



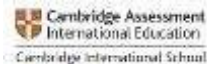
مدرسة ديرة الدولية
DEIRA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
FESTIVAL CITY

—
 Al-Futtaim Education Foundation

Key Stage 3 Handbook

“Forever learning, forever achieving”

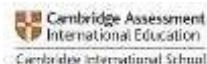
P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Welcome	3
Year Learning Coordinators (YLC) 2020 – 2021	4
Key Stage 3 Team	6
DIS Vision, Mission and Values	7
I am DIS	8
Key stage 3 curriculum	9
How students will learn this year in Key Stage 3.....	9
Curriculum Changes.....	10
Home Learning.....	11
Parent Communication.....	12
Key stage 3 Grading and Reports.....	13
Progress	14
Attendance and Punctuality.....	15
Reporting periods.....	17
Assessment.....	18
School Timings and structure of the day	19
Our Expectations.....	21
Dress Code	22
Equipment	25
What makes a successful Key Stage 3 Student?	27

“Forever learning, forever achieving”

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Welcome

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome both new and returning parents to Key Stage 3 (KS3) at Deira International School (DIS). Thank you for taking the time to read this handbook and hopefully it will give you an insight into KS3 at DIS and what makes it such a special place to learn. As your child moves into a new academic year it will be a huge step in their educational journey. I'm extremely excited and proud to join you and your child as we embark on this adventure together.



In KS3 we aim to develop our students holistically by offering them a wide range of experiences both inside and outside the classroom that are equipping them with the skills and knowledge to lead happy and successful lives in the future. I'm a firm believer that student success is not only measured by results, and the experiences students receive outside of the classroom are just as important as those in it. This said, our curriculum in KS3 is developed to stretch and challenge all our students and is based on a solid grounding of academic excellence. Here at DIS we place a huge emphasis on not ceiling student achievement.

As students return back to school and enter a new academic year, they will be feeling a range of feelings and emotions. At DIS we understand the importance of providing a smooth and seamless transition from one year to the next. Our outstanding pastoral team are on hand to support students every step of the way to ensure all students can excel and achieve their full potential. I strongly believe that a happy student is a successful student.

On reading this booklet, if you have any queries please do reach out to me and I will be more than happy to support. This booklet has been created based on the current COVID19 situation. As we move through the year, you will be kept up to date on any key changes.

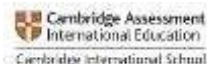
Your involvement throughout the year and in your child's, education can make all the difference and I would like to thank you in advance for your support.

Your Sincerely

Barry Lomas
Assistant Head Teacher Key Stage 3

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Year Learning Coordinators (YLC) 2020 – 2021

Key stage 3

Year 7 – Miss Williams



My name is Samantha Williams and this is the start of my sixth year at DIS, third as YLC. In addition to being a YLC, I am also a Physical Education teacher which sees me teaching a vast variety of Sports and Swimming to students in our school, ranging from FS to Year 11. As a YLC, I thoroughly enjoy getting to know the students and their families on a more personal level. Especially, being in a position to offer support and guidance as they settle into secondary school life following their transition from primary. This can be a daunting prospect but with plenty of support and amazing experiences waiting in the wings, a new cohort of students will soon find their feet and this is just such a rewarding journey to be a part of.

I moved to Dubai from my hometown of Manchester in the United Kingdom but I love going back home during the holidays to spend time with my family and little dog, Daisy. As a PE teacher, I have been fortunate enough to have taken part in some incredible sporting opportunities whilst growing up and feel strongly that skills I have learned along the way are often transferred in day to day life. These experiences are something I am keen for our students to enjoy and they certainly have an excellent platform to do this at DIS. I am excited to work with our new Year 7 students and look forward to celebrating all the successes that I am sure they will achieve.

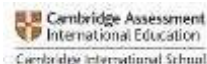
Year 8 – Miss Phillips



My name is Kim Phillips and this will be my fourth year at Deira International School teaching Maths. I am originally from a tiny town in South Wales called Abergavenny, and I moved out to Dubai to relish in the challenge of starting a new adventure. I love teaching at DIS and being part of the school community. My favourite part of being a teacher is getting to know the students, especially outside of lessons, through coaching netball and running house events. I am very excited to start the role of YLC where I can focus on building relationships with each individual student and assisting them academically to ensure they have the best school experience. I am very much looking forward to continuing the year groups healthy competition through house challenges and developing the house spirit.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



