



AL AIN ACADEMY
ALDAR ACADEMIES

Parents Information Pack

2022-2023



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Principal's Message



Mr Pugh has been working in education for nearly twenty years. He holds a Bachelor's degree in education, is a Level 1 Penta trained school inspector and is currently completing his National Professional Qualification for Headship. He has vast education and leadership experience internationally and in the UK. Having been in educational senior leadership for 9 years, he has strategically supported schools graded as outstanding, as well as working in leadership teams tasked with taking schools out of special measures, to become good schools.

Mr Pugh takes great pride in welcoming you to Al Ain Academy as Principal of the school. He joined Al Ain Academy on the school's Senior Leadership team in 2019, bringing proven educational and assessment strategies to the school and building a strategic team of middle leaders to ensure each individual child gets the very best education every day. His philosophy is that each member of the AAA community should feel safe and happy coming to school, while being exposed to challenge, inquiry and excitement. Thus, our pupils will make progress every day, enjoying the learning experiences they are immersed in.

As the world begins to return to normal after the pandemic, the world of education has a wealth of opportunities available to children. Mr. Pugh believes this is a time to inspire children and allow them to investigate a wealth of learning beyond the classroom, developing their love for sports, arts, drama as well as collaborating with those similar and different from ourselves, as we look to develop tolerant, visionary leaders of the future for the U.A.E and globally.

Ian Pugh

Principal, Al Ain Academy

Meet our Senior Leadership Team



Daniel McHugh
Head of Secondary

Mr McHugh joined Al Ain Academy as Secondary School Headteacher in August 2021. Prior to this, he was Deputy Headteacher at the British School of Bahrain, where he was responsible for approximately 500 students studying GCSEs, A-levels and BTEC qualifications. Mr McHugh has worked in British and IB curriculum schools in the Middle East and Europe, and before moving into education he worked in corporate Search and Selection for a decade, which included setting up and expanding his own business.

Mr McHugh is passionate about challenging all students to aspire to excellence, whatever it is that they choose to study and participate in. He also encourages participation in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, which he sees as a valuable tool in developing social and organisational skills that may have been impacted by the recent pandemic. Above all else, Mr McHugh is an advocate for lifelong learning and is proud to lead a team of teachers who not only promote hard work and curiosity as essential attributes for their students' future success, but who demonstrate such attributes in their own professional development.

Mr McHugh is himself a lifelong learner and as well as an undergraduate degree in History from the University of Durham, he holds Masters-level degrees in Business Administration (MBA; University of Durham) and Educational Leadership (MA; University of Nottingham). He holds the National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership and is currently undertaking both the Chartered Teacher (Leader) programme and the National Professional Qualification for Headship.



Jasmine Jones
Head of Primary

Mrs Jones has been working in education since 2013 where she graduated with a first-class degree in Primary and Secondary Education with Spanish. Throughout her teaching career, Mrs Jones has been very fortunate to be able to teach in various contexts (in both Primary and Secondary schools in the UK and in the UAE) and she has recently completed her National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership.

Mrs Jones has worked at Al Ain Academy for a number of years as a teacher, middle leader, and as a senior leader; however, she is very excited to embark on the role of Head of Primary.

Mrs Jones is committed to ensuring that Al Ain Academy continues to provide a supportive and caring environment where every student is recognised as an individual. At Al Ain Academy, we aim to ensure that students flourish both academically and personally, working in partnership with parents to develop our students into well-rounded members of our community – providing the foundation of learning which will enable students to achieve anything and everything they set their minds to.



Kimberley Ellis
Primary Assistant Principal
of Teaching and Learning

Miss Ellis graduated as a teacher in 2012. Her commitment and dedication to her degree was acknowledged by a formal commendation of achievement from the School of Education Awards Board along with a first-class category in B.Ed Primary Education.

Before moving to the UAE, Miss Ellis taught in outstanding primary schools in the UK. Quickly progressing into leadership roles, she became heavily involved in school improvement projects to enhance the teaching and learning of early reading and writing.

Miss Ellis joined Al Ain Academy in 2018, responsible for leading English in KS1 as well as leading teams in both Year One and Year Two. More recently, Miss Ellis gained the role of Assistant Principal of Primary Teaching and Learning to which she is ready for the excitement and challenge of being part of the Senior Leadership Team.



