



ABU DHABI  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL

# ANNUAL REPORT

2024/2025





## **Our mission**

To support all students in attaining their full potential in personal development and active citizenship by providing the foundation for lifelong learning through quality education.

## **Our vision**

To prepare global citizens who will lead for positive change.



*Lead for positive change*

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# DETAILS ON SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Abu Dhabi International Private School (AIS) – MBZ Campus is a co-educational school serving approximately 2,100 students from Preschool to Grade 12.

Founded in 1992, AIS–MBZ is governed by a Board of Directors and a Board of Governors that includes educational specialists.



The school operates within a unified leadership structure across both the MBZ and Abu Dhabi campuses, ensuring the coherent implementation of its vision: to prepare global citizens who lead for positive change. School operations are monitored through eSIS (9265/8265) and systematic facility checks, supporting an environment that values diversity, inclusion, and empathy. This has contributed to the school being rated Very Good, with several Outstanding elements, by ADEK, as well as achieving accreditation in the NEASC Learning Principles.

## Curriculum

The school has established a coherent and progressive academic programme that combines the US Common Core State Standards in English and Mathematics, the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in Science, and the UAE Ministry of Education curriculum for Arabic, Islamic Studies, Moral Education, and Social Studies across Grades 1–12. This has enabled the school to provide students with a well-articulated educational pathway that ensures continuity and progression from the early years through to graduation.

A significant strength of the secondary programme is the structured preparation it offers for advanced academic pathways. Beginning in Grade 9, students are guided into either the general high school program or a pre-external program that prepares those interested in joining the AP and IB pathways. In Grades 11 and 12, the school has successfully developed specialized tracks that align with students' interests, strengths, and university aspirations, including Engineering, Medicine and Health Sciences, Economics and Business, and Liberal Arts, while also offering access to the Advanced Placement (AP) programme and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).

The school has also fostered a richly diverse learning community representing over 56 nationalities and has invested in high-quality facilities that enhance academic achievement, creative development, and student well-being. Together, these accomplishments reflect the school's commitment to providing a comprehensive, future-focused, and internationally minded education.

# DETAILS ON SCHOOL OPERATIONS

## Academic and Innovation Facilities

AIS prioritizes creating environments that foster student agency and 21st-century skills:

- Specialized Labs: Multiple science laboratories and ICT labs.
- Innovation Spaces: Elementary and High School Robotics Labs where students test coding and build robots, and two newly added robotics rooms equipped with Lego Spike resources.
- Makerspaces: An Elementary Makerspace designed for STEAM projects using sustainable materials.
- Flexible Learning Areas: Furnished spaces outside of traditional classrooms for individual or small-group tasks, designed to promote collaborative and self-directed learning.
- Library: A central hub described as a favorite spot for students to research, study and access a wide collection of bilingual resources.
- Media & Production Spaces: A podcast and recording room where students can create audio content, develop communication skills, and engage in digital storytelling and media production.



# DETAILS ON SCHOOL OPERATIONS

## Sports and Physical Education Facilities

The school is well-equipped for athletic development, which contributed to its 4th place overall finish in the Abu Dhabi Sports Championship:

- Indoor Facilities: Gymnasiums, a fitness room, and a dance studio.
- Outdoor Facilities: A running track, soccer fields, and courts for basketball and volleyball.

## Arts and Performance Spaces

- Theater: A high-quality theater used for performances, debates, and community events.
- Visual Arts Facilities: Dedicated art rooms designed to support creativity across visual arts, equipped for drawing, painting, and mixed-media projects.
- Performing Arts Facilities: Specialized music rooms that provide students with opportunities to explore instrumental and vocal performance in a structured environment.



# DETAILS ON SCHOOL OPERATIONS

## Inclusion and Support Spaces

AIS-MBZ provides targeted support for students with additional learning needs through specialized facilities:

- Learning Resource Center
- Sensory Room
- Occupational Therapy Room

## General Amenities

- **Canteen and Kiosks:** Offering healthy meals and snack options.
- **Medical Clinic:** Staffed by HAAD-certified health personnel to carry out routine checks and maintain medical records.
- **Majlis:** Features a UAE Heritage Gallery Walk showcasing cultural artifacts.
- **Prayer Rooms:** Two dedicated prayer rooms are available, one for males and one for females.

The school maintenance is noted to be of an exceptionally high standard, with regular safety checks.



# OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP)

The SDP for the 2024–2026 period was strategically aligned with ADEK's Quality Assurance Policy, focusing on three primary pillars: raising attainment in international assessments, enhancing teacher capacity for data-driven instruction, and integrating global citizenship through the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Strategic Alignment: In alignment with the current SDP (2025-2027) and the NEASC ACE Pathway, the school has identified four Priority Improvement Objectives:**

- Improve student attainment and progress on external assessments (MAP, ABT).
- Improve the quality and impact of teaching and learning through student ownership and inquiry.
- Improve the quality and impact of care and support, particularly for Gifted and Talented (G&T) learners.
- Improve data-driven decision-making across all phases.

