



# Igniting the torch of learning in every child

Part of:  
 International Schools Partnership

  
Accredited

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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
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Your portal to Canadian education



“ We want all our children and students to achieve all they possibly can during their time at school. Our unique learning-focused approach helps us to ensure that we can make that happen. ”

**Steve Brown**  
CEO, International Schools Partnership



## About Our School

### Igniting the torch of learning in every child

As a member of the International Schools Partnership (ISP), NIS is dedicated to igniting the torch of learning in every child. Our curriculum ignites curiosity and leadership on a global stage. By promoting students' interests, we develop curious, knowledgeable, self-aware citizens who have the integrity and drive to build a better world. Our aim is to place our students at the heart of all that we do, nurturing their potential to ensure that they learn, lead and influence. We are committed to three guiding principles:

- Amazing learning
- Global vision
- A true sense of community.

### Amazing Learning is central to everything we do

You will see learning that will amaze you. Wherever you think your child might be in any subject or area, we will assure you that they will do better than you can ever imagine possible. We recognize and nurtures each student's gifts and talents so that they amaze themselves and inspire others.

### Global Vision

Truly international, our community hails from 75 different countries, a family of highly diverse individuals. The power of the NIS learning community is achieved by recognizing, valuing and connecting the different contributions and talents of all its members.

### A Sense of Community

At NIS, students develop a sense of themselves, as well as the world around them, making connections within and between cultures. NIS opens students' hearts and minds so that they embrace challenges and opportunities, share ideas and purpose, and influence others to make a positive difference.








### Our core values are the foundations that enable:

- **Creative Thinkers:** Create dynamic and technology enabled risk-takers who can innovate and lead their own learning journey.
- **Aspirational and Adaptable learners:** Consistently challenged by high standards and aspired to strengthen their skills.
- **Reflective Learners:** Become active participants in a lifelong learning process, fostering curiosity, creativity and an on-going cycle of self-improvement.
- **Effective Communicators:** Empower responsible and respectful citizens to voice their own opinion and express themselves in various situations and mediums.

### We are part of a global family of schools

International Schools Partnership is a global family of 32 schools which ensures outstanding international learning connections, quality assurance and excellent governance.

Part of:

 International Schools Partnership	 27,000 Students	 4,000 Staff	 32 Schools	 8 Countries	 8 Curricula	 1 Global Family
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Part of:



International Schools Partnership



Accredited



AP Program



STUDENT PROGRESS  
Tracking Platform for Parents



Brilliant Teachers



Amazing Learning



Great Facilities

# Curriculum

## AERO

NIS follows the American Education Reaches Out (AERO) COMMON CORE Plus curriculum for overseas schools. AERO provides a framework for curriculum consistency across grades K-12 in alignment with research-based trends and ongoing developments within this curriculum worldwide and in the USA.

## We are a NEASC accredited international school

NEASC works with schools to establish and maintain high standards for all levels of education. Colleges and employers look more favorably upon students who have come from a NEASC accredited school. NIS is one of only a few international schools in Dubai to be awarded the NEASC accreditation.

## Our teachers are highly experienced and passionate about education

NIS foundation rests on quality teachers, dedicated to providing an exceptional education for every child. Our teachers are subject-matter experts with high expectations, guiding students to become confident, ambitious learners and leaders.



## Our early years department provides an inspiring start

By balancing learning of the basics with inquiry-based learning, we apply the best of early years research to ensure the best start for our youngest children. Our innovative approach to early childhood education values the child as strong, capable and resilient, rich with wonder and knowledge.

## Arabic & Islamic Studies

Learning Arabic is crucial for both cognitive development and the maintenance of cultural identity. Our Arabic curriculum is a concept- and inquiry-based, based on the UAE national curriculum. Arabic is compulsory for Arab nationals, and Arabic as a foreign language is mandatory for students through to Grade 9. It is compulsory for all Muslim students to study Islamic Studies. The NIS Dubai framework provides the highest possible standard of Islamic education, to develop independent, responsible citizens.