Melissa Claridge
Secondary Assistant
Principal

Miss Claridge qualified as a teacher in 2013 where she graduated with a BA(Hons) degree in Physical Education with Qualified Teacher Status. Prior to joining Al Ain Academy, Miss Claridge worked in an all-girls through school, where she quickly progressed, taking on Pastoral leadership roles within the school.

Miss Claridge joined Al Ain Academy and the PE department in 2016, since then, she has rapidly progressed within the school, taking on various leadership and subject related roles. She prides herself in prioritising the well-being and holistic care of all students, alongside ensuring they are challenged and pushed to reach their potential in all areas of their learning. In 2020, Miss Claridge gained the role of Secondary Assistant principal.

This is a very exciting role that comes with daily challenges, learning opportunities and reward. Her educational philosophy is that the Pastoral and Academic curricula go hand in hand and that students should feel supported in making decisions, taking calculated risks with their learning and pushing themselves to reach and exceed their potential. Miss Claridge completed her NPQML in 2021 and will be embarking on her NPQH next year.



Jenny Hammond
Primary Assistant Principal
of Curriculum and Pastoral

Mrs Hammond qualified as a teacher in South Africa in 2008. Her commitment during her time at university was acknowledged by being awarded the Dean's Merit Award for outstanding academic performance.

Mrs Hammond has worked in various British curriculum school across England and the UAE for the past thirteen years. She has four years of Senior Leadership experience in a well-established school in Abu Dhabi.

Mrs Hammond joined Al Ain Academy in 2021 as an Early Years leader and is excited to join the Senior Leadership Team at Al Ain Academy this year. The safety and well-being of all children and staff will be her top priority as Pastoral Assistant Principal. She looks forward to working closely with teachers and parents to ensure every child thrives and reaches their full potential.

Welcome from the Parents Committee

Parent Testimonials

“I am grateful for being part of the Al Ain Academy family, my children are very happy in school and in constant development. The most important thing is that there is an open communication with the staff.”

Mrs. Almedawi, Mother of Haya, Mariam, Saeed and Ahmad

“Dear All, my appreciation and gratitude to the educational and administrative staff in Al Ain Academy. My child is happy in school and in constant development.”

Mrs. Al Kuwaiti, Mother of Salem

“I write this feedback from my experience with my kids in the school. There is no doubt that choosing the appropriate school for the child is one of the most important plans for parents to provide education for their children. I chose Al Ain Academy and am very satisfied with the level of education provided and focus on Arabic and Islamic education in addition to learning British English.”

Mrs Alneyadi Ali, Mother of Mohammed



Student Leadership

Within the school we also have a Student Leadership Team, School Council, Eco Council, Al Ain News Team, Playground Leaders, House Captains, Sports Captains and many other student leadership responsibilities.

Parent Portal Information

A key part of communication at Al Ain Academy occurs through the Parent Portal. Use the following website to access the portal: <https://portal.aldaracademies.com>

Through the portal you will be able to:

- View attendance information
- Receive daily notices from the school or the class teacher
- View your child's assessment data
- Access your child's termly report

We regular communication with parents' via **SMS**. Please ensure we always have your preferred mobile number updated, so that you do not miss any key information.



Curriculum Information

The English National Curriculum defines two 'key stages'; Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6). The curriculum builds on the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum offered in Foundation Stage 1 and 2 (3 to 5 year old).

The National Curriculum Core subjects are: English, Mathematics and Science. Foundation subjects are Design and Technology; Information and Communication Technology; History; Geography; Modern Foreign Languages (Year 3 upwards); Music; Art and Design; Physical Education and Personal, Health and Social Development.

Due to Ministry of Education regulations in the United Arab Emirates, Religious Education is not taught. Arabic, Islamic Studies and Social Studies are taught as per UAE Ministry of Education guidelines.

