



مدرسة الرسالة العلمية الدولية
Al Resalah International School of Science

Curriculum Policy 2025-2026

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Curriculum Policy for AI Resalah International School of Science 2025-2026

Introduction

This curriculum policy outlines the core principles and frameworks for developing and implementing instructional programs at AI Resalah International School of Science, an American Curriculum School that preserves and promotes Emirati Culture. We are dedicated to fostering student success through a comprehensive education firmly grounded in the California Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Mission and Core Values

RISS's mission is to develop broad-minded and responsible learners who strive to enhance their academic potential through a commitment to lifelong learning and to develop the skills needed to impact Emirati and global communities positively. We achieve this by:

- **Upholding Rigorous Standards:** Our curriculum is meticulously aligned with the CCSS, ensuring students acquire the essential knowledge and skills necessary for success in a competitive world.
- **Igniting a Passion for Learning:** We foster a love of learning by employing engaging instructional practices that promote curiosity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.
- **Celebrating Diversity and Inclusion:** We cultivate a diverse and inclusive learning environment that recognizes and celebrates the unique strengths and experiences of every student.
- **Promoting Collaboration:** We believe in the power of collaboration and encourage teamwork among students and teachers within and across grade levels to foster a supportive learning community.
- **Fostering Strong Partnerships:** We actively engage parents, guardians, and community members as valued partners in supporting student learning and school success.

Curriculum Framework

- **Core Subjects:** The cornerstone of our curriculum adheres to the CCSS in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. These subjects provide a robust foundation in essential knowledge and skills necessary for success in higher education and future careers.

- **Arabic Language & Islamic Studies:** These mandatory subjects are delivered by qualified Arabic-speaking instructors, ensuring students develop proficiency in Arabic and acquire a comprehensive understanding of Islamic principles and practices. This fosters a strong sense of identity and cultural awareness within our diverse student body.

Integration of Emirati Culture

Beyond core subjects, Emirati culture is purposefully woven throughout the curriculum to create a holistic learning experience. Here are specific examples of this integration:

- **Language Arts:** Include works by renowned Emirati authors in ELA classes. Encourage students to explore Emirati poetry (Nabati) and traditional storytelling forms like Hikayat. Analyze how these works reflect Emirati values, traditions, and social structures.
- **Social Studies:** Dedicate comprehensive units to delve into the UAE's rich history, encompassing the formation of the emirates to the country's modern development. Explore the UAE's unique geography, including the desert ecosystem and its impact on Emirati culture. Examine the UAE's government structure and its role in the region. Discuss current events and the UAE's contributions to the global community.
- **Science & Arts:** Connect scientific discoveries and artistic expressions to the UAE's unique environment and heritage. For instance, study the adaptations of desert plants and animals in science classes, linking them to the UAE's biodiversity and conservation efforts. Explore Emirati architecture, music, and traditional crafts in art classes. Students can design and create their own artwork inspired by Emirati patterns and motifs.
- **Field Trips & Cultural Events:** Organize excursions to museums and historical sites to provide students with firsthand experiences of Emirati culture. Supplement these experiences by having students research the historical significance of these sites beforehand and then write reflections or creative pieces based on their visits. Attend cultural events to broaden student perspectives and allow them to engage with the living aspects of Emirati culture.

National Agenda Integration

The UAE's National Agenda outlines ambitious goals for the country's future, focusing on innovation, sustainability, and tolerance. Education plays a crucial role in achieving these goals. Our curriculum integrates these themes across subjects, encouraging students to develop critical thinking skills, embrace innovation, and become responsible stewards of the environment. For example, in science classes, students might explore alternative energy sources

relevant to the UAE's sustainability goals. Social studies classes can delve into the UAE's role in promoting tolerance and peaceful coexistence within the region.

