High quality British education with a focus on the community and environment
Aspen Heights British School is a busy and welcoming community of learners who persistently strive to be the best they can be. We facilitate learning that is relevant, effective, meaningful and fun, utilising a breadth of creative and innovative teaching approaches, enabling children to make amazing progress. Through our actions and teaching we encourage children to be courteous to all, to consider the feelings of others, to be respectful to our environment, and feel empowered and confident to make a positive difference to all our communities now, and in the future.

- Be kind and think of others.
- Do your best and feel proud.
- Work together and love learning.
- Smile!

Why Choose Aspen Heights?
Principal’s Welcome
International Schools Partnership
Early Years
Primary School
Secondary School
Facilities & Technology
Values
Amazing Learning
Environment
Community
Houses
ECAs and Extended Learning

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Why Choose Aspen Heights?

Native English speaking teachers bringing years of UK and regional experience.

Amazing learning is central to everything we do.

Central to everything we do

Principal

Emma Shanahan

I am incredibly proud to have the privilege and responsibility of being the founding Principal of Aspen Heights British School since we opened our doors in September 2017. Our vision places children, their interests and learning needs, at the centre of the learning process. We believe that learning is maximised when children understand why they are learning a skill or concept, and at Aspen we teach through an enquiry-based learning methodology. We encourage our children to strive for excellence in all that they do, giving them the very best springboard into a world that demands hard work, knowledge, resilience and compassion.

Our passionate native English speaking teachers work tirelessly to facilitate fun, engaging, relevant, memorable and highly effective learning experiences. Our curriculum utilises the wonders of Abu Dhabi’s locality and ecology to inspire learning, and create a sense of responsibility for our local and global environment.

Children learn a myriad of things; academic, social, physical and cultural, and as a school community it is our responsibility to do all we can to create the right environment and opportunities to ensure children make as much progress in these areas as possible. We are a truly inclusive community school, embracing the individuality of every child. Engaging with you, our school community, is key to the success of our work. We hold a number of family events over the year, including ‘Fun with Numbers’ and ‘Fun with Fitness’, and all parents are invited to our weekly assemblies.

Dear Parents,

We look forward to welcoming you to our school soon!

Emma Shanahan
Principal
Aspen Heights British School is part of the International Schools Partnership (ISP), a focused, growing and financially secure group of schools, ensuring outstanding international learning connections, quality assurance and excellent governance.

Located within eight countries in Europe, The Americas, The Middle East and Southeast Asia all our schools:

- Help children and students learn to levels that amaze them;
- Inspire children and students to be successful now and equip them to be successful later;
- Are truly international, working in partnerships within and across regions, cultures and languages;
- Aim to be the first choice for children, students and their families, wherever we are.

“We want all our children and students to achieve all they possibly can during their time at school. Our unique learning-focused approach helps us to ensure that we can make that happen.”

Steve Brown
CEO
International Schools Partnership

“We are part of a global group of schools”

Growing Learning. Growing Schools

27,000
Students
4,000
Staff
34
Schools
8
Continents
8
Countries

International Schools Partnership
Early Years

Our curriculum

The formative foundation years of your child's school experience are crucial in establishing positive attitudes and confidence, together with skills and knowledge and a love of learning. At Aspen Heights British School, we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum for England and Wales. In addition, our early learners have Arabic lessons once a day, they study Music with a specialist teacher, and ICT is integrated across the thematic curriculum. Students have weekly Physical Education (PE) lessons with specialist teachers and FS2 have swimming lessons once a week.

Key learning areas

The EYFS curriculum details seven key areas of learning from birth to five years old. These include:

- Communication and Language - giving children opportunities to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves;
- Physical Development - providing opportunities for young children to be active and to develop their coordination and movement;
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development - helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves and to have confidence in their own abilities;
- Literacy - encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write;
- Mathematics - providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers;
- Understanding the World - guiding children to understand their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore and observe;
- Expressive Arts and Design - enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials.

