



مدرسة جيمس متروبول
GEMS Metropole School
MOTOR CITY

Discover
LEADERSHIP



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WELCOME TO GEMS METROPOLE

*An inspiring and inclusive community
hub, developing future leaders.*

A message from the Principal

I welcome you to GEMS Metropole school with great pride and excitement! Our vision of “An inspiring and inclusive community hub, developing future leaders” can be seen and felt throughout the school. Leaders develop many skills throughout their lives, similarly, GEMS Metropole school will provide a unique provision for our young leaders, throughout their educational experiences. We provide a safe environment, where everyone is valued and respected. Students are empowered to meet current and future challenges to develop social awareness, civic responsibility, and personal growth.

The key foundations to building strong leadership is to provide exposure to a wide variety of experiences and opportunities. Our school offers four unique experiences and learning opportunities with the common theme of student leadership throughout different phases of each child’s education.

The Infant School provides a curriculum enriched through play-based learning, whilst the Junior School focuses on students having a voice in their education. Prep School focuses on sports and recreation for all students, where each student is encouraged to participate in a team activity and an individual discipline, building confident leaders who understand how to work in a team. The Senior School has a focus on academic and vocational achievement. Students are encouraged to carefully select the pathway which suits their natural learning disposition, as well as their aims for university.

Our highly experienced, dedicated teachers ensure that every young person’s learning is at the heart of what they do. Our core purpose is to achieve academic excellence alongside extensive enrichment opportunities to develop the whole child. We encourage every student to be actively engaged learners, whether it’s in the classroom, across the school, or in the wider community.

Mr. Nav Iqbal, Principal/CEO



THE METROPOLE COMMUNITY

GEMS Metropole focuses on the whole child, the whole family, the whole community.

We believe strongly in a “Metropole Community” which is clearly reflected in our school vision. The partnership between parents and the school is integral to student success. We welcome and encourage parent voice and engagement.

The Friends of Metropole work with the school to support community events and fosters positive relationships within the Metropole family. The council also represents the views of the parents and caregivers to support school improvement.

The unique location of Metropole within the heart of Motor City further reinforces the feeling of a community school. There are many opportunities to engage with the local community with residential areas, local shops and recreation amenities all within walking distance of the school.



Explore
LEADERSHIP



THE CURRICULUM

Forest School / Infant School - FS1 to Year 2

The Infant School, which runs from FS1 to Year 2 (age 3-7 years) focuses on leading learning through play in our renowned forest school setting.

Students start their early education with a play-based approach to learning, which continues into years 1 and 2 where learning promotes awe and wonder, curiosity and enquiry skills.

The natural environments on campus give students a chance to explore and discover as well as build independence and resilience in their own learning. Our world-class facilities include six forest school areas, the school farm, communal learning spaces, extensive sporting facilities as well as the classroom environment.

Our Forest School is a special place for our children where they are encouraged to test boundaries and explore by taking risks in the great outdoors. The messy mud kitchen is a favourite attraction, alongside other practical activities

such as learning to cook, peeling vegetables and sawing wood which develops life skills and a growing sense of independence.

Students are given opportunities to develop their own leadership skills through exploration and inquiry, in a safe engaging environment. They lead their own learning, taking topics in a direction that engages them and builds their areas of interest; confidently showcasing their discoveries within our community.

In the Infant School there is a strong focus on links with our farm as well as the sustainable development goals to lead change in our world. These are embedded in all of the themes through the year.

Within the school day, we provide opportunities for the students to develop extra-curricular interests which are carefully planned to complement the curriculum.

Parents are strong partners in our learning, and we invite you to share our journey through the year to a variety of events. This might be to join in one of our end of topic celebrations, to come to stay and play in the forest or even be a VIP at the premiere of a film your child has produced.

We make no excuses for your children being imaginative learners taking risks to lead change in our community.

Values School / Junior School - Year 3 to Year 6

The Junior School, also known as the Values School, which includes Years 3-6 (age 7-11 years), offers children a high-quality education in a friendly and supportive learning environment. We instil in our young learners the core values and character attributes essential for their future triumphs. We build their confidence and foster values such as compassion, empathy, kindness and respect while promoting their leadership skills.

We believe it is essential that all pupils acquire a good grasp of English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities as well as improving their emotional intelligence. Arabic, Islamic, Art, Computing, Languages, Music, Drama and PE are taught by subject specialists who are experienced in teaching primary-aged pupils.