## Unique opportunities for Middle and High School

Our NIS curriculum challenges students at high levels to prepare them for the College Boards Advanced Placement (AP) program. Our students also participate in enrichment activities such as Model United Nations, the Global Future Leaders Conference and debating, which is integral to the curriculum.

## We offer a wide range of enrichment activities

NIS provides a wide range of extra-curricular activities to help students cultivate individual interests, talents and develop their social skills. International enrichment trips offer your child the opportunity to explore a diversity of cultures and develop cultural sensitivity and awareness.



# Kindergarten



Our KG children make exceptional progress, and most importantly, have fun whilst learning. The NIS KG curriculum provides challenging and professionally-validated standards with specific learning goals for every area of learning, without losing sight of this unique stage of a child's development.

Our unique approach:

- Develops children to be open-minded, to understand and appreciate their own culture, whilst being open to the perspectives, values and traditions of others
- Encourages personal and independent learning which allows them to explore what they enjoy
- Challenges children with ideas and concepts, encouraging them to ask questions and develop their critical thinking skills

KG children's attainment and progress are regularly evaluated with internal and external benchmark assessments such as DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment) and MAP (Measures of Academic Progress). Learning is constantly evaluated to check progress, and to ensure there are never any lost opportunities for learning.

## KG English and Math Program

We specialize in providing a highly effective program to develop children's early English and Mathematical skills. Our Read Write Inc phonics and literacy program ensures every child benefits from individualized learning of sounds, which improves their reading fluency and understanding. This daily guided reading program triggers their imagination and nurtures a love of reading. All our children experience early success in reading, writing and spelling.

Our skilled teachers use Numicon and a variety of hands-on resources to develop children's mathematical skills. Numicon is a multi-sensory approach enhancing children's achievement across all mathematics ability levels. Every class has a full Numicon set and additional math resources to assist children to mathematically reason through the use of real objects.

## KG Facilities

Each classroom has dedicated centers covering the key areas of early development, whilst drawing on the children's interests. Teachers encourage children's active engagement through an inquiry approach designed to promote dialogue and thinking. Our learning areas offer a creative and supportive environment in which young children play and learn together. Our outdoor facilities are superb with a huge grass playing field and dedicated outdoor learning areas. The KG pool encourages water confidence and early water safety skills. Children love visiting their library to choose books and meet with their older reading buddies.



# Elementary School



The Amazing Learning taking place in our NIS Kindergarten (KG) department provides a solid foundation for our excellent Elementary school teachers to build upon.

**Our curriculum:** The AERO Standards promote an inquiry-based approach to learning, where the rigor of the standards is taught in an integrated way. Subject-specific skills, knowledge and concepts are not taught in isolation. They are learnt and applied in meaningful contexts that excite and motivate children to take risks with their learning and really push themselves to make the best possible progress.



**Our teachers equip learners for life:** At NIS, we connect students' learning with the outside world so they can develop a sense of self-worth, an ability to engage with and think critically about the world around them, and celebrate its diversity.

**Bringing learning to life:** Our Grade 3 students follow 'Footprints From the Past' and find themselves in a world surrounded by dinosaurs. Grade 4 students investigate their favorite snack by researching its history, manufacturing process, and understanding how it reaches the consumer. Meanwhile, our Grade 5 children go on a 'Mission to Mars' to investigate what it might be like to live on another planet!

**Our monitoring and assessment** process provides tracking across the school and accurate information to parents in a consistent and accessible way.

Our teachers believe in the power of reading. They use a variety of classroom activities and resources to encourage children to explore books through drama, role play and illustration. This encourages the children to think and talk in-depth about the books and to read them intensively, which in turn provides inspiration for their own creative writing, subsequently raising standards.

**Mathematics in our modern world** is much more than just calculations. At NIS, we ensure our children adopt a flexible approach to problem solving, which is underpinned by a rigorous approach to learning the basic skills.