تعتبر سنوات التعليم الأولى من أولى أنواع الحياة في المدرسة هامة جدًا في بناء الثقة وتكوين مواقف إيجابية مبكراً، بالإضافة إلى دورها في تطوير المهارات وتطوير المعرفة وعين الحب للتعلم في قلب الطفل. نعتمد في مدرسة "آسبن هايز" البريطانية في منهج مرحلة التأسس المبكر (EYFS) للسنين الأولى من العمر، وشامل في إنجلترا وويلز. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، نقدم للطلاب في مرحلة التأسس المبكر دروسًا من اللغة العربية مرة في اليوم، بالإضافة إلى دروس الموسيقى بقيادة معلم متخصص. أما تقنية المعلومات والاتصالات، فإنها مدمجة ضمن برامج التعلم. يشارك الطلاب في اجتماعات التدريب البدني مرة في الأسبوع مع المعلمين، ويلعبون أيضًا في سباحة مرة في الأسبوع.

Key learning areas

من خلال منهج مرحلة التأسس المبكر، يغطيuve الستة جوانب التعليمية للأطفال من السنة الأولى حتى الخامسة سنوات، وهي:

- اللغة والاتصال: يوفر الأطفال الفرصة للتقدم في التعبير عن أنفسهم وتحقيق الثقة في مهارات التعبير.
- التطور البدني: يوفر الفرصة للعمل بنشاط لتعزيز التنسيق والحركة.
- التطور الشخصي الاجتماعي والعاطفي: يساعد الأطفال في تطوير مفهوم الذات وثقة في قدراتهم.
- التعلم القرائي: يشجع الأطفال على الربط بين الصوتين والرسومات وبدء القراءة الكتابة.
- الرياضيات: يوفر الفرصة للتقدم في الحسابيات والرياضيات.
- التعلم عن العالم: يوجه الأطفال لفهم العالم المادي والمجتمع عن طريق إمكانيات الدراسة والبحث.
- الفنون التعبيرية والتصميم: يتيح الفرصة للطفال لاستكشاف وتجربة واسعة من الوسائط التعليمية.
In the Primary years (Years 1-6) we broadly follow the National Curriculum for England, tailored to meet the needs of our international community, as well as the Ministry of Education curriculum for Arabic subjects for both native and non-native students (Arabic, Islamic Studies and Social Studies).

Students study four core subjects - Mathematics, Science, English (Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening) and Computing - together with foundation subjects; History, Geography, Art, Design and Technology, Music, Physical Education, Swimming, French (from Year 3 upwards), and Moral Education. We take time to shape the curriculum to meet the needs of all learners, selecting themes that are inspiring, motivating and relevant to our international cohort.

**Key learning areas**

- **Thematic-based learning** - learning in all subjects is related to a half-termly theme;
- **Enquiry-based learning** - children use a range of research methods to lead their own learning, incorporating innovation and technology;
- **Self-directed learning** - children self-assess when learning new concepts and challenge themselves to achieve;
- **Talk for writing** - story mapping and innovation enhance independent writing;
- **Number club** - develops mental maths skills with certificates recognising achievement;
- **Phonics and guided reading** - develop core literacy skills;
- **Extra-curricular activities (ECAs), trips and visits** - enhance children’s learning incorporating local culture and our locality;
- **Integration of Arabic** - linking learning through language;
- **Leading assemblies** – classes share their learning to children and families in weekly assemblies.
The ethos and high levels of pastoral care established in the primary school will follow through to the secondary school, with young people’s ability to develop resilience, approach challenges positively, and work collaboratively for the good of the whole community being central to their learning.

We will teach the English National Curriculum, together with the Ministry of Education curricular requirements, and a thematic approach will be used across the subjects. Following a broad provision in Years 7 to 9 (Key Stage 3), Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4) students will be able to select options for further study leading to GCSE/IGCSE examinations.

Unique opportunities for secondary students: ISP Future Global Leaders Conference is a debate and diplomacy conference offering secondary students the opportunity to come together to debate some of our society’s most pressing issues. The ISP Buddy Exchange Programme will enable reciprocal exchanges between ISP schools for a period of one month for students aged between 14 – 17 years of age. These are experiences that offer students amazing and diverse learning opportunities within a safe and secure environment.

