

## The Aquila Way

### A Guide to- The Curriculum - summary

#### **The Aquila School Curriculum Policy**

**This version 24 June 2024**

#### **1. Vision and Values**

##### **Purpose**

Safe, Happy, Learning

##### **Vision**

A happy community school with amazing learning at its heart where pupils are empowered to make choices, be kind, compassionate learners, engage in meaningful learning experiences, make exceptional progress and understand their role as global citizens.

##### **Values**

Perseverance- We demonstrate persistence, have high expectations and are committed to success

Resilience- We never give up and we bounce back when things are difficult

Integrity - We are honest; we respect ourselves, others and the environment

Kindness- We communicate respectfully, are considerate to the needs and feelings of others and we support one another to succeed

#### **2. Curriculum Intent**

Our curriculum is designed to:

- Be engaging and relevant to children's lives and experiences
- Encourage enquiry, creativity, and critical thinking
- Promote progression and continuity across all year groups
- Develop life competencies, including collaboration, communication, and resilience
- Nurture global citizenship and intercultural understanding
- Support all learners, including those with SEND and EAL

We use the **English National Curriculum as a framework from FS to year 11**, adapting it to suit our UAE context and the unique needs of our pupils. In year 12 we offer both the IBDP and IBCP as well as BTEC pathways. ASDAN is offered throughout the school for pupils with complex SEND needs.

#### **3. Curriculum Implementation**

Our curriculum is implemented through:

- High-quality teaching, led by passionate and knowledgeable staff
- Opportunities for cross-curricular connections
- Regular enrichment opportunities including trips, visitors, and community events
- Use of technology to enhance learning and assessment
- A balanced approach to discrete subject teaching and integrated thematic learning

#### 4. Curriculum Structure

The EYFS curriculum follows the EYFS framework, ensuring a strong foundation through play, exploration, and purposeful interaction and includes:

- Personal social and emotional development, Communication and literacy, Physical development, Literacy, Mathematic, Understanding of the world, Expressive arts and design
- Lessons taught by specialist teachers- PE, swimming, music and Arabic

The primary and secondary curriculum includes:

- **Core subjects:** English, mathematics, science, Arabic
- **Foundation subjects primary:** history, geography, computing, art, design and technology, music, PE, swimming (FS and primary), Spanish (from year 3)
- **Foundation subjects secondary:** drama, performing arts, history, geography, computing, art, design and technology, PE, food technology, Spanish,
- **Additional GCSE subjects:** Separate sciences, psychology, business studies
- **BTec programmes for Y10 up:** Hospitality, IT, performing arts, sport.
- **Y12-13** - IBDP, IBCP, BTec,
- **Asdan pathways** available from Y4 upwards
- **Arabic language and Islamic education**- as per UAE regulations- taught from FS1
- **Moral, social, and cultural education (MSCE)**, including UAE social studies
- **Personal, social, and health education (PSHE)**- from FS1 to year 12
- **Multilingualism approaches** to promote and celebrate linguistic diversity

- **Hemam children** have a modified programme

### **5. Assessment and Progression**

Assessment is integral to our curriculum and includes:

- Formative assessment to inform planning and teaching
- Rubrics, peer and self-assessment, and child-led success criteria
- Summative assessments at key points to track progress
- GL, NGRT, ABT, IBT and CAT 4 testing in line with UAE requirements

### **6. Inclusion and Challenge**

The curriculum is inclusive and accessible for all learners:

- Work is appropriately differentiated and scaffolded
- Pupils with SEND and EAL receive tailored support
- Challenge and depth are provided for more able learners
- Teachers adapt teaching and resources to reflect individual needs

### **7. Monitoring and Review**

- Subject leads and senior leaders monitor curriculum delivery through learning walks, planning reviews, and pupil voice
- Ongoing CPD supports staff in curriculum development
- The curriculum is reviewed annually to reflect changing needs, innovations, and priorities

### **8. Parental and Community Engagement**

We work closely with parents and the wider community to:

- Keep families informed about curriculum content and learning outcomes
- Invite parents and carers to contribute to learning experiences
- Celebrate learning through events, showcases, and publications like the Parrot Pod podcast