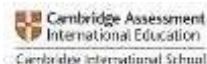
Year 9 – Mr O'Toole



I have been fortunate to work at Deira International school for 6 years. Initially I joined the school as a Science Teacher in 2015 and after completing two years at the school took on the role of Deputy Head of Science. After fulfilling this role for three years, my focus moved towards pastoral care of the students. I started as a YLC in September 2019 and have thoroughly enjoyed this new challenge so far. Outside of school I have a keen interest in the Natural world and preserving wildlife. I have been fortunate enough to take part in multiple conservation projects in countries such as Thailand, South Africa and Kenya. My favourite part of teaching is building positive working relationships with Students and Parents. It is incredibly rewarding to watch Students develop both academically and pastorally into well round young adults. I look forward to continuing my work with students as a YLC in September 2020 and can't wait to overcome the challenges that are ahead.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Key Stage 3 Team

Barry Lomas Assistant Head Teacher Key Stage 3

**Year 7 Learning
Coordinator**

**Year 8 Learning
Coordinator**

**Year 9 Learning
Coordinator**

Year 7 Tutors

SUM

FAA

HAK

GES

IRS

AVA

Year 8 Tutors

BRS

GIM

MAC

JOC

VEC

Year 9 Tutors

SCH

ANA

HAS

CHH

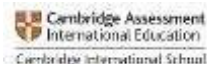
DEL

Tutor List

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Susan Marshall (SUM)	Brickley Stuhr – Dent (BRS)	Scarlett Housley-Stott (SCH)
Farooq Akhtar (FAA)	Gina McDonnagh (GIM)	Anna Akinwumi (ANA)
Haydon Kerr (HAK)	Marie-Clemence Jacobs (MAC)	Harriet Smith (HAS)
George Stroud (GES)	Joanne Coates (JOC)	Chelsie Hemmings (CHH)
Irfan Sadiq (IRS)	Veronica Scheepers (VEC)	Deirdre Logue (DEL)
Avas Ali (AVA)		

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



DIS Vision, Mission and Values

DIS Vision:

To create an outstanding, multi-cultural learning community which empowers students to achieve their potential, become life-long learners and responsible global citizens.

DIS Mission:

At DIS we believe all students fulfil their potential in an inclusive, forward thinking and safe environment, in which each child's individuality is valued and encouraged. Our committed team of educators provide opportunities for creativity and global awareness through a holistic and nurturing curriculum. They hold high expectations, use innovative learning and teaching approaches and encourage the celebration of cultural diversity. We foster partnerships where students, parents, staff and the wider community actively support and contribute to the achievement of the DIS Vision.

DIS Values:

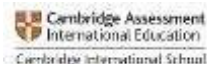
At DIS, Respect, Excellence, Collaboration and Integrity are the values we live by, that help us action our Vision and Mission. These are also the values of Al-Futtaim Group.

DIS Motto:

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



I am DIS

At DIS we pride ourselves on our three core 'I am DIS' values which are Determined, Innovative and Successful. We expect our students to develop and model these values in all areas of school life. As students move through the academic year they will be given various opportunities to develop, demonstrate and celebrate our core values both in and out of the classroom.

Determined

I show **bravery** by accepting challenges even when they are difficult. I am **grateful** and thankful for the opportunities I have. I am **kind** and respectful to pupils and staff without expecting anything in return. I am resilient and show **perseverance** even in the face of disappointments. By treating everyone equally I show **fairness**. I am **honest** about myself and others and take responsibility for my actions.

Innovative

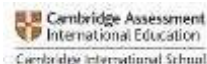
I am **creative** and come up with new ideas. I develop my **curiosity** by looking for new ways to see the world around me. I use my **judgement** to make decisions based on evidence. By giving advice to others I can show **perspective** using my knowledge and experience. I am **prudent** through planning carefully for my future. By contributing to group work I demonstrate my **teamwork** skills.

Successful

I can recognize and **appreciate excellence** of others. I know my strengths and talents but demonstrate **humility** as I am humble in my efforts to succeed. I show good **leadership** by working in groups and ensuring all in the group contribute and work cohesively. I have a **love of learning**, therefore I am motivated to deepen my knowledge or achieve new skills. My energetic attitude and enthusiasm is a result of my **zest for life**. I show **self-regulation** and self-control of my emotions, feelings and actions in my strive to be the best version of myself.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Key stage 3 curriculum

The KS3 curriculum at DIS is based around the British National Curriculum, with adaptations made to ensure students receive an inclusive, vibrant and broad offer. The aim of our KS3 curriculum is to provide students with memorable experiences whilst also equipping them with a breadth of knowledge and a wide variety of skills which will allow them to excel in the classroom and beyond. We provide our students with extensive opportunities which allows for their talents and aspirations to be nurtured. Through our blended learning approach students will have the opportunity to become more independent and digital literate, whilst developing them into responsible global citizens of the future.