Leadership, values and student voice is at the heart of what we do. The SSAT Pupil Leadership Award, which is a programme that focuses on core leadership skills provides students an opportunity to develop as leaders. The elective options for Spanish and French allows for students to become leaders of their own learning and begin to make informed choices about their future pathways. Through our commitment to ensuring every child has the responsibility and experience of a leadership role, members of the Junior Student Leadership Team work on key priorities in conjunction with the school's Senior Leadership Team to develop the school from a student perspective.

We believe that student self-confidence and independence from an early age is important in

the development of leaders and helps prepare students for the next stage in their lives. The Junior Duke Award will give students the opportunity to complete a range of personal challenges including First Aid, cookery, domestic challenges, caring for others, playing chess and many other fun things! Enterprise projects, TED style talks and presentations encourage confident public speakers and develop pupils' entrepreneurial skills.

Developing students' characters through a values-based education will prepare them in their transition to the Prep School and beyond to become confident, authentic, and ethical leaders.



Establish LEADERSHIP



Active School / Prep School - Year 7 to Year 9

In the Active School, we cultivate well-rounded students who excel academically, athletically, creatively and as active members of their community. Our curriculum is designed to foster Active Minds, Bodies, and Citizens through a comprehensive and engaging programme.

Active Minds

(Inside and Beyond the Classroom)

Our educational approach is practical, student-led, and enquiry-based, encouraging challenge and critical thinking. We pride ourselves on achieving High Performance Learning (HPL) World Class Status, reflecting our commitment to excellence. Our "Every Second Counts" ethos ensures that learning is maximised and meaningful. The Learning to Lead program focuses on developing essential skills, empowering students to take initiative and lead with confidence. Through Student Led Conferences, learners take ownership of their progress and set goals for their future development.

Active Bodies

(In the Sports Arena or on the Stage)

Our Mustangs Squads and High Performance Institute provide students with top-tier athletic training and competition opportunities. With a full-time Strength & Conditioning Coach and Nutritionist, we support our athletes' physical development comprehensively. As an Under Armour Flagship School, we ensure our students have access to the best sports apparel and resources. Our Performing Art Stallions enjoy a vibrant schedule beyond sports, with numerous opportunities in music, dance, and drama. Their activities include instrumental interludes, theatre productions, and dance performances, underscoring our dedication to the Arts. Specialist scholarships in these areas further support our talented performers.

Active Citizens

(At MTS, Home, and the Community)

The Active Baccalaureate, a bespoke Duke of Edinburgh-style program, encourages students to engage in community service, personal development, and physical activity. As a host school for TEDx and MTS Talks, we provide platforms for inspirational ideas and student voices. Our students run MTS Radio and the Farm Shop, gaining practical experience and leadership skills. Themed mornings like Motivational Mondays and Thankful Fridays foster a positive school culture. Active Themed Clubs, trips, and Student Leadership Committees in areas such as Eco, Wellbeing, and Global Cultural initiatives ensure students are active, engaged citizens both within and beyond our school community.

Our Active School is dedicated to nurturing students who are not only academically, athletically and creatively accomplished but also committed to making a positive impact on the world around them.

Futures School / Senior School - Year 10 to Year 13

The Futures School, which includes Years 10-13, (14-18 years) focuses on academic and vocational achievement. It aims to bring the dreams and aspirations of our students to life, where they begin to see their future evolve. Students build excitement over their journey beyond school, and work on becoming fully prepared for further study and the world of work. We consider the ability, needs and desires of all our students on an individual basis, ensuring they opt for qualifications that provide the best chance of success. Students are skillfully guided to choosing the pathway and subjects which will open the door to higher education and employment.

The school is delighted to offer a range of pathways for students, from highly academic routes to more vocational opportunities. Students are welcome to undertake the traditional GCSE/iGCSE programme, or opt to engage in a vocational curriculum, which has seen the introduction of iBTEC (Level 2) courses in Business, Sport, and Travel & Tourism. Having these routes available for option choices entering into Year 10, ensures that Metropole has a number of pathways available

that support all learners. Students have the unique opportunity to combine their courses, ensuring all our students are passionate about their chosen pathway and appreciate the relevance of the outcomes they will come to achieve.

We are proud of our inclusive and attractive Sixth Form curriculum, which meets the needs of all our students and those in other schools who are looking for a broader, unique and more flexible provision. We adopt a truly holistic approach, delivering a range of high quality, cutting edge, internally and externally recognised pathways incorporating the A-Level, International A-Level, International BTEC, EPQ, and ASDAN qualifications.