**Specific End-of-Year Achievements from the SDP:**

- **International Targets:** The school successfully met or exceeded its performance targets in PISA (Reading, Math, Science) and TIMSS (Grade 4 Science, Grade 8 Math/Science). This resulted in mean scores significantly above both the Abu Dhabi Private School average and the UAE national average.
- **Curricular Integration:** Universal unit themes (e.g., "Act & Impact") were successfully implemented across K–12 to strengthen interdisciplinary learning. Evidence of impact includes students linking classroom tasks to global challenges like climate change and poverty.
- **Infrastructure:** Completed the furnishing of flexible learning spaces and two new robotics rooms to support autonomous student inquiry. This contributed to a 92% student satisfaction rate regarding friend-based support and 88% support from leadership.

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# DETAILS ON INSPECTION RESULTS (LAST UPDATED USING INSPECTION 2026)

In the AY 2025/26 Irtiqa'a Inspection, Abu Dhabi International Private School – MBZ sustained its overall judgment of Very Good, demonstrating a continued commitment to high performance and strategic growth. The school provides an exceptionally safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment, with an embedded culture of safeguarding and personalized support.

## Outstanding Elements (Exemplary Performance)

The following areas were judged as Outstanding, representing the highest level of achievement across all phases or specific key indicators:

- Student Achievement in English (Phase 4): Students demonstrate highly developed analytical, inferential, and evaluative skills, resulting in outstanding attainment and progress.
- Student Achievement in Mathematics (Phase 4): Achievement is characterized by a deep understanding of complex concepts, allowing students to excel at the highest curriculum standards.
- Student Achievement in Science: Progress is Outstanding across all phases due to effective teaching that promotes scientific reasoning and investigative skills; attainment in Phase 4 is also judged as Outstanding.
- Personal and Social Development: Judged as Outstanding across all phases, students demonstrate mature attitudes, exemplary behavior, and strong self-discipline.
- Social Responsibility and Innovation Skills: Students take a leading role in meaningful service, sustainability, and enterprise initiatives that positively impact the wider community.
- Health and Safety, Safeguarding, and Child Protection: The school maintains rigorous procedures, ensuring students feel consistently safe and well cared for in a secure and hygienic environment.
- Care and Support: Characterized by exemplary staff-student relationships, effective pastoral systems, and personalized provision that enables all learners—including Students of Determination—to thrive.
- Student Attendance: Sustained at an outstanding average rate of 98%, reflecting students' strong commitment to the school.
- Partnerships with Parents and the Community: High levels of meaningful engagement and communication make a positive contribution to raising school standards.
- Governance: The Board of Trustees provides high levels of support and accountability, ensuring the school remains well-resourced and ethically guided.

# DETAILS ON INSPECTION RESULTS (LAST UPDATED USING INSPECTION 2026)

## Very Good Elements (High Performance)

The following areas were judged as Very Good, indicating performance that consistently exceeds curriculum expectations and national standards:

- **Arabic-Medium Subjects:**

- Arabic as a First Language: Sustained as Very Good across all phases, with Phase 1 improving from "Good" due to strengthened phonics and early literacy skills.
- Arabic as a Second Language: Achievement is Very Good in Phase 3 and Phase 4, reflecting strong language comprehension and analysis skills.
- Islamic Education: Attainment and progress remained Very Good across Phases 2, 3, and 4, showing secure knowledge of the Qur'an, Hadeeth, and Islamic law.

- **English-Medium Subjects:**

- English: Attainment is Very Good in Phases 1 and 2; progress is Very Good in Phases 2 and 3.
- Mathematics: Achievement remained Very Good in Phases 1 and 3; progress is Very Good in Phases 1, 2, and 3.
- Science: Attainment remained Very Good in Phases 1, 2, and 3.
- UAE Social Studies: Achievement in Phase 4 is Very Good, with students showing a strong understanding of citizenship and the national economy.

- **Learning Skills:** Students across the school are motivated, take responsibility for their own learning, and apply research and problem-solving skills confidently.

- **Understanding of Islamic Values and Awareness of Emirati/World Cultures:** Students demonstrate a secure appreciation of how these values shape life in the UAE and the wider global context.

- **Teaching and Assessment:** Teaching is well-structured and purposeful, while assessment processes are systematic and inform effective curriculum planning and differentiation.

- **Curriculum Design, Implementation, and Adaptation:** The curriculum is broad, balanced, and promotes strong vertical progression, with effective adaptations to meet diverse learner needs.

- **Leadership and Management:**

- Effectiveness of Leadership: Leaders set a clear strategic direction aligned with national priorities.
- Self-Evaluation and Improvement Planning: Rigorous analysis of evidence informs whole-school priorities and sustained improvement.
- Management of Staffing, Facilities, and Resources: The school is efficiently managed and well-equipped with modern resources to support student engagement.