**We have some of the best learning facilities in Dubai at NIS Elementary:**

- Digital learning through Google for Education ensures our students are at the cutting-edge of technology with computer labs, internet, and multi-media facilities, as well as 3D printing equipment, 65-inch interactive screens, Chromebooks and iPads for use across the curriculum.
- We have two well stocked libraries, a practical science and technology lab, a large multi-purpose gymnasium, an indoor heated swimming pool, a shaded outdoor auditorium, and an indoor dance studio.
- The children also enjoy large age-appropriate outdoor learning and play areas, with a real grass sports field and a garden area to grow their own fruits and vegetables.

**Learning beyond the classroom:** We provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and field trips, and our Grade 4 and 5 students have the opportunity to attend a three-night camping trip. These experiences provide children with a lifetime of wonderful memories, and helps them develop self-reliance, teamwork skills, and confidence to overcome new challenges.

“ Like all of ISP's schools around the world, here at NIS we want the levels of learning our students reach to truly amaze them and their parents. It's what our schools are for. Quite simply, we measure our success by the success of our students. ”

**Martin Skelton**

*Group Director of Learning and Education, International Schools Partnership*



# Middle and High School

The NIS Middle and High School departments are focused on guiding our scholars through their academic requirements, while developing lifelong learners that are able to navigate an ever-changing, interdependent global society. Teachers tailor their training to students' needs, ensuring that all learning styles and levels are met.

**Middle School scholars** are provided with opportunities to develop their core academics, and are also exposed to arts, music, business, physical education, social studies, as well as French and Arabic. Our teachers provide ongoing support to scholars as they develop their critical thinking skills with a variety of student-centered instructional methods.

**High School scholars** are provided with opportunities to experience a variety of courses that appeal to their educational interests. Teachers at the High School level facilitate scholars' learning by exposing them to a variety of educational experiences in and outside the classroom, both within the UAE as well as internationally. Our students are encouraged to try new experiences.

Parents are encouraged to be active participants and are given opportunities to engage with our Counseling Department as scholars matriculate through NIS. Parents are always kept up-to-date with their children's progress, as well as upcoming events and important dates. Internships enable our older students to experience the world of work before graduating. It is the goal of NIS to have a true triangle of support for all scholars to ensure their academic success.



## Amazing Learning opportunities

During the academic school year our students are provided with a range of Amazing Learning opportunities. These activities enable students to enhance their depth of knowledge, to improve themselves as independent scholars, and help them connect their learning to real-life situations.



## University, Career Guidance and Future Choices



Our well-established career guidance and counseling program develops our students' competence in self-knowledge, education and career planning. Students receive career counseling from Middle School upwards to enable them to make informed choices about their electives according to their chosen career pathway. Our school counselors help all students in the areas of academic achievement, personal development and career development, ensuring our students become productive, well-adjusted adults of tomorrow.

Through our partnerships with the American University in Dubai and the Canadian University Dubai, we ensure our students are at the forefront of scholarship opportunities in every subject.



# Facilities and Resources

## Wonderful School Facilities

Situated alongside the Green Community in Dubai Investment Park, our students have access to some of the best school facilities in Dubai, with vast green outdoor learning and play areas, including:

- a large floodlit sports field with well-maintained grass;
- a large multipurpose gymnasium and tennis court;
- a Senior and Junior science lab;
- a heated swimming pool;
- a small training pool for KG children;
- a specialist art and music room;
- a shaded auditorium and indoor dance studio, and;
- two well-stocked libraries.



## Our Information and Communications Technology (ICT) offerings are among the best in Dubai, and we are a Google For Education school

Committed to a progressive digital learning platform, we are continually investing in new technology to enhance our teaching and learning. We ensure that students use cutting-edge technology including:

- two computer laboratories with internet and multi-media facilities;
- 3D printing equipment;
- two 65-inch interactive screens;
- 120 Chromebooks and 120 iPads for classroom use;
- electronic keyboards and Sibellius (score creation software) enables students to compose their own music and record in notation;
- blue bots - remote controlled, programmable characters for KG.

As a Google For Education school we receive updated support and resources to develop digital readiness programs for our students. This helps to prepare them with the skill set they need to thrive in the future.





**AMAZING LEARNING**  
central to everything we do

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