Our KS3 curriculum is designed to give exposure to a wide variety of subjects providing a clear pathway into KS4 and ensures that students are fully prepared for the rigour of GCSEs. Our inclusive and broad offer allows students to receive a personalised journey through KS3, creating a curiosity and love for learning.

Key Stage 3 students will study the following subjects:

Core	Specialist	Creative	Emirate
English	History	Music	Social Studies
Maths	Geography	Drama	Islamic
Science	French	Art	Arabic
Physical Education	Spanish	Design Technology	Moral Education
	Computer Science		

How students will learn this year in Key Stage 3

As a result of the extensive facilities at DIS, we are in a rare position to be able to have all students in school, all the time, and throughout the term. At Key Stage 3 we will be offering all parents the choice of two learning models: - onsite blended learning and distance learning from home.

In order to meet the needs of all our learners and the context of every DIS family, we are organising our learning via three distinct groups.

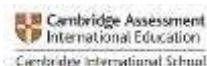
Group 1 – Face to face learning, where the student is in the classroom interacting with the teacher.

Group 2 – Flipped learning, where the student is directed to work on pre planned learning activities that are explicitly linked to the overall scheme of learning which complements the face to face classroom learning.

Group 3 – Home based online learning, where the student is accessing the face to face learning in the classroom via TEAMS and engaging in the flipped learning at the designated times.

“Forever learning, forever achieving”

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Curriculum Changes

It is essential that we continue to provide an exceptional curriculum that meets the needs of all our students aligned with our vision for an inclusive school. Therefore, students will still be taught specialist lessons by specialist staff across a similar 7 period day.

In KS3 students will be taught in small classes of no more than 14 in one venue throughout the day. Teachers will move to the classrooms to teach as opposed to students moving to the teacher to be taught. Subjects that are deemed to be more practical in nature will be adapted to suit the learning environment. The exception of this will be in PE where students will move to our sports facilities and engage in activities that adhere to social distancing. Such as badminton, table tennis, athletics, fitness etc. There will be no swimming in the first term.

In order to ensure that we can maintain health and safety standards and reduce movement around the school, some students in KS3 may be placed in different tutor groups. All changes have been well thought through taking into consideration student well-being and friendship groups.

In order to accommodate this blended approach to learning, we have decided to implement a two-week timetable. The detail of this is shown in the example below:

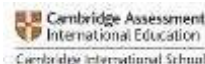
	Week 1					Week 2				
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Period 1	Science (Face to Face)	Science (Flipped)	Arabic (Face to Face)	Arabic (Flipped)	PE (Flipped)	PE (Face to Face)	Humanities (Flipped)	Humanities (Face to Face)	Art & Design (Flipped)	Art & Design (Flipped)
Period 2	English (Face to Face)	English (Flipped)	Science (Face to Face)	Science (Flipped)	PE (Flipped)	PE (Face to Face)	English (Face to Face)	English (Flipped)	Humanities (Flipped)	Humanities (Flipped)
Break	Break					Break				
Period 3	Moral Education (Face to Face)	Moral Education (Flipped)	French (Flipped)	French (Face to Face)	English (Face to Face)	English (Flipped)	Maths (Flipped)	Maths (Face to Face)	Maths (Flipped)	Maths (Face to Face)
Period 4	Social Studies (Flipped)	Social Studies (Face to Face)	Drama (Flipped)	Drama (Face to Face)	DT (Flipped)	DT (Face to Face)	Music (Flipped)	Music (Face to Face)	French (Flipped)	French (Face to Face)
Period 5	Arabic (Face to Face)	Arabic (Flipped)	English (Face to Face)	English (Flipped)	Science (Face to Face)	Science (Flipped)	Social Studies (Flipped)	Social Studies (Face to Face)	Science (Face to Face)	Science (Flipped)
Lunch	Lunch					Lunch				
Period 6	Islamic (Flipped)	Islamic (Face to Face)	Maths (Flipped)	Maths (Face to Face)	Islamic (Flipped)	Islamic (Face to Face)	Science (Face to Face)	Science (Flipped)	Arabic (Face to Face)	Arabic (Flipped)
Period 7	Maths (Flipped)	Maths (Face to Face)	Computing (Flipped)	Computing (Face to Face)	Maths (Flipped)	Maths (Face to Face)	Arabic (Face to Face)	Arabic (Flipped)	English (Face to Face)	English (Flipped)

All students' timetables will be communicated to them by their tutor on their first day which will be recorded in their TEAMS calendar for the year ahead. Tutor's will go through this with students to ensure they fully understand their timetable and how it works.

