challenge assumptions and convention. Overall, the IBDP aims to prepare students for an increasingly globalised world.

Comprehensive and demanding, the diploma covers a broad range of subjects including modern language, sciences and arts to a complex level.

The IBDP is unique in being independent of any national system, allowing it to incorporate best practice from a range of international frameworks and curricula. Graduates earn a prestigious diploma qualification; which research has shown to be more influential than A-levels for students who apply to leading international universities.

The programme is closely aligned to university-level study, which prepares future graduates for the next step in their education, wherever that may be in the world.

Al Bateen Academy offers the IBDP at post-16 level, as an alternative to A-level studies.

The American Curriculum offered by Aldar Academies is based on the Massachusetts State Curriculum, which is the most highly regarded and successful public school curricula system in the United States.

The Massachusetts Curriculum draws on a rich history of academic excellence and rigor, and has historically benefited from proximity to and interaction with higher education institutions such as Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The American Curriculum puts heavy emphasis on a “whole person” education enriched with extra-curricular opportunities, something US University admissions value and seek within selection processes. This approach also empowers students to be proactive, teaching them leadership skills that will serve them well as they enter university and then the work force.

We offer AP (advanced placement) classes during the high school years, which are courses taught using university-level syllabi that can later be accredited to a degree programme in US and Canadian universities (as per the liberal arts tradition).

In addition, the American Curriculum will provide students with guidance and preparation for taking the SAT (the standardised examination required by US university admissions).

Graduates will receive the American High School Diploma, which is the standard qualification for entry into US universities and colleges. This qualification is recognised by institutions all over the world.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Admissions for AY2019/20 opens on October 30th 2018. Applications for this academic year (AY2018/19) will be considered for Term 2 and Term 3 for students arriving in Abu Dhabi. However, please be advised that, in accordance with ADEK policy, we are not allowed to accept transfers from within Abu Dhabi during the academic year.
- Apply online at **aldaracademies.com** to begin the application process.
- If you already have a child at the school you are applying to, please ensure that you tick the sibling box and enter your current account code (which can be found on your school invoice) as sibling applications will be accommodated first if we have availability.
- You will receive an autoreply to confirm your application.
- Please be advised that if your child is already in our system a pink box will be displayed asking you to contact Admissions. Please email Admissions to advise that you wish to make an application for the next academic year. Please advise your child's full name, date of birth and year group you are applying for.
- Priority is first given to sibling applications, and are then dealt with on a first-come-first-served basis. Principals may use information from admission tests (CAT tests) or assessment visits to prioritise the application of individual cases to ensure an appropriate balance of gender, nationalities, English as an Additional Language (EAL), medical or additional support needs across a year group or phase of the school.
- FS1 and KG1 places will be reviewed first. We will contact parents to invite children for playdates from the end of November/December.

- Places for FS2 and KG2 and upwards may only become available if a child currently enrolled in our school leaves. Please note we may not be advised of this until the end of the academic year. Therefore, your child may only be invited for an assessment as places become available.
- Following your child's assessment we will contact you to advise you of the outcome of the assessment.
- Upon confirmation from the school, an offer of a school place will be sent to you via email. The offer email will contain an acceptance letter, a registration fee invoice, a parent information pack containing important information regarding the school and an essential documents and forms pack.
- The signed offer letter, essential documents and forms, along with proof of payment of the registration fee must be returned to Aldar Academies within 10 days to secure your child's place at the School. Please note: the registration fee is deductible against your child's Term 1 fees and is non-refundable. Please also note that Term 1 Tuition Fees must be payable prior to the start of the academic year. If your acceptance is not received within 10 days, we reserve the right to offer the place to another child and your child will be moved back to the waiting list.
- Towards the end of the current school year, FS1 and KG1 parents with confirmed places that have been offered and accepted, will be contacted to advise you of our staggered intake process. At the beginning of the school year FS1 and KG1 operate on reduced hours, to approximately 2 hours per day for the first one or two weeks.

HOW CAN I BOOK A TOUR OF THE SCHOOLS?

The full tour schedule and booking system are available at the top of the Aldar Academies website homepage aldaracademies.com

CONTACT US

We kindly request all enquiries are made via email to our Admissions team or via the Aldar Academies website. We will provide you with regular email updates following your application and contact you directly if places become available.

admissions@alainacademy.sch.ae
admissions@albateenacademy.sch.ae
admissions@almamouraacademy.sch.ae
admissions@almunaacademy.sch.ae

admissions@alyasminacademy.sch.ae
admissions@thepearlacademy.sch.ae
admissions@westyasacademy.sch.ae

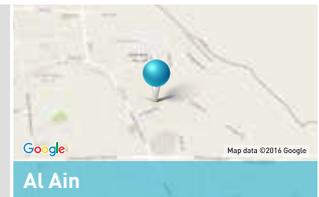
Please visit our website for school specific information, including term dates.

aldaracademies.com

WHICH SCHOOL DO I APPLY TO?



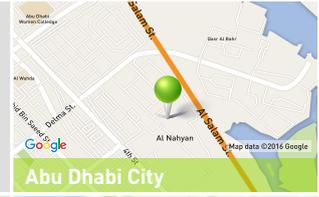
Curriculum	English
Years/Grades available	FS1-Y13
Primary	Yes
Secondary	Yes
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes



Curriculum	English
Years/Grades available	Y7-Y13
Primary	No
Secondary	Yes
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes



Curriculum	English
Years/Grades available	FS1-Y12
Primary	Yes
Secondary	Yes
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes (Primary) Girls - Sec.



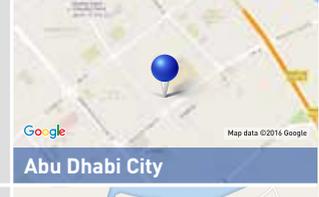
Curriculum	English
Years/Grades available	FS1-Y6
Primary	Yes
Secondary	No
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes



Curriculum	English
Years/Grades available	FS1-Y13
Primary	Yes
Secondary	Yes
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes



Curriculum	English
Years/Grades available	FS1-Y6
Primary	Yes
Secondary	No
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes



Curriculum	American
Years/Grades available	KG1 to GR9
Primary	Yes
Secondary	Yes
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes



Curriculum	Early years foundation stage
Years/Grades available	Pre-FS to FS1
Coeducational (boys and girls)	Yes