Registration Forms/ Documents Check list

In order to ensure the school has accurate and up to date information and to enable the school to meet the requirements for registration with the Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) it is essential that you provide the following documents:

- ▶ Acceptance letter
- ▶ Confirmation of payment slip
- ▶ Student's, father's, and mother's Emirates Identity Card (EID front & back Side)
- ▶ Student's, father's, and mother's passport copy
- ▶ Student's, father's, and mother's residence visa (not applicable to UAE Nationals)
- ▶ Student's birth certificate
- ▶ Childs immunization record
- ▶ Your address location proof—either ADDC (electricity) bill or Tawtheeq
- ▶ Passport size photograph of student
- ▶ Copy of 2 most recent school reports
- ▶ Graduation requirements undertaking
- ▶ Transfer certificate (applicable if current school is outside of Abu Dhabi)
- ▶ Essential registration forms:
 - Form 1: Parent security pass
 - Form 2: Student health record
 - Form 3: Consent medical issues
 - Form 4: Parental consent to administer emergency medication
 - Form 5: Learning support information
 - Form 6: Consent form for photography and images of children
 - Form 7: Consent form for use of photographic devices at school events by parents
 - Form 8: ICT parents acceptable use agreement

For more information, please email:
admissions@alainacademy.sch.ae

Parents/Guardian ID

Parents Security Pass

Please note a maximum of 3 security passes can be issued per child. Additional and replacement for lost cards will be subjected to 50 dhs fees. Please collect your Parents Security Pass from the school receptionist.

STUDENT NAME	YEAR GROUP	FORM

Guardian 1		Insert Photograph
Relationship to Child		
Mobile Number		
Guardian 2		Insert Photograph
Relationship to Child		
Mobile Number		
Guardian 3		Insert Photograph
Relationship to Child		
Mobile Number		

School Uniform

S C H O O L U N I F O R M S



**NAVY BLUE
BLAZER**
BOYS & GIRLS
YEAR7-YEAR11



**NAVY BLUE
CARDIGAN**
GIRLS
FS1-YEAR4



DRESS
FS1 & FS2



POLO T-SHIRT
BOYS & GIRLS
FS1 & YEAR6



**KHAKI BERMUDA
SHORT**
BOYS & GIRLS
FS1 & YEAR6



KHAKI SKORT
GIRLS
YEAR1 & YEAR6



**V-NECK
SWEATER WITH
PIPING**
BOYS & GIRLS
FS1-YEAR 13



**NAVY
TROUSER**
BOYS & GIRLS
YEAR7-YEAR11



**NAVY SHORT
SKIRT**
GIRLS
YEAR7-YEAR11



NAVY LONG SKIRT
GIRLS
YEAR7-YEAR11



TIE
BOYS & GIRLS
YEAR7-YEAR11



**WHITE SHIRT
SHORT SLEEVE**
BOYS & GIRLS
YEAR7-YEAR11



**WHITE SHIRT
LONG SLEEVE**
BOYS & GIRLS
YEAR7-YEAR11



KHAKI PINAFLORE
GIRLS
YEAR1-YEAR6



P.E. T-SHIRT
BOYS & GIRLS
FS1-YEAR 13



P.E. T-SHIRT
BOYS & GIRLS
FS1-YEAR 13



P.E. SHORT
BOYS & GIRLS
FS1-YEAR 13



**GFORCE P.E.
TRACK PANTS**
BOYS & GIRLS
FS1-YEAR 13



**BLACK
RAMPERS**
GIRLS
FS1-YEAR 13



**SWIMMING
TRUNKS**
BOYS
FS1-YEAR 6



**BLACK
SWIMMING
COSTUME**
FS1-YEAR13



**BLACK
BOOKBAG
WITH LOGO**
FS1-YEAR6



**BLACK
BAGPACK
WITH LOGO**
FS1-YEAR13



**LEGIONNAIRE
CAP**
FS1-YEAR2



**SPORTS BAG
WITH LOGO**
FS1-YEAR13



**BLACK P.E/
SWIM BAG
WITH LOGO**
FS1-YEAR13



BASEBALL CAP
YEAR3-YEAR13

You can purchase items online at <https://magrudy.com/uniforms/Al-Ain-academy>
Alternatively, you can visit Magrudy's store at World Trade Centre Mall, or Al Forsan Mall.

Bus Information

Emirates Transport

Aldar Academies Emirates Transport provide high quality buses with enhanced student safety features. Emirates Transport is the largest school transport provider within the UAE. They regulate, manage, and supervise the operations of student transport in line with Department of Transport at the highest international safety standards. They deliver excellent customer service to ensure every passenger is happy and safe.

Contact Information:

 8006006 / 03-7088907

School Supplies

We provide stationary needed for the children to be able to access the curriculum.

Darna Rewards

Rewards by Aldar is a free application available to Aldar Academies' parents and enables our families to earn points upon payment of their tuition fees that can be redeemed against future payment of tuition or for experiences and purchases across Aldar and participating brands.