In parallel to our academic qualifications, we deliver enrichment, pastoral and work-related programmes through various external partners to ensure students are developing the broad range of skills and attributes that future employers and universities are looking for. Our holistic programme is broad, including sport, the arts, debating, mentoring and leadership to name just a few. Students will have the opportunity to leave school at the end of Year 13 with Highfield

certificates from a wide range of life skills courses to further prepare them for the real world. Students will participate in university and careers fairs and build networks with local businesses through our 1Hub. The enrichment programme in the Senior School is vast and incorporates accreditations such as the Duke of Edinburgh award, where we see our students lead on expeditions in developing countries. Debating is practiced through our students leading Ted Talks and hosting Model United Nations conferences. The EPQ qualification in Sixth Form allows students to lead their own learning in preparation for university assignments at undergraduate level.

Our Futures School offers specialist scholarships to celebrate the academic abilities of our students and to encourage them to continue to strive for success.



ARABIC

The Arabic language curriculum considers the characteristics of the learner at every stage of their educational journey.

In the Infant School, learning focuses on students' keenness to engage in child-led play. Arabic lessons are therefore creative and draw upon role-play, including dialogue, short stories, and direct experiences. They are encouraged to present concepts in contextual and meaningful situations and to place the Arabic vocabulary within their environment to expand its use.

In the Junior School, students are encouraged to take a lead in presenting their ideas as they experiment more with the Arabic language. Students use the library to expand their vocabulary and deepen their understanding of the language. Students express themselves in conversation and show much greater confidence when doing so.

Prep School students gain more independence in Arabic lessons as they deepen their understanding of the 'rules' of the

language. They are provided with linguistic activities, which push them to a new level of exploration. During this time, students study various new topics whilst further developing their research skills.

Our Arabic language curriculum in the Senior School enables students to feel the value of their work, as they approach the subject with greater confidence. They are encouraged to be more independent in their learning journey and develop a true sense of responsibility. Their ability in use of the language shows increased knowledge, and they begin to really 'taste' Arabic literature whilst deepening their writing skills.

The activities within the curriculum surpass the school environment, as the environment of language learning is not confined to the classroom, nor is the source of language learning only from textbooks. Instead, the classroom is the place where the learning of concepts and practicing skills are started, with the language really coming to life in the real-world.





ISLAMIC STUDIES

Learning in Islamic Studies is approached according to the development of human thought. The curriculum is based on the following:

- Holy Quran
- Sunnah
- Islamic education taught alongside the values and ethics of the religion
- The curriculum is based on the practical vision of Islam
- We take a balanced and flexible approach to understanding the importance of diversity

Our curriculum is built on providing a comprehensive vision of Islam as a religion that regulates human life from a ritualistic, economic, social, and cultural aspect. This helps students foster a true understanding of how to live every aspect of their life. Our curriculum inculcates faith in the minds and hearts of the student; developing morality based on faith. It raises the spiritual level of the student, whilst developing knowledge to apply in day-to-day life.

INCLUSION

At GEMS Metropole school we are a fully inclusive school that values the individuality, talents and gifts of all our students. Our community is culturally linguistic and nationally diverse.

Our teaching and learning is planned so that each student aspires to the highest level of their personal achievement.

We provide our future leaders with the skills and tools to leave school as active and responsible global citizens ready to make a difference.

We provide an accessible environment in which students feel safe and cared for and where their individuality, talents, well-being and language needs are supported. We instil self confidence in accordance with the school's ethos and give all students full access to all areas of learning

through a differentiated, adapted and modified curriculum. Metropole's Inclusion Team support English Language Learners, gifted, most able and talented as well as Students of Determination (students with special educational needs and disabilities).

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our students. Our Metropole Community's happiness and emotional well-being is essential for our students to make progress in all aspects of their lives, including that of transitioning between phases of education, enhancing life skills and preparing for life after school.

Our school Counsellors, Pastoral team, the Health and Well-being team, trained staff, Mental Health First Aid, Student Mental Health First Aid team

champions; all provide care systems for all our students and their families.

Diversity is an asset, and our teachers strive to ensure all students reach their potential for their self-fulfillment by providing personalised pathways that incorporate elements of blended and alternative curriculums, where required. The school successfully empowers parents to work as partners in their children's education and in doing so encourages parents to share any additional information that may relate to providing further personalised support for their child. The Inclusion Team work closely with external therapy providers to ensure the team around the child are working together to provide the most conducive learning environment to promote success for their individual needs.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ENRICHMENT

We believe that education does not belong solely in the classroom, enrichment helps students to develop their interest and abilities, provides valuable learning experiences outside their studies and promotes independence and inter-personal skills.