# DETAILS ON INSPECTION RESULTS (LAST UPDATED USING INSPECTION 2026)

## Overall School Performance: **Very Good**

PS1: Students' achievements					
Subject		KG	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Islamic Education	Attainment	Not Applicable	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
	Progress	Not Applicable	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Arabic as a first language	Attainment	Very Good ↑	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
	Progress	Very Good ↑	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Arabic as a second language	Attainment	Good	Good	Very Good	Very Good
	Progress	Good	Good	Very Good	Very Good
UAE Social Studies	Attainment	Not Applicable	Good	Good	Very Good
	Progress	Not Applicable	Good	Good	Very Good
English	Attainment	Very Good	Very Good	Good ↓	Outstanding ↑
	Progress	Outstanding	Very Good	Very Good	Outstanding ↑
Mathematics	Attainment	Very Good	Good ↓	Very Good	Outstanding
	Progress	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Outstanding
Science	Attainment	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Outstanding
	Progress	Outstanding ↑	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding
Learning Skills		Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good

# DETAILS ON INSPECTION RESULTS (LAST UPDATED USING INSPECTION 2026)

PS2: Students' personal and social development, and their innovation skills				
	KG	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Personal Development	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding
Understanding of Islamic values and awareness of Emirati and world cultures	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Social responsibility and innovation skills	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding

PS3: Teaching and Assessment				
	KG	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Teaching for effective learning	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Assessment	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good

PS4: Curriculum				
	KG	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Curriculum design and implementation	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Curriculum adaptation	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good

PS5: The protection, care, guidance and support of students				
	KG	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Health and safety, including arrangements for child protection / safeguarding	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding
Care and support	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding	Outstanding

PS6: Leadership and Management	
The effectiveness of leadership	Very Good
School self-evaluation and improvement planning	Very Good
Parents and the community	Outstanding
Governance	Outstanding
Management, staffing, facilities and resources	Very Good

# DETAILS ON INSPECTION RESULTS (LAST UPDATED USING INSPECTION 2026)

## Analysis

Inspectors reported that student achievement in English-medium subjects ranges between Very Good and Outstanding. Science progress is Outstanding across all phases. A minor decline was noted in Phase 3 English and Phase 2 Mathematics attainment, which has informed a strategic shift in the School Development Plan toward strengthening deeper inference in reading and abstract reasoning in mathematics. The school also maintained an attendance rate of 98%, judged Outstanding, reflecting high levels of student motivation and commitment.

Outstanding judgments in care, support, health, and safety provide a strong and stable foundation for the Very Good quality of teaching and learning across the school. Additionally, Outstanding outcomes in social responsibility and innovation demonstrate the school's success in achieving its vision of developing "global citizens who lead for positive change." This impact is further evidenced by a 100% university placement rate and the high levels of student autonomy and independence consistently noted by external visitors.



# VARIANCE REPORT: SDP GOALS VS. ACTUAL OUTCOMES

**The school monitored progress against previous SDP targets with the following results:** Academic Growth in Arabic as a First Language improved to Very Good in Phase 1 due to strengthened phonics instruction. Progress in Science is now Outstanding across all phases. However, a variance was noted in MAP standardized results, particularly in English Reading across phases 2–4, which were judged "Weak". This has prompted the current SDP priority to align internal rigor more closely with external benchmarks. Curriculum adaptation was Very Good.

**Leadership & Monitoring Layer:** Leadership identified opportunities to further strengthen alignment between internal assessments and external standardized benchmarks, especially in lower grades, ensuring greater consistency and accuracy in measuring student achievement. To address this, the school implemented a structured monitoring system, including lesson observation tools aligned with the UAE Inspection Framework. This resulted in the systematic use of NWEA MAP Growth data to target priority strands like comprehension and algebraic reasoning. Evidence of impact includes Grade 9 students improving their MAP Mathematics performance to an "Outstanding" level by the Spring 2025 cycle. In alignment with the SDP, the school has introduced IXL and Read 180 platforms to provide adaptive, personalized learning paths for all students.



## OTHER STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Students demonstrated excellence in diverse local and international arenas. AIS teams secured 1st place in the Young ADIPEC Methane Abatement Challenge. The "TechTitans" team won the "Rising All-Stars Award" at the FIRST LEGO League Open Championship in Greece. Students received the 2023 Junk Kouture Innovation Award in Monaco. The school placed 4th overall in the Abu Dhabi Sports Championship, with gold medals in U15 Girls Basketball and individual swimming events.

