



Policy Title:

National Anthem Respect and Conduct Policy

Approval Authority: AIS Board of Trustees

Operational Oversight: AIS Leadership Team

Effective Date: January 2026

Compliance Date: January 2026

INTRODUCTION

The school recognizes the UAE national anthem as a symbol of national identity, unity, and shared values. Demonstrating respect during the performance of the national anthem is a fundamental expectation for all members of the school community and reflects the school's commitment to promoting national identity and responsible citizenship.

In accordance with ADEK School Values and Ethics requirements, this policy sets out clear expectations and responsibilities to ensure that all students demonstrate respectful and appropriate conduct whenever the UAE national anthem is performed, including during daily assemblies, ceremonies, and official school events.

PURPOSE

- Establish clear expectations for student conduct during the performance of the UAE national anthem
- Ensure consistent student participation through standing and respectful singing
- Promote national identity, unity, and respect for UAE values and support the school's compliance with ADEK Values and Ethics and Cultural Considerations requirement
- Provide a consistent, school-wide approach for implementation, monitoring, and follow-up

POLICY

1. Implementation and Oversight

- 1.1 All students, staff, and visitors present during assemblies or school events are expected to observe respectful conduct during the performance of the UAE national anthem.
- 1.2 In line with the ADEK School Values and Ethics Policy, the school shall organize a daily assembly, in whichever format is appropriate to the school (whether as a whole school, cycle, grade, or class), during which all students are required to attend and sing the UAE national anthem.

- 1.3 The Principal and designated staff are responsible for ensuring that respectful conduct during the performance of the UAE national anthem is consistently implemented and observed across the school.
- 1.4 Expectations for respectful conduct shall be clearly communicated, taught, reinforced, and monitored through school-wide practices to ensure consistent application and compliance.
- 1.5 The school shall communicate with parents to inform them of national anthem expectations, explain the importance of respectful conduct, and encourage reinforcement of these expectations at home.
- 1.6 National anthem expectations shall form part of the induction process for new students and staff.

2. Student Conduct Expectations

- 2.1 During the performance of the UAE national anthem, all students are expected to demonstrate respectful and appropriate conduct at all times. Specifically, students must:
 - Attend the assembly as scheduled and stand immediately when the national anthem begins
 - Stand still, face forward, and remain focused throughout the anthem
 - Keep hands by their sides or placed respectfully
 - Sing the UAE national anthem respectfully, enthusiastically and with pride
 - Refrain from talking, laughing, calling out, or making unnecessary sounds
 - Avoid all unnecessary movement or actions that may distract others
 - Maintain respectful behavior until the national anthem has fully concluded

3. Staff Responsibilities

- 3.1 All staff members have a shared responsibility to uphold and model respectful conduct during the performance of the UAE national anthem. In fulfilling this responsibility, staff members shall:
 - Explicitly teach students the expectations and required conduct related to the national anthem
 - Consistently model respectful behavior by standing appropriately and singing the anthem in accordance with school expectations
 - Actively monitor student conduct during the anthem to ensure compliance with established expectations
 - Refrain from interrupting the anthem to correct behavior, except where safety requires immediate intervention
 - Address any concerns or instances of non-compliance only after the anthem has concluded
- 3.2 The Principal and Heads of Grade are responsible for overseeing the consistent and effective implementation of this policy across all sections and grade levels, and for supporting staff in maintaining shared expectations and practices.

4. Student Pledge

4.1 All Grades 4–12 students shall sign a National Anthem Respect Pledge as a formal acknowledgment of their responsibility to demonstrate respectful conduct during the performance of the UAE national anthem. By signing the pledge, students confirm that they:

- Understand the national, cultural, and civic importance of the UAE national anthem
- Commit to attending assemblies and standing respectfully when the anthem begins
- Commit to singing the anthem appropriately and in accordance with school expectations
- Agree to refrain from talking, laughing, or engaging in any behavior that may distract others
- Commit to demonstrating respectful conduct whenever the national anthem is performed

5. Guidance and Consequences

5.1 When student conduct does not meet the expectations outlined in this policy, the following procedures shall apply:

- The student shall be clearly informed of the specific expectation that was not met
- Correct and appropriate conduct shall be re-taught using clear, age-appropriate guidance and explanation
- Repeated or ongoing concerns shall be documented and addressed in accordance with the school's established behavior procedures

5.2 Failure to demonstrate respectful conduct during the performance of the UAE national anthem constitutes a breach of the AIS Student Behavior Policy and shall be addressed as a Level 2 offence, in accordance with established behavior management procedures. Such conduct is inconsistent with the school's responsibility under the ADEK School Values and Ethics Policy to ensure respectful participation during the national anthem.