We run a fantastic Masterclass programme which gives students opportunities to get involved in a wide range of projects, societies and activities in Sport, Creative and Performing Arts as well as academic subjects. Many activities are run by our own staff but we also work with external organisations and specialist providers to ensure a high-quality offer for students.

Educational visits, both at home and abroad, are complemented by numerous cultural events in school. Opportunities range from university taster days to annual ski trips, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions to National Day Celebrations. Additionally, students lead events throughout the school calendar including sports days and community Iftar celebrations. These experiences are often the highlight of many students' time at Metropole.

Our curriculum also includes specific events to enrich the lives of our students: dedicated days to learn about key life skills such as internet safety and eco weeks supplement our students' learning.

Metropole students are engaged and involved in their local, national and international communities. Our Mustangs sporting teams are successful and well supported, students are involved in charity events and this engagement is further enhanced by annual school dramatic and musical productions.



Mustangs

GEMS Metropole play sports competitively in the DASSA leagues as the 'Mustangs'. We have over 1000 students that represent the school across 63 squads. The core sports we specialise in are Football, Netball, Basketball, Swimming, Tennis, Athletics and Cricket.

We also boast a one-of-a-kind facility called the 'High Performance Institute'. We are the only school in the UAE to have a full-time sports nutritionist and strength and conditioning coach accessible to all students across the Active School. Our most able students are also worked with one on one by our high-performance team to maximise their potential.

Performing Arts

Performing Arts Offer a wide range of Extra Curricular activities that help students flourish, grow in confidence and shine on stage. Metropole have partnerships with various elite Performing Arts Schools that visit our school to offer qualifications, masterclasses and participate in competitions.





A person is sitting in a garden, looking at a sign. The sign is green and white with a picture of a plant. The background is a lush green garden with various plants and a wooden path.

SUSTAINABILITY

We are a Green Flag School with eco-friendly initiatives that reduce our environmental impact. These start in the classroom and expand to the community by engaging the next generation in action-based learning. Our goal and purpose is to produce generation after generation of sustainably minded, environmentally conscious people.

A prime example of this is our school farm which provides fantastic hands-on learning experiences and creates strong community links across our school.

We place great emphasis on raising pupils' environmental awareness and ensures real life learning scenarios. Our mission is to create a positive and socially aware environment in which we could educate not only our students, but also our school families about the benefits of sustainability.

FACILITIES & RESOURCES

Our school boasts world-class facilities that enrich the curriculum and bring it to life with impressive integration of technology across all learning and teaching facilities. Students can access a vast range of facilities and resources to engage, enrich, and enhance their learning.



FULL FACILITIES INCLUDE:

Sports Facilities

- Under Armour High Performance Institute
- Calisthenics Area
- Weight Training Gym
- Dance Studio
- Boxing Area and Dojo
- Two Swimming Pools (25m six lane and learner)
- Tennis Courts
- Cricket Nets
- 11 Aside Astro turf with Seating
- Long Jump Area
- Equine Arena
- Multi-Purpose Hall
- Small Hall
- EYFS Indoor Hall
- Primary Large Playground

The Arts

- Music Rooms
- Music Studio
- Radio and Podcast Suite
- Green Room
- Art Rooms

- Black Box Room
- Large Performance Hall
- Music Practice Rooms
- Performing Area Amphitheatre

Academics

- Three Libraries
- Breakout Spaces
- Work Pods
- Outdoor Spaces
- Behaviour Support Services
- Inclusion Hub
- EAL Support Rooms

Technology

- Construction Lab
- Engineering Lab
- Science Labs
- Innovation Labs
- Food Technology Labs
- IT Labs and IMac Suites

Sustainability

- School Farm
- Hydroponics
- School Forests
- Outdoor Learning Areas
- Horse Stables

Post-16

- State-of-the-art Sixth Form Centre
- Careers Hub
- Think Business Co-working Space
- Student Café

Student and Parent Welfare

- Al Noor Heritage Centre
- Parent Café
- School Farm Internet Shop
- Student Canteen
- Counselling Services
- Medical Clinic
- Three Reception Areas
- Training and Conference Rooms
- Community Majlis Area







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