- **Sustainability:** The student-led Kappa Gamma team completed over 75 eco-focused activities, including the "One Root, One Communi-Tree" project which collected 330 kg of plastic. This resulted in two native trees being planted in the school's name.
- **Civic Leadership:** AIS-MBZ delegates secured 11 awards at ADMUN 2024, emphasizing diplomacy and conflict resolution.
- **STEM:** Elementary students in the "AIS Marines" team received the Team Model Award during the FLL "Submerged" season.
- **International Robotics:** The AIS TechTitans team won the "Rising All-Stars Award" at the FIRST LEGO League Open International Championship in Greece. The elementary AIS Marines received the Team Model Award during the LEGO League "Submerged" season
- **Energy Innovation:** AIS teams secured 1st place in both categories of the Young ADIPEC Methane Abatement Challenge, with Team Methane Mitigators achieving a 99.99% emission reduction using AI sensors
- **Mathematics:** Several students ranked in the top 25% globally in the University of Waterloo Fermat and Cayley math contests
- **Global Fashion:** Students received the Innovation Award at the Junk Kouture World Finals in Monaco for sustainable fashion design
- **Fine Arts:** IB students won the "Silver Brick" at the New Horizon International Competition in Moscow, celebrating cultural diversity through the arts

**Visual Arts:** The 2025 Visual Arts Exhibition featured over 600 student works, ranging from 3D sculptures to mixed-media paintings



## OTHER STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- **The AIS Wolves football teams** achieved significant success during the ADEK Abu Dhabi Sports Championship, contributing to the school's 4th-place overall finish in a competition that featured 33,000 participating students. Key highlights from the championship include:
  - **U15 Girls Basketball :** The U15 Girls Basketball Team were crowned ADEK Champions.
  - **U13 Football Team:** Delivered an exceptional performance to secure 2nd place and bring home the silver medal.
  - **U13 Girls Football:** Demonstrated strong momentum by powering through to the final of the championship.
  - **U17 Boys Football:** Reached a critical stage of the tournament, being locked in for the semi-finals.
  - **Combat Sports:** Khaled Sleiman (Grade 12) won 1st place at the UAE Muay Thai Championship and represented the UAE National Team at World Championships.
  - **U17 Girls Volleyball Team:** The U17 Girls Volleyball Team won the bronze medal (3rd place) at the ADEK Abu Dhabi Sports Championship.
  - **Track & Field and Martial Arts:** The school maintains Varsity Track & Field and Varsity Martial Arts teams. Individual achievements in these teams include silver medals in the Long Jump and national championship titles in Muay Thai and Jiu-Jitsu



# OTHER STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

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- **AIS Wolves swimming team brought home medals from the ADEK-organized championship and other competitions:**
- **Jaidaa Ali** won 6 gold medals at the Giza Regional Swimming Championship.
- **Yasmine Irfan:** Won 1st place in the 100m Backstroke and 50m Backstroke, and 2nd place in the 100m Individual Medley.
- **Lamar Wahid:** Secured 1st place in the 200m Freestyle and 2nd place in the 100m Freestyle.
- **Mariam Osama:** Earned 2nd place in the 50m Backstroke.
- **Dania Sayed:** Achieved 3rd place in the 50m Breaststroke.
- **Saaddine Hassanin:** Received 3rd place in both the 50m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly. He also earned a bronze in the 400 IM during his first-ever competition.
- **Open Water Swimmers**
- **Lamar Ibrahim:** Won a gold medal in the 16-17 age group for the 4k Open Water Race at the Emirates Open Water Cup Championship.
- **Youssef Efran:** Earned 2nd place in the 800m race at the Marsana Beach Open Water Swim.
- **Samer Khalife:** Secured 2nd place in the 200m race at the same event.
- **National Identity:** AIS earned the Golden Prize from Sandoog Al Watan for two consecutive years (2024/2025) for best practices in promoting Emirati heritage.
- **Diplomacy and Debate:** Delegates secured 11 awards at the ADMUN 2024 conference. Abdallah Omar (Grade 12) was awarded Best Speaker at the NYU Abu Dhabi High School Debate Tournament.
- **University Placement:** The school maintains a 100% university placement rate, with graduates securing admissions to prestigious institutions such as Columbia, NYU, UC Berkeley, Toronto, and Imperial College London
- **Student Council:** Elected councils across Elementary, Middle, and High School provide structured platforms for student voice, enabling active participation in school governance and decision-making.
- **Kindness Ambassadors:** Students lead initiatives that promote inclusion, peer mentoring, and a positive school culture, fostering a supportive and respectful learning environment.