It is important for you as parents that you understand the progress that your child is making throughout the year. Therefore, we will continue to run various parental events to help you engage in your child's learning. However, these will be online as we take advantage of the proven success of last year's online events. As we move through the academic year, we hope to be able to have a blended approach including face to face engagement.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Home Learning

Homework tasks are appropriate for the age group and are embedded in each Department's scheme of work. Homework at KS3 is designed to be reasonable, purposeful and challenging. Tasks may be singular and discreet or form part of an on-going project over a period of weeks, such as coursework.

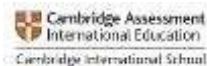
Broadly speaking, there are three main types of homework:

- Preparation: tasks that require students to draft work, to take notes or to deepen and broaden their knowledge of the subject through research and background reading;
- Extension: tasks that require problem-solving, the handling of evidence investigation, evaluation or creativity;
- Practice: tasks that enable students to consolidate their knowledge, to practise subject-specific skills or to revise.

When setting homework teachers take into account student wellbeing and the amount of time spent behind a screen. For this reason, due to the current situation, homework will be kept to a minimum in KS3 and reviewed on a regular basis using feedback from both parents and students.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Parent Communication

We are strongly committed to working in a meaningful and positive partnership with parents to support the best possible education for all our students. It's important that both parents and students are actively engaged, and parents are informed on what their child is learning. To support parents and students, you will receive a fortnightly update on what and how your child will be learning in each subject for the two weeks ahead. This allows both you and your child to plan and prepare two weeks in advance.


مدرسة دبي الدولية
DEIRA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
DUBAI FESTIVAL CITY

Year Group
Fortnight Ahead
Term 1 Week 1 and 2

The following document outlines the learning for your child in the next two weeks. It displays **what** and **how** learning will take place (Outline of the learning), **what** students are aiming to achieve (Learning outcome), **where** to find the resources to be successful (Resources) and **how** students can extend their learning (homework). We are strongly committed to working in a meaningful and positive partnership with parents to support the best possible education for all our students. The purpose of this document is to allow parents to actively engage in their child's learning, whilst also allowing both parents and students to plan and prepare in advance of their learning that will take place in classroom or online. We hope you find this document helpful as we launch our blended learning programme. If you have any suggestions to make this document more useful for parents, please let us know. You will also receive separate bulletins for your English, Maths and Science teachers, who will give you a lesson by lesson guide of what will be taking place.

	Outline of the Learning taking place	Learning Outcome(s)	Resources	Homework
Arabic A				
Islamic A				

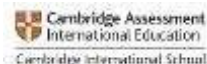
Parents receive further information throughout the school year via the ISAMS Parent Portal, Head of School bi-weekly newsletters and a host of social media celebrations. We also offer a wide range of parent events and we are actively championed and supported by DISPA (Deira International School Parent Association.) During the course of the year we will also host Parent Consultation Conferences to celebrate student achievement.

ISAMS Parent Portal is our secure parent website that can only be accessed by enrolled parents, and a unique username will be issued to parents. ISAMS Parent Portal is a source of a lot of useful information to keep you up to date with communication from the school. ISAMS Parent Portal can also be downloaded as an application.

Parents can register at <https://iparents.disdubai.ae>.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Key stage 3 Grading and Reports

What is a target grade?

Predicted grades give a most likely outcome at a given time, whereas a target grade gives a best possible outcome and is intended to inspire and motivate students. Undoubtedly, students need a target to work towards and, bearing this in mind, students, parents and teachers will clearly know what they are aiming towards.

Students' progress towards target grades are closely monitored and support is given by subject teachers, YLCs and form tutors.

How do we set target grades?

Each student at DIS will undertake a CAT4 GL Assessment to obtain their targets. CAT 4 is an academically recognised testing system that tests students' cognitive ability to obtain 'Baseline data'. The individual teacher then uses this information, along with classroom assessments and their professional judgment in the context of the individual, to arrive at a target grade which is shared and discussed with the individual student.

How we report student achievement?

Through out the year we will measure student achievement through attainment, progress, attitude to learning and attendance and punctuality. Please see the below which gives a breakdown of what these terms mean and how they will be measured.

Attainment

Attainment is measure of a child's achievement in school which compares every child to a standardised expectation for their age level, regardless of individual starting points. When measuring attainment, we use a numeric system similar to that of IGCSE. The below table allows you to see how attainment looks from Year 7 through to the IB Curriculum. For example, if you child is achieving a 6 by the end of KS3 we would be expecting them to at least achieve a B by the end of KS4.

Attainment	On Track For			
	Year 7-9 (9-1)	Year 10-11 IGCSE (A*-G)	Year 10-11 I/GCSE (9-1)	IB1-IB2 IB (7-1)
Above Expected	9		9	7
	8	A*	8	
	7	A	7	6
	6	B	6	5
At Expected	5		5	
	4	C	4	4
Below Expected	3	D	3	3
	2	E	2	
	1	F	1	2
		G		
		U	U	1

Progress

Student's progress is a measure of their current academic performance vs the most recent previous academic performance.