Assessment & Evaluation

We utilize a variety of assessment methods to measure student learning and progress. This includes standardized tests aligned with the CCSS to ensure students meet internationally benchmarked standards. However, we extend beyond standardized testing. Our teachers employ formative assessments within classrooms to provide ongoing feedback and personalize instruction. Additionally, projects that showcase student understanding of Emirati culture are a valuable assessment tool, allowing students to demonstrate their knowledge and creativity in a meaningful way.

Guiding Principles for Curriculum Development

- **Alignment with CCSS:** The CCSS serves as the foundation for our curriculum development process. All curriculum maps, lesson plans, and instructional materials will be meticulously crafted to ensure alignment with the specific learning objectives and performance expectations outlined in the CCSS for each grade level and subject area.
- **Depth of Knowledge:** We strive to go beyond rote memorization by promoting a deep understanding and application of knowledge. Instructional strategies encourage students to analyze information critically, solve problems creatively, and make connections between different areas of learning.
- **Differentiation:** We recognize that students learn in diverse ways and at varying paces. Our curriculum incorporates differentiated instruction strategies to cater to these individual needs and learning styles, ensuring all students have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.
- **Assessment and Feedback:** Regular assessments, both formative and summative, are employed to gauge student progress, identify areas of strength and weakness, and inform instructional practices. We believe in providing timely and specific feedback to students to help them monitor their progress, understand their learning gaps, and set goals for improvement.
- **Curriculum Review and Revision:** Our curriculum is a living document that undergoes periodic review and revision to reflect evolving standards, best practices in education, and the ever-changing needs of our student population.

Instructional Practices that Empower Student Learning

- **Engaging and Effective Instruction:** Our teachers utilize a variety of research-based instructional strategies that cater to diverse learning styles and promote active student engagement. This may include project-based learning, cooperative learning activities, technology integration, hands-on experiments, and opportunities for student inquiry and discovery.
- **Cultivating Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills:** We go beyond rote memorization and emphasize the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Instructional activities encourage students to analyze information, evaluate evidence, form well-supported arguments, and approach challenges creatively.
- **Technology as a Powerful Learning Tool:** Technology is strategically integrated into the curriculum to enhance student learning, research, and communication skills. We leverage technology to create engaging learning experiences, provide access to diverse learning resources, and promote collaboration.
- **Differentiated Instruction for All Learners:** We acknowledge that students have unique learning styles and needs. Our teachers employ differentiated instruction strategies to provide all students with the support and challenges necessary for success. This may involve varying the level of complexity, offering diverse learning materials and activities, and providing personalized instruction.

Communication and Collaboration: Building Bridges for Success

- **Transparency in Curriculum:** We are committed to fostering open communication with parents and the community regarding the curriculum and student learning goals. Curriculum documents like pacing guides, learning objectives, and assessment strategies are readily available to parents upon request.
- **Regular Parent-Teacher Communication:** We believe in the importance of strong partnerships between parents and teachers. Regular communication through conferences, reports, and online platforms keeps parents informed about student progress and allows for collaboration to support student learning at home and school.
- **Professional Development for Teachers:** RISS is dedicated to supporting our educators by providing ongoing professional development opportunities. These opportunities allow teachers to stay up-to-date on the latest research and best practices in curriculum development, instruction, and assessment practices aligned with the CCSS. We understand that effective curriculum implementation hinges on our faculty's expertise. We provide ongoing professional development opportunities for our teachers to stay

current on best practices in American curriculum delivery and methods for integrating Emirati culture into lesson plans. We also encourage collaboration among teachers from different subject areas to foster a cohesive curriculum that celebrates cultural integration.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this RISS curriculum policy establishes a framework that balances the strengths of the American curriculum, guided by the California Common Core State Standards, with the importance of fostering a deep appreciation for Emirati culture and heritage. This approach ensures our students receive a well-rounded education that prepares them for success in a globalized world, while also instilling a strong sense of national identity and cultural pride. By embracing both international best practices and local values, we empower our students to become confident, adaptable, and responsible citizens who can contribute meaningfully to the UAE's future.