# RESULTS OF STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

## **AIS students consistently exceed national and international averages across core subjects:**

- **PISA 2022:** Students achieved mean scores in Reading (543), Mathematics (537), and Science (532), significantly surpassing targets and Abu Dhabi private school averages.
- **Specialized PISA Domains:** 15-year-old students scored 565.1 in Financial Literacy (Level 4) and 38.9 in Creative Thinking (Level 4), reflecting high proficiency in 21st-century skills.
- **TIMSS 2023:** Grade 8 students reached the high international benchmark in Science (571) and Grade 4 students achieved the high benchmark in both Science (567) and Math (561). This result is higher than Abu Dhabi Private Schools, Abu Dhabi schools overall, and the UAE national average.
- **PIRLS 2021:** Grade 4 students achieved a mean score of 547, placing in the upper range of the intermediate international benchmark.
- **Pre-Collegiate Success:** 96% of students met SAT English expectations, and 100% met IELTS minimum expectations.
- **IBDP:** The IB Class of 2024 achieved a 100% pass rate with an average score of 35 points.
- **Advanced Placement (AP):** Attainment is Outstanding in AP Mathematics, Chemistry, and Biology.
- **Early Arabic Literacy:** 100% of KG2 students met or exceeded benchmarks in the 2025 Mubakir assessment, a notable improvement from 92% the previous year.

## **The school utilizes Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) to track attainment and progress for students in Grades 3 to 9.**

- **Mathematics:** Attainment in the Spring 2025 cycle was judged Outstanding for Grade 9 (94% at/above 41st percentile), Very Good for Phase 4 overall, and Good for Phase 3. However, attainment in Phase 2 was judged Weak.
- **Science:** Attainment is Very Good in Phase 4, Good in Phase 3, and Weak in Phase 2. Strongest progress was observed in Grades 5, 6, 8, and 9.
- **English Reading & Language Use:** Attainment across Phases 2, 3, and 4 was judged Weak relative to international norms, prompting a strategic focus on literacy intervention through platforms like IXL and Read 180.

# GRADUATE DESTINATION INFORMATION

ALS maintains a 100% university placement rate. Graduates of the Class of 2024 secured admissions into prestigious global institutions, including Columbia University, New York University (NYU), University of California, Berkeley, University of Toronto, and Imperial College London.

This success is driven by the Comprehensive Career and University Preparation Program, which includes over 80 global university visits and events like Career Panel 2025. Senior students develop personalized action plans for their academic futures. In alignment with the SDP, the school uses Unifrog to track career aspirations from Cycle 2.

The large majority of students are admitted to their first-choice universities. The student body demonstrates a strong inclination toward STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and professional degree pathways.

Category	Popular Majors Listed
Engineering	Mechanical, Mechatronics, Civil, and Software Engineering.
Health Sciences	Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Nursing.
Technology	Computer Science, Cybersecurity, and Artificial Intelligence.
Design & Arts	Architecture and Graphic Design.
Business	Business Administration and Finance.

## Popular Destinations:

- United Arab Emirates: A key destination, with students applying to both national universities and international branch campuses.
- European Union: Notable interest in countries such as Germany (Engineering) and Italy (Medicine).
- Czech Republic: Students pursue medical and technical programs.
- Jordan: Students pursue professional degree programs.
- Turkey: Students pursue technical and medical programs with competitive tuition.
- United States and Canada: Students pursue a wide range of undergraduate programs.
- United Kingdom: Students pursue

# STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Staff member Mr. Eby George was celebrated for completing 2,445 volunteer hours in the "We Are All Police" initiative.



PE teacher Ms. Andreea Isărescu was recognized for her background as an Olympic gold medalist in gymnastics, bringing elite-level expertise to student training.



Mr. Ghazi Arabi is commended for leading the Kappa Gamma team to organize over 75 environmental activities.



Ms. Gabi Gervais (Teacher), our Grade 3 Lead Teacher, is a competitive triathlete who secured 2nd place in the 1600m race at the Marsana Beach Open Water Swim.



# IMPACT OF CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

AIS provides a minimum of 75 hours of structured CPD through a year-long professional learning model focused on data literacy, inquiry-based pedagogy, and digital innovation. This is implemented through workshops, PLCs, coaching, and action research, ensuring sustained and embedded professional growth. Teachers are trained to analyze NWEA MAP and PIRLS data and translate insights into differentiated, data-driven instruction using platforms such as IXL and other digital tools. The program also emphasizes student-centered approaches, including project-based learning and Self-Directed Learning (SDL), strengthening student agency in line with NEASC feedback. Teachers are expected to actively engage in this cycle of improvement by setting Professional Growth Plans, participating in lesson observations and peer collaboration, maintaining professional logs, and using student feedback and multiple data sources to continuously refine their teaching practices and improve student outcomes.



## BUDGETING FOR RESOURCES

In alignment with ADEK's Financial Audits and Reports Policy, the Governing Board ensures resources are strategically allocated to support the SDP. Major expenditure was directed toward technological infrastructure, including 215 iPads for elementary classrooms, large TVs in all elementary classes, new robotics hardware and labs (Lego Spike), and subscriptions to digital platforms like IXL. Budgeting facilitated the furnishing of flexible learning environments and makerspaces across the campus.

Resource allocation is evaluated annually based on recommendations from middle and senior leaders.