Current attainment vs most recent attainment	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
Progress grade	Very limited	Very limited	Limited	Limited	Good	Very good	Very good	Excellent	Excellent

For example, if a child achieved a 5 (middle) in the previous report and a 5 (upper) in the current report, he has gone up by 1, which would be 'Very Good', as it is at a rate higher than what is expected

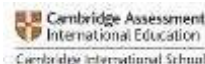
Attitude to Learning

When reporting on the 'Attitude to Learning', the following criteria is considered by teachers. Whichever category the majority of the student's behaviour's fit into, should be the value which is awarded.

	Classwork	Homework	Participation in Class	Personal Organisation
Outstanding	Completes all work to a high standard, independently and goes above and beyond	Completes all homework set on time and to a high standard and completes extra work	Enthusiastic and regularly volunteers and contributes to class discussions	Always brings equipment, is punctual, organized, and is always ready to learn
Well Developed	Completes all work to a high standard and is able to work independently	Completes all homework set on time and to a high standard	Joins in class discussions and answers questions	Brings correct equipment, is punctual and organised most of the time
Developed	Usually completes tasks set to a satisfactory standard and is starting to work independently	Usually completes homework on time and to a satisfactory standard	Sometimes joins in class discussion and answers questions	Sometimes brings correct equipment and can sometimes be late to class
Emerging	Tasks not often completed to a satisfactory standard and struggles to work independently	Homework is below expected standard and deadline is not often met	Avoids answering questions and joining in discussions	Rarely brings in correct equipment, can be disorganised and should work on punctuality

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Attendance and Punctuality

On each report parents will receive a percentage for their child's attendance up until that date along with the number of times they have been late. Please refer to the attendance section of this handbook for further details.

Every Day Matters

Keeping students in education is vital for their success at school and in later life. Research tells us that student attendance, along with effective teaching, has the greatest influence on student engagement and achievement. The fewer days that students are at school, the less chance they have of achieving. Missing school isn't just about missing learning, it's also about all the opportunities that are missed – every day matters.



At Deira International School, we encourage students to attend school as much as possible and educate students on how missing a day 'here and there' can influence final grades. Poor school attendance can also result in the following issues;

- Students fall behind in their work
- Can lead to a decrease in motivation levels
- Can affect their enjoyment of learning
- Can affect their desire to attend school regularly
- Can affect their confidence in school
- Can mean they miss out on the social life of school and extra-curricular opportunities and experiences

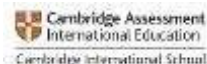
95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?

BE SMART BE THERE!

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



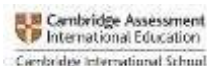
Punctuality

We expect students to arrive punctually at school and we place great importance on developing punctuality as a sign of respect towards others in the community. Persistent lateness will be followed up by the senior leadership team and where needed, the school Head Teacher. We understand that there may be infrequent situations when you are unavoidably delayed if this is the case, please call the school by 7.40am to inform our reception team of your child's lateness.

If your child arrives after 8am he/she must go to the Reception desk to collect a 'late slip' before going to join his/her class. This ensures that the Reception Team marks the child as 'present' in the Register so that we always know how many students are on site in case of an emergency. If the child arrives at class and does not have this 'Late Slip' from Reception, the teacher will ask him or her to return to Reception to collect one; this ensures all students are accounted for.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Reporting periods

At DIS we understand the importance of regular monitoring of students. Every student will receive an achievement report on attainment, progress, attitude to learning and attendance and punctuality 3 times each academic year. All students will receive a written report once per year for each subject.

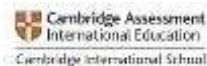
Year 7, 8 and 9	
December	End of Term 1 Report Grade
March	End of Term 2 Report Grade
June	End of Term 3 Report/ Written Report

Example of student Report

Subject	Teacher	Attitude to Learning	On track for
Arabic A	S Shaaban	Well developed	8
Computing	Y Yadirgi	Well developed	6
Design Technology	K McDonagh	Well developed	6
Drama	M Holmes	Developed	6
English	C Jefferson	Outstanding	8
French	A Ouighazi	Well developed	7
Geography	T Marshall	Outstanding	8
History	N Stanley	Well developed	8
Islamic A	M AlKalou	Well developed	8
Mathematics	K Phillips	Well developed	8
Moral Education	D Logue	Outstanding	Exceeding Expectations
Music	M Harding	Developed	5
Physical Education	J Bland	Emerging	4
Science	H Smith	Outstanding	7
Social Studies	M Al Kutich	Developed	8
Visual Arts	A Ahmed	Outstanding	5
Attendance		95%	

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Assessment

There is evidence to suggest that learning and results of students is significantly increased when using cumulative assessments.

