



مدرسة ديرة الدولية
DEIRA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
FESTIVAL CITY

DIS ADMINISTRATION

Director
Simon O'Connor
soconnor@disdubai.ae

Head of Foundation Stage
Fiona Ryan
fryan@disdubai.ae

Primary School Head Teacher
Gaynor Dale
gdale@disdubai.ae

Primary School Deputy Head Teacher
Sarah Marshall
smarshall@disdubai.ae

Primary School Assistant Head Teacher
Lisa Wright
lwright@disdubai.ae

Primary School Assistant Head Teacher
Sarah Smith
showard@disdubai.ae

ACCREDITATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- BSME
- BSO
- College Board
- CIS
- Cambridge Assessment Int. Ed.
- ECIS
- IBO World School
- NACAC
- UCAS
- Pearson Edexcel
- Duke of Edinburgh Award

CONTACT INFORMATION

Deira International School
Al Badia, Dubai Festival City
PO Box 79043
Dubai
United Arab Emirates

Phone: 009714 232 5552
Fax: 009714 232 5151
Email: info@disdubai.ae
Website: www.disdubai.ae

AN AL FUTTAIM EDUCATION FOUNDATION (AFEF) SCHOOL

AFEF is an initiative started by the Al Futtaim family to support the UAE Government's vision for the creation of a globally competitive knowledge economy while maximizing their social contribution to the community through this not-for-profit endeavor.

The vision of AFEF is to create excellence; to prepare our students for university and to give them the skills to successfully embrace global citizenship and future opportunities in the UAE and beyond.

 **Al-Futtaim**
Education Foundation



FOUNDATION STAGE 2020-2021

WHERE CURIOSITY CREATES CLEVER

At Deira International School, active learning and guided discovery lay the foundations for innovative, outstanding practice in Early Years Foundation Stage. Both Indoor and Outdoor provision is enhanced to suit the individual needs and interests of each child, based on their unique learning style. Students use key skills and knowledge acquired within a classroom setting and apply them in specific zones, which provide unlimited independent opportunities for imagination and resourcefulness. Students become facilitators of their own learning allowing them to embed skills such as building, creating, designing and analysing through play-based practice. Students naturally grow into confident, risk-takers and develop resilience to change. Students are exposed to a text rich environment to develop their vocabulary and enhance their reading skills in a range of contexts. Lifelong learning skills develop as students investigate and experiment with their own ideas and theories in an environment where Problem Based Learning (PBL) encourages a growth mindset.

THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE (EYFS) CURRICULUM

The EYFS Curriculum is uniquely designed using the learning statements from Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage (2012) and is appropriately adapted to suit the individual needs of our diverse cohort of International students. Students and teachers work collaboratively when choosing six umbrella topics, which encompass all 17 areas of learning through play-based, engaging learning opportunities. Placing the students at the centre of the planning for learning process allows them to build a more meaningful understanding of the abstract skills and concepts they will acquire in Foundation Stage.

Lessons are planned accordingly to suit all students' cultural beliefs and experiences through choice of multicultural books and literacy links, by celebrating all festivals such as Ramadan and Diwali. Diversity is celebrated through our 'Around the World' lessons, where we explore the different countries of our classmates. A key focus for Foundation Stage is ensuring high-quality daily planning and delivery of outstanding lessons ensuring a smooth move to working within the National Agenda objectives in Year One.

THE DEVELOPMENT MATTERS EYFS

The 'Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage' document provides the core curriculum against which teachers plan and assess.

The document provides a range of typical developmental statements across different age bands. Deira International School is a fully inclusive school and we support children's learning at their developmental stage. As children move into Early Years 2 when they become ready they begin to work towards the Early Learning Goals which provide a set of end of year goals for the children to achieve across the 7 areas of learning.

EYFS PRIME AREAS OF LEARNING

Communication and Language
Physical Development
Personal, Social,
and Emotional Development

EYFS SPECIFIC SKILLS OF LEARNING

Literacy
Maths
Understanding the World
Expressive Art and Design

CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE LEARNING

Playing and Exploring
Active Learning
Creating and Thinking Critically

THE EYFS CURRICULUM KEY PRINCIPLES

The EYFS is underpinned by four key principles:

1	UNIQUE CHILD Every child is a unique child who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
2	POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
3	ENABLING ENVIRONMENTS Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and carers.
4	LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early years provision, including children with special educational needs and disabilities.

THE EYFS PRIME AREAS

The prime areas are the basis of children learning in the Early Years. At Deira International School we firmly believe in the importance of children gaining a secure foundation in these skills in order to become a successful learner for life.

COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

A key focus of our Early Years department is to help children to become confident communicators. We create a language rich environment where children build the language skills needed to communicate and collaborate.

We aim for children to gain the skills to listen to others and to communicate their own ideas and thoughts.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Our outstanding learning facilities, including our extensive outdoor areas, provide the children with the resources and opportunities to develop their gross and fine motor skills. Children are able to develop the skills needed to control their movements and develop their coordination. Children also learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and making good choices in relation to exercise and food. We provide opportunities for children to show high levels of independence in their self-care skills.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Deira International School is a collaborative environment where we encourage all children to form positive relationships with both adults and peers. Through recognizing each child as unique, we support them in identifying their own strengths and encourage them to value and respect each other. We support children

to manage their own feelings and behavior. Children at Deira International School are happy, confident learners who have confidence in their own abilities.

THE EYFS SPECIFIC SKILLS

The specific skills build on the foundations acquired from the prime areas and allow children to develop in further academic areas.

LITERACY

Children are taught the skills to link sounds to letters and to use these to communicate meaning. We provide children with the opportunities to mark, make and develop the skills for pre writing. As children become confident we build on these skills and provide them with opportunities to become purposeful writers. Children are exposed to a wide range of print and high quality texts in both our EY environments and across the school including our fantastic library.

MATHS

Children develop skills in counting, number recognition and the value of number. Children then use these skills to begin to add and subtract and to solve mathematical problems. Children also learn about shape, size and measure and use the vocabulary to describe them.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Building on from children's communication and language skills, we help them discover about the world. We encourage them to talk about and discuss what they experience and observe. Children share their experiences from home and school and make links between these. Technology is integrated thoughtfully into the curriculum and is used skillfully to develop children's learning.

EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN

Through art, music, movement, dance, role play and design technology, children express their own creativity. Children learn how to combine media and materials to express their ideas and thoughts.



THE CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE LEARNING

Alongside the prime and specific areas of learning are the characteristics of effective learning. These characteristics help us understand what type of learner your child is and also allows teachers to develop children to be well rounded learners by promoting these characteristics.

Playing and Exploring:

Children explore and find out and show a 'have a go attitude'.

Active Learning:

Children show high levels of involvement. They concentrate and persevere and enjoy achieving what they set out to do.

Creating and Thinking critically:

Children have their own ideas and enjoy choosing their own way to do things.