# STUDENT AND STAFF WELLBEING INDICATORS

The school maintains a high-functioning wellbeing culture supported by the ADEK Wellbeing Policies. Attendance is an outstanding overall rate of 98%, reflecting high student satisfaction. 92% of students report feeling cared for by friends, and 88% feel supported by the Principal. Initiatives include "Fun and Fitness Week," "Kindness Week," and health monitoring/personalized fitness goals. Staff retention is fostered through a supportive work culture, with 92% of faculty recommending the school. The school has furnished two dedicated teacher wellbeing rooms, providing a calm and supportive environment where staff can relax, recharge, and maintain their overall wellbeing. Wellness workshops led by LadderUp Lifestyle Development focus on "brain training through life skills" to reduce study-time stress.

## Student Wellbeing Indicators (numbers based on latest surveys)

- Attendance & Punctuality:
  - Outstanding attendance rate of 98% (as of October 2025), reflecting strong student commitment.
- Safety & Emotional Support Surveys:
- 92% of students feel cared for and supported by their friends.
- 88% feel supported by the school Principal.
- 87% feel supported by their Heads of Grade.
- 85% feel supported by their teachers.
- 89% of parents agree that their child feels secure at school.
- Learner Attributes & Character (2024–2025):
- 98% of students were rated "Good" or better for being Responsible.
- 97% of students were rated "Good" or better for being Collaborative.
- 96% of students were rated "Good" or better for being Determined and Self-Disciplined.
- 96% of students achieved "Excellent," "Very Good," or "Good" in Compassion.

## PISA 2022 Specialized Survey Insights:

- 83% of students believe they know how to manage their money.
- 71% of students feel confident in coming up with creative ideas for school projects.
- 76% of students report that doing something creative satisfies them.
- 89% of students always compare prices in different shops before purchasing a product.
- Health & Physical Wellbeing:
- 91% of parents agree that the school effectively educates children about making the right choices for safe and healthy living.
- Annual health screenings include BMI and vital sign monitoring recorded on eSIS.

# STUDENT AND STAFF WELLBEING INDICATORS

## Staff Wellbeing Indicators (numbers based on latest surveys)

- Recommendation Rate: 92% of faculty recommend the school as a respectful and healthy learning community.
- Professional Climate: The majority of faculty believe relationships within the school are respectful and healthy. Morale is noted as positive, with leadership roles well-distributed among staff.
- Retention & Appreciation: The school ways to recognize specific teacher achievements, which helps foster a culture of gratitude and supports long-term retention.

## Wellbeing Initiatives

- Structured Pastoral Systems: Every student has access to Heads of Grade, counselors, and class advisors who meet with them each morning to monitor wellbeing.
- Health Awareness Programs: Annual events including "Fun and Fitness Week," "Pinktober" (healthy living awareness), and "Health Awareness Week".
- Mental Health Support: Celebration of World Mental Health Day with emotional intelligence specialists.

## Specialized Workshops:

- Collaborations with LadderUp Lifestyle Development for "brain training through life skills" to reduce study-time stress.
- Sessions on screen time management and sleep hygiene delivered by Bloom Medical Center.
- Workshops on oral hygiene and personal hygiene sponsored by Oasis Braces Center and Sebamed.



# DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PRACTICES

## Student Population and Inclusion

- Total Nationalities: The student body represents over 56 different nationalities.
- Students with Additional Learning Needs: The school currently serves 168 students with additional learning needs.
- Students of Determination (SoD): The SoD population accounts for 8% of the total student enrollment.
- Enrollment Reservation: The school policy reserves at least 5% of its student body for students with learning difficulties and disabilities.
- Admissions Growth: There has been an increase in the admission of students with special educational needs (SEN) of over 50% since the previous inspection.
- SSSD Support: The Student Support Services Department (SSSD) provides comprehensive assistance to approximately 200 learners for academic, social, and emotional needs. The school uses the Response to Intervention (RTI) framework, providing Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and dedicated Case Managers.



## Language and Cultural Support

- Quran Program Engagement: The "Language of the Holy Quran" program, which supports national identity, engaged over 250 students.
- French Language Proficiency: More than 100 students earned DELF French certification through the school's after-school program over the past two years.

# DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PRACTICES

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## Gifted and Talented (G&T) Program

- Number of G&T Students: There are 70 identified Gifted and Talented students in the school from all cycles.
- Identification Benchmark: The school utilizes a triangulated approach to identify these learners, which includes teacher nominations, classroom performance reviews, and standardized cognitive assessments such as MAP, CogAT, WISC-IV, and WRAT. The benchmark for identification is typically set at the 95th percentile or higher on these assessments.
- Gifted and talented students are identified and supported across a broad range of domains to ensure their abilities are recognized and nurtured. These areas include General Intellectual, where students demonstrate advanced reasoning and problem-solving skills; Subject-Specific Aptitude in areas such as Mathematics, Science, and Languages; and Creative Thinking, reflecting originality and innovation in ideas and approaches. Students may also show strengths in Leadership through initiative and influence, and in Technical/Technological Ingenuity through skills in coding, robotics, and digital innovation. In addition, AIS recognizes talents in Visual Arts and Performing Arts (PA), including music, drama, and performance, as well as Psychomotor Ability (PsyA) in sports and physical coordination. These areas guide identification, enrichment opportunities, and personalized learning pathways, ensuring that each student's strengths are developed through differentiated instruction, co-curricular programs, competitions, and mentorship opportunities.