Key learning areas

Key Stage 3
Core Subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Arabic, Islamic Studies, UAE Social Studies, Moral Education, Citizenship, and Personal, Social and Health Education.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Stage 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, Arabic, Islamic Studies, UAE Social Studies, Moral Education, Citizenship, and Personal, Social and Health Education.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended curriculum: Extracurricular activities in the arts, Extra-curricular activities in the sciences, Extra-curricular activities in the physical education, Extra-curricular activities in modern languages (French).</td>
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Key Stage 4

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<tr>
<td>Extended curriculum: Extracurricular activities in the arts, Extra-curricular activities in the sciences, Extra-curricular activities in the physical education, Extra-curricular activities in modern languages (French).</td>
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Secondary
Facilities and Technology

- A 25m heated indoor swimming pool with weekly swimming lessons.
- Spacious, well-resourced classrooms, filled with natural light, providing excellent conditions for learning.
- A large multi-purpose sports hall/gymnasium, an outdoor sports court and an astro-pitch accommodate a wide range of extra-curricular activities.
- Dedicated music and art and craft rooms, and specialist music teachers ensure all children have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument.
- A large library housed vast resources for students, staff and families to develop their knowledge and understanding of different subjects, in English and Arabic.
- Extensive ICT, with technology including iPads and chrome books, and control technology such as remote control devices to support learning across the curriculum. We are also a Google for Education school.
- Age-appropriate shaded play areas, and bespoke designed playgrounds with wooden ‘trim-trails’ and climbing equipment across the campus, to encourage physical activity and exploration.
- Environmental features including a hydroponics garden and animals such as tortoises, fish and chickens.

Being a new school, Aspen Heights British School is privileged to have a wealth of world-class, brand new facilities. Our spacious environment has been built keeping nature in mind.
Amazing Learning

Aspen Heights British School believes that providing children with an eco-friendly environment instills a sense of responsibility and empathy towards the world.

Emma Shanahan - Principal

- Caring for animals: enquiry-based learning projects enable students to research, evaluate and provide for the needs and requirements of a variety of animals, including our school tortoises, fish and chickens.
- A hydroponics garden: where students are able to cultivate fruit and vegetables and are encouraged to develop healthy eating habits.
- Students will gain an understanding that much of what has been grown can be eaten and enjoyed. Such unique, hands-on learning experiences enhance and embed classroom learning. The learning environment at Aspen Heights celebrates our best use of natural resources and how we might grow and develop a sustainable life to enrich our local communities.

"We believe that providing children with an eco-friendly environment instills a sense of responsibility and empathy towards the world."
Community Values

Aspen Heights is very much a family school – our close relationships with our families and the community is what sets us apart from many other schools. Everyone is friendly and supportive, and as a result, our school is a very calm, happy and welcoming place, with many of our families seeing Aspen Heights as an extension of their home.

We hold assemblies every Thursday where families are invited so they can join us in celebrating their child’s amazing learning. Family activities are a regular feature in the school calendar, with an event programme including Family Workshops such as Fun with Numbers and Fun with Fitness. The Friends of Aspen parents group organizes school-wide events throughout the year, such as National Day, a community Iftar and Pink Day.

Houses

School House System

Every pupil and staff member at Aspen Heights British School is assigned a house on enrolment so that they feel part of the school community from the outset. Our aim is to encourage team spirit, and we believe encouraging a sense of teamwork and aspiration in children is a vital part of their development.

Our Houses reflect our environmental focus: Earth (green) Air (silver) Fire (orange) Water (blue).
Aspen Heights British School offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities from Year 1 to enrich children's learning beyond the classroom, and to help children cultivate individual interests and talents and develop their social skills. The activities change each term, and include football, badminton, choir, swimming, basketball, drama, chess, eco-club, Arabic stories, ICT and painting.

Students at Aspen Heights British School are provided with many opportunities to develop and thrive. Learning is not limited to the classroom, but can also take place outdoors or through an educational visit, or a community service project. Learners are actively engaged and challenged, and provided with many opportunities to think critically and independently, and to develop self-reliance, teamwork skills, and confidence to overcome new challenges.

Such activities include field trips to Arabic theatre, the Louvre, the Yas Marina (Formula 1) Circuit, the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, and Emirates Park Zoo, to name a few.

Teaching at Aspen Heights British School is not limited to the classroom. Children are provided with many opportunities to develop and thrive. Learning is not limited to the classroom, but can also take place outdoors or through educational visits or community service projects. Lessons are lively, fun and challenging, and provide children with many opportunities to think critically and independently, and help them develop self-reliance, teamwork skills, and confidence to overcome new challenges.

Extra-curricular activities and extended learning
“Like all of ISP’s schools around the world, here at Aspen Heights British School we want the levels of learning our students reach to truly amaze them and their parents. It’s what our schools are for. Quite simply, we measure our success by the success of our students.”

Martin Skelton
Group Director of Learning and Education
International Schools Partnership
Dedicated to delivering AMAZING LEARNING

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