Structuring assessments in this way will help improve our students learning. In the table below is an example of how this could work. Each number is a topic. In year 7, five topics will be covered and there will be six assessments across the year. In each assessment, previous topics are still assessed.

Topic 1 will be assessed in the first four assessments. Topic 1 will not appear in the fifth as it would have been assessed four times previously. The idea is that topics are assessed equally (as much as possible) and to create an expectation of continued application of knowledge and skills throughout the year.

This may look slightly different in certain subjects, but the main principle should be the same.

Year 7			
1			
2	1		
3	2	1	
4	3	2	1
5	4	3	2
END OF YEAR - ALL TOPICS			

How this may look in Geography for example:

Assessment 1: 100% Earthquakes (1)

Assessment 2: 50% Volcanoes (2), 50% Earthquakes (1)

Assessment 3: 50% Ecosystems (3), 25% Volcanoes (2), 25% Earthquakes (1)

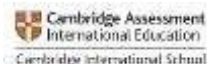
Assessment 4: 50% Rivers and water (4), 20% Ecosystems (3), 15% Volcanoes (2), 15% Earthquakes(1)

Assessment 5: 50% Glaciers (5), 20% Rivers and Water (4), 15% Ecosystems (3), 15% Volcanoes (2)

Assessment 6: End of year assessment on all topics

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



School Timings and structure of the day

In order to have an orderly start to the day adhering to social distancing measures it is vital that we have a daily staggered start. Students arriving by car must do so at the times stated below.

Oryx: 7.20 - 7.30am Tahr: 7.30 - 7.40am Saluki: 7.40 - 7.50am Falcon: 7.50 - 8.00am	Students go straight to period 1
08:05-09:00	Lesson 1
09:00-09:55	Lesson 2
09:55-10:15	Break
10:15-11:10	Lesson 3
11:10-12:05	Lesson 4
12:05-12:55	Lunch
12:55-13:50	Lesson 5
13:50-14:45	Lesson 6
14:40 - 14:45	Each Year group will be let go at staggered times

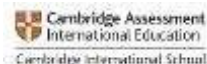
Students will not be allowed to enter the school building until 7.20am. Parents are not allowed in the building; they are only allowed to drop students off or pick students up unless there is a prior arrangement or appointment made with a member of staff.

If a student for some reason requires to leave the school site during the day they are not allowed to return to school, however once home they must continue with their blended learning.

When arriving on site students are to enter the school building via two designated entrances. At these entrances there will be thermal imaging cameras to check temperature and ensure that all students are wearing their face mask. From here, students must go directly to their period 1 lesson.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Break and lunch times

To minimise the risk of infection we have decided that all students will stay in their classrooms for break times and to eat lunch. If students have bought a lunch from the school canteen, they will be allowed to collect it at a designated time.

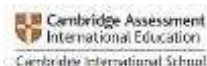
The cafeteria will be using the new safety protocols required by the Municipality. This means parents will have the option to select, order and pay for a meal plan for their child via the Abela online portal. Students can collect the order from a collection point in the cafeteria. There will also be a selection of pre-packed food for sale, this can be purchased using the cashless system on the student ID which parents can top up from the Abela portal.

End of the day

To facilitate an orderly finish and exit we have decided to implement a staggered finish, where year groups will leave at designated times. The multi-purpose hall will be staffed and available for students to wait for siblings who may have lessons or after school activities until 3:30pm. Once learning has finished (except for waiting siblings) students must leave the school site.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Our Expectations

At Deira International School, we aim to create a culture of learning where students are happy, enthusiastic, motivated and ambitious. It is important to provide a secure, caring and stimulating environment for all students, and encourage mutual respect, support and collaboration between all adults and students.

AS A PARENT, I WILL:

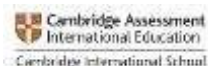
- Support my child's academic and social development by following their progress at school, discussing what they are learning, and monitoring any homework as per school policy.
- Check the student planner weekly to ensure that my child is organised with current work and record any concerns or praise as appropriate.
- Attend Parent Teacher meetings to discuss progress and targets for improvement.
- Maintain the highest possible level of attendance for my child, with a minimum of 97% per term.
- Support the school's policies regarding attendance, uniform, equipment, homework and behaviour.
- Attend and support school events, wherever possible.
- Ensure that school fees are paid on time.
- Ensure that my child arrives at school on time (at the latest 7.50am) and is picked up promptly at the end of the school day or after ECA's have finished.
- Ensure that I (or the adult collecting the child) wear the DIS parent visitor badge whilst on site.
- Ensure that all school fees are paid on time.