## Provision and Support Framework

- Support for G&T learners is primarily delivered through Enrichment Educational Plans (EEPs). Each identified student is assigned a Case Manager who monitors these plans, which define specific domains of giftedness and set individualized SMART goals. Key elements of the EEPs include:
- Advanced Coursework: Students in Phase 4 have access to rigorous pathways, including the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme and Advanced Placement (AP) courses.
- Specialized Initiatives: The school facilitates unique programs such as the "G&T 20 Experience Challenge" and the "Micro-Motivator Service Project" to ensure students are consistently challenged.
- Mentorship and Research: Provision increasingly focuses on independent research, leadership opportunities, and mentorship programs both inside the school and within the local community.
- Competition and Innovation: Students are encouraged to apply their skills in high-level arenas.

# DOCUMENTATION OF COUNSELING SERVICES

- In line with the Student Mental Health Policy, AIS provides comprehensive and proactive support for student wellbeing. School counselors offer confidential sessions and deliver a structured Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) program starting from KG, while collaborative workshops with LadderUp focus on stress management and essential life skills.
- This support is embedded within a strong, multi-layered pastoral system led by the Director of Pastoral and Student Affairs, Heads of Grades, and Class Advisors, who act as first-line mentors. Aligned with School Development Plan (SDP) Priority 3, this network actively monitors key wellbeing indicators such as attendance, engagement, and behavior, ensuring that students at risk receive timely check-ins and personalized interventions.
- In addition, a dedicated university and career counselor provides personalized guidance for students from Grades 8 to 12, supporting informed pathway and future planning decisions.



# MAIN SMART TARGETS FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

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The School Development Plan (SDP) for 2025–2027 establishes a rigorous roadmap for institutional advancement, transitioning from a "Very Good" performance level toward "Outstanding" by addressing specific variance gaps in external assessments and pedagogical depth. The following targets are derived from the SDP's Priority Improvement Objectives and represent the school's commitment to academic rigor, data literacy, and student agency.

## **Priority 1: Improvement in External Assessment Outcomes (MAP, ABT)**

- Target: By June 2027, most (75–90%) students in Grades 3–9 will demonstrate a 5-point increase in percentile rank in MAP Reading, Language, Mathematics, and Science, with at least 75% meeting or exceeding their projected growth targets.

## **Priority 2: Quality and Impact of Teaching and Learning**

- Target: By June 2027, most (75–90%) teachers will consistently implement effective teaching practices—including differentiated instruction and interdisciplinary projects aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—as measured by lesson observations and planning reviews.

## **Priority 3: Data-Driven Decision Making and Leadership Capacity**

- Target: By June 2027, the school will implement a rigorous and consistent analysis of internal and external assessment data across all phases, with almost all teachers effectively using data to inform instruction.

## **Priority 4: Quality of Care, Support, and Graduation Pathways**

- Target: By June 2027, most Gifted and Talented students will make better than expected progress, and almost all Students of Determination will achieve expected outcomes through personalized plans (IEPs).

# POINTS OF PRIDE

## Institutional Accreditations and Recognition

- ADEK Rating and Accreditations: The school sustained a Very Good overall judgment in the AY 2025/26 Irtiqa'a Inspection, reflecting its continued commitment to high standards and school improvement. It also successfully achieved NEASC Learning Principles accreditation under the ACE Pathway, a forward-looking model that promotes student-centered, impact-driven learning.
- Academic Licensing: AIS is licensed by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) to offer the IB Diploma Programme since 2005 and is approved by the College Board to offer the Advanced Placement (AP) Program since 1997.
- University Placement Excellence: The school has been recognized by ADEK for achieving one of the highest rates among Abu Dhabi schools in securing admissions to leading global universities, including Columbia, NYU, UC Berkeley, the University of Toronto, and Imperial College London.

## Prestigious Awards and Global Recognition

- ADEK Reading Award 2024: AIS received this prestigious award in recognition of its strong bilingual literacy culture and the impact of its reading programs in both English and Arabic.
- National Identity Excellence: For two consecutive years, 2024 and 2025, AIS earned the Golden Prize from Sandoq Al Watan for its summer camp programs, recognized among the best in the UAE for promoting Emirati heritage and national identity.
- Junk Kouture World Finals: AIS students received the 2023 Innovation Award at the Junk Kouture World Finals in Monaco for their sustainable fashion designs.
- Fine Arts Achievement: IB students won the Silver Brick Award at the New Horizon International Competition in Moscow, Russia, in recognition of artistic work celebrating global diversity.