Bring Your Own Device

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing innovation, Al Ain Academy implemented a compulsory Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative for secondary school students, with a commitment to provide primary school students with mortgaged iPad for school. This is a great opportunity for students to use their technology to personalize and enhance their learning. All students can access Microsoft Teams and Class Notebook through their Office 365 account and these are great tools that allow students to access their work from anywhere.

We still, of course, provide books to write in but students using their own devices can support the learning that takes place in the classroom. BYOD also gives parents a chance to see what their children are learning in school and the above program are excellent platforms for sharing homework, support, and resources

Nutrition/Catering

Food Nation LLC. was established in 2016 to and the aim was to provide nutritious, innovative food offerings bursting with flavor to schools across the UAE. Food Nation uses only quality raw products and all products are made from scratch, ingredients are non-processed, additive free and use healthy fats over trans-fats that are found in many processed foods. Food Nations, 'Eat Bright' programme creates products with specifically targeted nutrients to improve academic performance; ensuring essential nutrients, vitamins, minerals, proteins and healthy fats are included in our meals. Use of clever food combining and alternative cooking techniques results in delicious foods, packed with "hidden goodness", which children love.

Food served in our cafeterias, and menus are rotated on a three weekly basis to ensure variety and a balanced nutritious programme. Payment can be made via payment cards or online.



Online Education Platforms

All Children have access to a Microsoft 365 account. Here, they have the use of all Microsoft programmes. One login is used for all educational apps including Education City, Minecraft, Seesaw and Purple Mash.

School Day (Timings)

Nursery/FS1: 7:40am-12:30pm(optional 2:00pm)

FS2: 7:40am-2:20pm

Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3: 7:40am-2:30pm

Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6: 7:40am-2:40pm

Secondary: 7:40am-2:45pm

Friday: 7:40am -11:45pm

Payment Information

School fees can be paid directly to Al Ain Academy, in cheque, or via online bank transfer or direct deposit at the bank. The online transfer details are:

Bank Name: Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank
Bank Branch: Salam Branch, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Account Name: Aldar Academies LLC – Al Ain Academy
Account Number: 10482902020004
IBAN: AE020030010482902020004
Swift Code: ADCBAEAA



School Fees Cashless Payment Options

Dear Parents

We are writing to notify you about a change in the school's policy regarding tuition fee payments.

To help collect payments in an efficient and streamlined manner and provide convenience to both yourselves and our school teams, we will no longer be accepting any cash transactions for your child's school fees.

Below are the payment options now available to you:

- **Bank Transfer** - Please include the Student Codes and Invoice References in the payment description fields and please send an email confirmation of the payment to the school's finance email address.
- **Cheques** - Please put these in a sealed envelope with the Student Codes and Invoice References on the reverse of the cheque and submit it via the dedicated drop box placed at the school premises. Upon clearance of the cheque, a receipt will be issued to the registered email address within 3 working days.
- **'Payit'** mobile phone application – the UAE's first all-in-one digital wallet by First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) and available for download for free on iOS and Android devices.

The school will not be able to accept credit or debit card transactions.

We believe this change will benefit how our schools operate more efficiently to serve you and help reduce the need for handling or transporting cash.

For ease, invoices will be shared to your registered email address and will be available on the parent portal. We would kindly ask that fees are paid by the due date mentioned on the invoice.

We are here to help you however we can, so if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school's finance team.

Kind Regards

Aldar Education – Finance

ADEK Rating

Definition of report results: Teaching and Assessment exceeds expectation, in addition to safety & care of students and leadership of the school substantially exceeding expectations.

Quotes from the report:

“The strong relationships between staff and students, which permeate all aspects of the school’s life, promote high academic and personal development in all the phases.”

“School leaders have successfully raised standards of achievement in Arabic.”

“School leaders demonstrate an outstanding capacity for improving the school further because they have improved students’ achievement in the large majority of subjects and phases, and maintained previously noted very high standards in others.”



Very Good

Drop off - Pick up

Our well-monitored gates are open for drop off and pick-up times with a flexible 30-minute slot at the start and end of the day creating a calm start and end experience for both children and caregivers.

Key Contacts

- **Reception@alainacademy.sch.ae**
- Administration related inquiry please send email to:
admissions@alainacademy.sch.ae
- Finance Inquiries please send email to:
Finance@alainacademy.sch.ae
- Parent Relations, concerns, communications please contact:
pre@alainacademy.sch.ae