AS A STUDENT, I WILL:

- Maintain the highest possible level of attendance, with a minimum of 97% per term and be punctual to lessons.
- Bring all of the equipment I need for each day including a **charged digital device** for learning.
- Complete my class work, flipped learning and homework to the best of my ability.
- Share what I am learning with my parents at home and discuss any concerns.
- Follow the school's behaviour policy both in school and in the community.
- Be interested to learn about and respect other people's cultures, beliefs, customs, festivals, traditions and feelings.
 - Embody the DIS Core Values and be DIS...
 - Speak to a trusted adult if I am worried, unhappy or in difficulty for any reason.
 - Deliver any communication between my parents and school without delay.
 - Leave all personal valuables at home or take full responsibility for their safe-keeping if brought into school.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Dress Code

We are all proud to be a part of the DIS community and our uniform allows us to celebrate this.

Our uniform reflects the high standards that we set for ourselves on a daily basis and through this it supports positive attitudes to our peers and our learning. Developing an understanding of how to dress in a smart and professional manner at a young age helps to create good habits for when pupils leave education and enter the world of work. Uniform also protects children from social pressures, for example, to dress in a particular way which adheres to current fashion trends. It is for these reasons that we insist not only on having a school uniform, but that it is adhered to at all times.

Full and correct uniform must be worn in and whilst travelling to and from school. This also applies after school and travelling home after activities and on all school trips unless otherwise instructed by a member of staff. Also, full uniform must be worn to all Parent Teacher consultations and other formal School events.

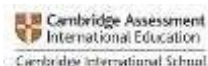
Shirts/blouses should be of an appropriate size (not overlarge). Black leather shoes (not trainers) should be worn and polished regularly. School uniform and personal items are the responsibility of the students and their family.

Please ensure that all items of clothing and personal possessions are clearly labeled. Any lost items will be placed in the 'Lost and Found' baskets at the Secondary School Reception.



"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Jewellery

- Students may wear a watch. Students may wear one small stud in each ear lobe, and these should be removed for PE and swimming. No other piercings are permitted. Jewellery items of religious significance may only be worn with prior approval by the school, following a formal written parent request.

Henna Tattoos

- These are only acceptable for religious/cultural reason

Hairstyles

- Girls – Hair should be tied back fully off the face. The sensible use of hair accessories is acceptable to keep hair orderly and neat e.g. Alice band, hairband, clips, slides, elastic bands, scrunchies etc. as long as they are plain white, dark blue or black.
- **Make-up and all nail polish may not be worn by any student.**
- Boys - Hair must be well off the collar at the back and off the ears and face, no shorter than a number 2 barber cut. Shaved heads are not acceptable. We request no coloured gel, wax or mousse etc. be used when styling hair and no exaggerated styles.
- All students – We request that hair must be of a natural colour rather than unnatural. We also request that the hair style itself is neat and modest (not extreme).

If the students' hairstyle contravenes any of the above requirements the student will be requested to amend this with immediate effect and if this is not possible, they will be required to remain at home until such time as their hair has returned to an acceptable condition.

Acceptable Shoes

- Shoes must be plain black with no coloured markings, contrasting colours, flashes or branding
- Trainers will only be permitted for Physical Education or sporting events
- Girls shoes should be flat. No heels



Unacceptable Shoes

- No trainers, pumps, plimsolls or trainer type shoes
- Boots are not allowed. Only shoes below the ankle



"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae

PE Kit



House Colour
PE Green



House Colour
PE Royal Blue



House Colour
PE Yellow



House Colour
PE Red



PE Short



PE Skort



PE
Trousers



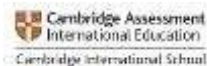
PE Jacket

We appreciate your support in helping our students be the best that they can possibly be. A full uniform list for both Secondary students and IB students is provided on our website.

<https://www.disdubai.ae/home/admissions/Uniform+Policy>

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



Equipment

To ensure the health and safety of students and the continuation of effective learning the following equipment must be brought into school on a daily basis.

Sanitization list

- Face Masks (at least three)
- Hand sanitization
- Wipes
- Gloves (Optional)

Equipment list

- School Bag
- Mobile learning device (fully charged) - *see below for specification
- Charger for mobile learning device
- Earphones/earpods
- Large water bottle

Pencil Case

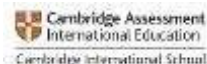
- Pens
- Pencil/ Rubber
- Ruler/ Sharpener
- Highlighters
- Maths Equipment (Calculator/ Compass/ Protractor)

For students to engage in Art lessons they will need to following equipment:

- Pack of coloured pencils
- Felt tip pens
- Water colour palette
- Black Fine liner
- Black Marker
- Drawing pencil

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



- Sharpener
- Eraser
- Paint brushes
- Water pot
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Other glue if possible

All devices must:

- Have a camera
- Have a keyboard (attached or detachable)
- Be fully compatible with Office 365 Apps

In order to use the device to its full educational potential, it is highly recommended that:

- A stylus is provided for tablets for writing and drawing (digital inking)
- There is both a front and rear camera for taking photos
- The device runs Windows 10

We highly recommend avoidance of iPad mini's and iPad's because these devices have a very limited functionality on Class Notebook.

