



Home of Irresistible Learning

Dubai English Speaking School

# Learning Policy



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## Learning Policy

This policy reflects the unique values and ethos of DESS as well as fully supporting the UAE National Agenda and Inclusion Framework. At DESS, we believe the following areas are vital in providing our children with daily irresistible learning opportunities that will enable them to develop academically, emotionally and socially, whilst also learning to be tolerant, compassionate and pro-active global citizens.

### Aims:

- We nurture a sense of self, belonging, purpose and fulfilment.
- We want all our children to flourish and to be prepared for life's challenges and, therefore, put their happiness, health and wellbeing at the heart of everything we do.
- We nurture and develop their character, independence, resilience and learning skills.
- We have high expectations for all our children.
- We want our children to have the best possible learning experiences, whereby they are excited, inquisitive and driven to find out more. We want them to lead in their learning and develop the key skills they need to prepare them for their future ahead.
- We strive to create the best possible learning environments with the space and resources we have, to ensure all children make excellent progress in their learning.
- We strive to personalise each individual child's learning journey and believe this is fundamental to all children achieving success. Being a fully inclusive school, every learner at DESS has equal access to learning and opportunities to maximise their progress.

### The Language of Learning at DESS

لغة التعلم في

Always ask yourself these questions...





# Like a **DESS** child please...

## Day to Day



- Be Welcoming
- Show Good Manners
- Act Responsibly
- Look Smart
- Be Proud

## Every Lesson



- Be Positive
- Be a Team Player
- Support Others
- Stay Focused
- Aim High

## Speaking



- Make Eye Contact
- Speak Clearly
- Speak Politely
- Be Thoughtful
- Act With Confidence

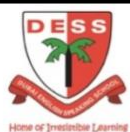
## Smiling



- Share
- Be Caring
- Enjoy
- Be Accepting
- Show Encouragement

### At DESS, as learners we...

- Use mindfulness daily to prepare for learning and understand the balance of wellbeing.
- Demonstrate courtesy and respect, and consistently display a responsible attitude; we take the feelings of others into consideration.
- Help to create a positive learning climate by listening and supporting our peers.
- Are excited about our learning, pose questions, and talk about what we know.
- Thrive on being constantly challenged and view this as an opportunity to make progress.
- Use mobile learning and innovative technologies to enhance our learning.
- Strive to improve our learning skills of communication, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, curiosity and compassion.
- Understand that making mistakes is an important part of the learning process.
- Have a growth mindset.
- Make links in our learning, following our interests and own enquiries.
- We are self-reflective; we take the opportunity to reflect on, edit and improve our work and that of our peers.
- Are able to talk about our personal targets and next steps and can suggest a plan to work towards them.
- Are independent; we know what is expected of us and we work hard and aim high!
- Actively take part in designing, exploring and utilising our learning environments.
- Respect our learning spaces and belongings by leaving them ready for the next learner.
- Use resources sensibly and fairly, considering how we can be more sustainable at DESS.
- Understand and respect the history, heritage and culture of the UAE.



# Like a **DESS** teacher...

## Dedicated



- Proud
- Perseverant
- Passionate
- Committed
- Loyal
- Diligent
- Aspirational

## Exemplary



- Consistent
- Pro-active
- Admirable
- Valuable
- Inspirational
- Productive
- Dynamic

## Supportive



- Resilient
- Flexible
- Inclusive
- Contemplative
- Tolerant
- Reflective
- Authentic

## Smiley



- Friendly
- Open-minded
- Growth mindset
- Kind-hearted
- Positive
- Thoughtful
- Giving

### At DESS, as teachers we:

- Strive for excellence in all that we do.
- Have a holistic view of each child, value their happiness, value all children's thoughts and feelings, and model and teach the importance of mindfulness and positive wellbeing.
- Have high expectations in all aspects of learning: behaviour, attitude and outcomes.
- Foster positive relationships with children and their parents, communicating effectively to ensure a shared understanding of progress and achievement.
- Ensure that learning and teaching approaches meet the personal, social, emotional and academic needs of all, including children with additional learning needs.
- Develop personal learning skills (the 6Cs) as well as key subject-specific skills.
- Make problem-solving, reasoning, innovation and enterprise intrinsic parts of learning, to provide irresistible, exciting and engaging experiences.
- Provide open-ended tasks, investigations and child-led learning opportunities so children are able to take the lead in their learning.
- Use effective mobile learning and innovative technologies to enhance learning experiences.
- Encourage children to be reflective, independent learners, who embrace challenges and mistakes as an integral part of learning.
- Utilise flexible, modern, safe and calm learning environments that are matched to individual needs, supporting all learners and enabling child-led learning opportunities.
- Give a variety of personal feedback to enable a clear understanding of progress, achievements and next steps.
- Use Learning Ladders to track every child's progress to ensure **all** children reach their potential by providing support, challenge and engagement for all.



# Like a **DESS** parent please...

## Dedicated



- In Partnership
- Loyal
- Proud
- Passionate
- Helpful
- Inclusive
- Engaged

## Exemplary



- Role-models
- Safe Drivers
- Punctual
- Reliable
- Polite
- Tolerant
- Pro-active

## Supportive



- Respectful
- Flexible
- Encouraging
- Understanding
- Trusting
- Considerate
- Compassionate

## Smiley



- Honest
- Open-minded
- Approachable
- Thoughtful
- Kind
- Positive
- Friendly

### At DESS, as parents we:

- Model being a kind, polite, respectful and responsible citizen of the world.
- Support the ethos of the school by encouraging positive attitudes to learning.
- Foster independent and encourage preparedness for learning at home.
- Encourage our children to be independent, resilient learners and support the need for reflection, recognising that challenge is healthy to develop as lifelong learners.
- Support DESS' child-led approach to learning and commitment to innovation and enterprise.
- Recognise that a modern curriculum, with a commitment developing digital literacy skills, will prepare our children to be future-ready.
- Support the schools Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy to allow mobile learning and innovative technologies to enhance my child's learning.
- Embrace the 6Cs encouraging our children to be curious, creative, compassionate critical thinkers who enjoy communicating and collaborating.
- Take an interest in our child's learning, targets and next steps through engagement with Parents' Evenings, liaise with teachers on my child's progress, and embrace Parent Forums, workshops and training platforms.
- Engage with home learning tasks to enable our children to consolidate previously taught skills at home; practice makes progress.
- Understand the DESS philosophy behind calm learning environments and the impact this has on my child's learning.

Please see the Quality Assurance Policy for how the effectiveness of this policy is monitored.