# POINTS OF PRIDE

## STEM and Innovation Excellence

- International Robotics Success: The AIS TechTitans Robotics Team won the Rising All-Stars Award at the FIRST LEGO League Open International Championship in Greece.
- ADIPEC Innovation Victory: Two AIS teams secured first place in their respective categories at the Young ADIPEC Methane Abatement Challenge. Team Methane Mitigators achieved a 99.99% reduction in flaring emissions through the use of AI sensors.
- Mathematics Achievement: AIS students ranked in the top 25% globally in the University of Waterloo Fermat and Cayley Mathematics Contests.

## Unique Programs and Student Agency

- Self-Directed Learning (SDL) Pilot: AIS has been a pioneer in implementing structured Self-Directed Learning (SDL) sessions in middle school, giving students greater autonomy to manage their schedules and pursue personal interest projects.
- Act and Impact Initiative: This initiative encourages students in Grades 4 to 10 to participate in documented community service, leading to recognized citizenship awards for impactful projects such as mangrove restoration and food drives.
- Language of the Holy Quran Program: This initiative engaged more than 250 students through memorization, art, and cultural activities designed to strengthen national identity and cultural understanding.



# POINTS OF PRIDE

## Community and Cultural Pride

- **Astronaut Inspiration:** AIS hosted Nora Al Matrooshi, the first Arab woman astronaut, who shared her journey of perseverance and inspired students to pursue STEM and space-related fields.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** The student-led Kappa Gamma Sustainability Team organized more than 75 eco-focused activities, including the One Root, One Communi-Tree project, which collected 330 kg of plastic waste to support the planting of native trees in the school's name.

## Government and Public Safety Partnerships

- **Abu Dhabi Police:** The school partners with Abu Dhabi Police through the We Are All Police initiative. Students participated in workshops led by certified trainers focusing on emergency response, safety awareness, and responsible citizenship.
- **Civil Defense:** Civil Defense representatives visited Prep and Grade 2 students to introduce their role as community helpers and raise awareness about safety.
- **Ministry of Interior:** Experts from the Ministry, in collaboration with Abu Dhabi Municipality, delivered awareness sessions on the dangers of vaping and energy drinks.
- **UAE Space Agency and MBRSC:** Through this partnership, students benefited from inspirational engagement linked to the visit of Nora Al Matrooshi, strengthening interest in science, innovation, and national achievement.



# POINTS OF PRIDE

## Environmental and Sustainability Partnerships

- ADNOC: Students participate weekly in ADNOC’s Ecologically Driven Mangrove Restoration Program, where they germinate seeds and explore coastal ecosystems.
- Environment Friends Society: AIS collaborates regularly with the society on initiatives such as World Food Day, environmental marathons, and the Plant the Emirates campaign.
- Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi: Students volunteered in the Al Bahia Beach Cleanup Campaign in coordination with the agency.
- Borouge UAE: Students visited the Borouge Innovation Center to explore real-world chemical practices and polymer production.
- Simply Bottles and Starbucks: Students took part in the Sustainability Coffee Shop Competition, designing environmentally responsible business models.

## Arts, Culture, and Authors

- Author Visits: Distinguished Emirati authors, including Dr. Fatima Al Mazrouei, Sheikha Al Jabri, Noura Al Khouri, and Ahlam Al Saadi, visited AIS to lead creative writing workshops and share cultural and historical perspectives.
- National Art Expression Program: The school hosted Mexican artist Jose Roberto, who provided feedback on student work during the Visual Arts Exhibition.
- Sandooq Al Watan: AIS has maintained a strong partnership with Sandooq Al Watan through summer and winter heritage programs, including Qudwati, for which the school has received national recognition for excellence.



# POINTS OF PRIDE

## Career, University, and Innovation

- Global and Local Universities: AIS regularly hosts large-scale university fairs, including visits from more than 80 institutions worldwide in a single term, offering students and families direct access to admissions guidance from universities across Canada, Europe, and other regions.
- AIS Career Panel: Alumni and industry professionals visit annually to provide mentorship and career insight in areas such as engineering, medicine, and business.
- NBA and Jr. NBA Partnership: AIS has an exclusive partnership supporting coaching clinics and student engagement in sport. Notable figures such as Kevin Garnett and Sylvia Fowles have participated in Q&A sessions and drills with the AIS Wolves varsity teams.

## Health and Wellbeing Partnerships

- Bloom Medical Center: Delivered sessions on managing screen time and promoting healthy sleep habits.
- Oasis Braces Center: Led oral hygiene awareness campaigns, including sessions supported by school alumni.
- Sebamed: Sponsored workshops focused on personal hygiene and student wellbeing.
- LadderUp Lifestyle Development: Delivered workshops for parents and students on brain training strategies to help manage study-related stress.





For detailed monthly and termly highlights of school life, please refer to the newsletters available on our school website:

<https://aisschools.com/school-newsletters/>