One of the significant changes this year is that most of the work will be administered and recorded online using Office 365 e.g. Teams etc. Therefore, it is imperative that a learning device is fully charged and brought into school every day. Students will have an exercise book for taking notes, but this will be one book across all subjects to minimise the chance of infection.

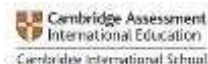
Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are allowed in school, but they must be turned off and in bags throughout the school day. Teachers may allow students to use mobile phones in the lesson for educational purposes if it is appropriate. This will be communicated well in advance.

Mobile phones are not to be used on the school site.

“Forever learning, forever achieving”

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



What makes a successful Key Stage 3 Student?

There are lots of ideas about how to succeed at KS3 and how best to prepare for the rigour of KS4. Everybody will tell you that it is important to work hard, to keep up to date, to be punctual to your lessons and to attend school regularly. It is also important to get enough sleep, to have a breakfast in the morning and to drink plenty of water. There are also other ways in which you can improve your chances of success which some people don't discover until it is too late. Speak to any KS4 student and they will tell you how quickly their KS3 years went. Here are a few tips for you during KS3:

- ✓ Keep an open mind and explore all subjects and activities offered. You may end up enjoying a subject you had never thought of.
- ✓ Be open to meeting new people and making new friends.
- ✓ Involve yourself in as many activities outside of the classroom as possible.
- ✓ Develop good routines and habits.
- ✓ Don't be afraid to ask for help. This may come in the form of teachers and your peers.
- ✓ Don't be afraid to take risks and come out of your comfort zone.
- ✓ Its ok to fail. Don't expect a smooth journey through KS3. There will be ups and downs, stay positive, reflect and be resilient.
- ✓ Use your outlook calendar to help plan your week, including homework.
- ✓ Fully embrace school life and its core values.

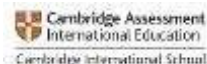
Wellbeing tips

- ✓ 8 hours sleep per night.
- ✓ Don't spend too much time behind a screen (This includes phones, TVs and game consoles).
- ✓ Take regular breaks and keep hydrated.
- ✓ Stay active and lead a healthy lifestyle.
- ✓ Try to stay away from sugary drinks and food, especially in the morning.
- ✓ Remember, there is always someone to help. If you need support reach out to someone. This may come in the form of peers, family or the amazing teachers you have.
- ✓ Make time for friends and family. School is important but you must find a healthy balance.

At DIS we pride ourselves on offering excellent pastoral care for all our students. We understand that this will be more important than ever due to the current COVID19 situation. Our experienced pastoral team will be on hand to support students in all areas of school life and beyond. In addition, this year we will have full time counsellor on hand for students who may need any extra support or someone to talk too.

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae



HARD WORK BEATS TALENT particularly if talent doesn't work hard

People used to think that intelligence was fixed at birth. You were either talented in specific areas or you weren't. Some still think it now, saying things like 'I was never any good at maths, so it's no wonder my child struggles too... it's obviously not in our genes'. However, modern studies have shown this belief to be false. The biggest influence on someone's success is not their genetic make-up, it is how hard they work, how focused they are and how determined they are to succeed. At DIS we firmly believe in this idea of a "growth mindset" and recognise the huge importance of perseverance, resilience, focused practice and hard work. We thus value effort above attainment, hard work above high scores. We ask all members of the school community - students, staff, parents and governors - to adopt the principles of a Growth Mindset where they:



to adopt the principles of a Growth Mindset where they:

- Accept that talent can be developed
- Embrace challenges and difficulties
- Persist in the face of setbacks
- View effort as a path to mastery and success
- Try to learn from criticism
- Get inspiration in the success of others (rather than feel threatened by it)
- Be the best you can possibly be
- Realise that if you can't understand something, it is just because you can't do it yet
- Understand that real mastery doesn't come easy... it is the result of hard work over time
- Embrace deferred gratification, accepting that effort may not pay off immediately, but will bring its own rewards over time

"Forever learning, forever achieving"

P.O. Box 79043, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: +971 4 2325552 Fax: +971 4 2325151 www.disdubai.ae

