مدرستنا الثانوية الإنجليزية ، الشارقة - بنات
Our Own English High School, Sharjah-Girls

GEMS EDUCATION

POLICY ON PROMOTING UAE CULTURE & HERITAGE

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Introduction

The UAE national identity refers to the sense of belonging and allegiance that concerns the citizens of the United Arab Emirates, and the residents living on its territory alike.

It is a system of social and moral values associated with the lifestyle of the people in the past, present and future. Enhancing the national identity is a matter of national, religious, collective and individual commitment to the cultural values, customs ,traditions, language, dialect , doctrine and faith of the UAE as a nation. Promoting and enshrining these elements is a collective national duty incumbent upon the community, individuals, government and institutions.

National identity is based on six pillars through which it is possible to realize the main objective of protecting and preserving that identity and strengthening and consolidating its presence in the community.
To this effect the schools in UAE are to promote and to steadfastly practice upholding the national identity & culture of the UAE.

The scope of the policy

1. The staff
2. The Purpose and Task to be done
3. The person responsible for monitoring & Reporting
4. Student Participation
5. Evaluating Success

1. The Staff

Once a staff has been hired, he/she has to abide by the existing rules and regulations including adherence to SPEA/MOE policies and laws of the UAE government. This includes the National Identity & culture.

As part of our mission, we integrate national identity and culture education in all activities in the school. It is naturally included in the school life and teaching. The staff delivers the education through lessons & co-curricular activities. To hone their knowledge on national identity & culture, the staff: Attends training, participates in SPEA events & themes in support of the national identity & culture.

- Continuously educate / train students through co-curricular activities on national identity & culture.

2. Purpose & Task to be done

OOS has aligned this policy with the 6 Pillars that support the strengthening of the national identity, which seeks to consolidate the sense of belonging to the homeland, and the spirit of social responsibility among all community members.

A. The first pillar- maintaining, promoting and disseminating the national identity.

Our school shall embody the:

- Enclosure in the curriculum, particularly in the ministry subjects such as :
  Arabic, Islamic Studies, UAE Social Studies and Moral Education
- Promotion through the co-curricular activities such as National Day, cultural Day, Flags Day &etc.
- Focus of activities in specified disciplines or writing in Arabic & English subjects across the grade levels.
- Promotion of UAE culture e.g. in the Morning Assemblies by opening each school day with singing of the National Anthem, reading of the Qur'an.

B. The second pillar – providing general cultural norms to promote better children education practices and upgrading teaching methods

Our school shall seek to :

- Develop instructions on how to nurture talents among the students through the advice and coordination of the SPEA.
- Educational trips to heritage centers, museums & other places that feature UAE identity & culture.

C. The third pillar- promoting social responsibility

Our school shall ensure to:

- Disseminate the values of development across all subjects and programs
- Encourage young people to interact with the community through the promotion of the importance of brotherhood and practicing it.
- Instill a sense of environmental responsibility in children through the development of awareness and care for ecosystem

D. The fourth pillar – promoting a culture of daring and pioneering in business.

Our school shall exemplify to:

- Integrate in the curriculum, about enterprising to develop in them their skills in business at an early age.

- Develop in them leadership skills to be “risk takers.”
- Guide all student’s career development by exposing them in career programs or bring them out of the school walls towards the universities.

E. The fifth pillar – encouraging and promoting women’s participation in the economic social and cultural activities in the UAE’s community.

Our school shall epitomize to:

- Increase students’ participation in performing arts activities.
- Ensure the participation of students in all activities including sports & other events.

F. The sixth pillar- Transforming the UAE’s community into a knowledge society.

Our school shall demonstrate to:

- Instill willingness to pursue knowledge in every citizen regardless of age, by encouraging self and continuous learning.
- Ensure diversity in the available information and books by promoting translation when necessary.
- Promote students’ passion to read by encouraging reading and providing them with books.
- Develop in them creativity and innovativeness through the Innovation Hour.

3. The person Responsible for Implementing & The person responsible for monitoring & Reporting.

The SLT/SMT shall be the persons responsible for implementing this policy. They shall see to it that the contents are aligned to the existing curriculum of the school. The co-curricular activities shall always be associated to the lesson or occasion.
The school designates the lead staff that will be responsible for the monitoring & reporting. All staff and management of this school are required to involve in this undertaking.

4. Student Participation

- The school shall ensure that students are fully aware of this policy on enhancing the National Identity & Culture and apply to their real life.

5. Evaluating Success.

This school policy will be kept under regular review. In addition, evidences will be gathered regarding:

- Staff awareness
- Students’ Awareness
- Academic progress of students where this is appropriate
- Improved behavior of the children, where this is appropriate
- Increase in the level of awareness achieved
- Parents’ involvement.