



YASMINA
BRITISH ACADEMY

Parent Information Pack

2024-2025



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Principal's Message



Welcome to Yasmina British Academy. We are one of the few recognised outstanding schools in the UAE where our students' attainment and progress, within all Year groups, are significantly above UK, UAE and global averages. The whole Academy community is very proud of its achievements to date and is looking forward to working in partnership to become a leading Academy of excellence within the region.

No matter of the age of the student and central to everything that we do, Al Yasmina is focused on the development of happy, confident, independent, and flexible learners, who are fully prepared for advanced study and work within the ever-changing demands of the 3rd Millennium. We genuinely care about all people within our Academy community.

At the heart of our entire academy are the 3 key objectives of Aldar Education: Our Purpose – Empowering the next generation to shape our future, Our Promise – Delivering the highest standards of education and inspiring a love of learning and Our Values- Excellence, Creativity, Passion, Respect and Collaboration.

Through outstanding learning and teaching and the constant reinforcement of our core objectives, we can fully prepare all our students for adult life, to enable them all to practice and develop leadership qualities, to be highly motivated, confident and creative independent learners and most importantly understand the value of being respectful and tolerant international citizens.

I look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Keith Miller

Executive Principal, Yasmina British Academy

Meet our Heads of School



Holly Gibbs
Head of Primary

It is with great pride that I welcome you to Yasmina British Academy as the Head of Primary.

Having joined the Academy on the Executive Leadership Team in September 2019, taking the school through to Outstanding status, it is with great pleasure to lead the ever-growing thriving primary section on its journey through further development and excellence.

Having begun my teaching and leadership career in London, UK, I relocated to the UAE six years ago with a wealth of senior leadership experience, steering schools through periods of change and significant development. Sitting on the Executive Leadership Team in Dubai has brought a wealth of experience in the local setting, including strategic development, inspections, accreditations and devising practical solutions to the complex educational challenges faced in International schools.

As a former International Triathlete competing for Great Britain on the World stage, my philosophy of education is for students to be all-rounded, learning values and skills through exposure to a variety of high performing experiences. These align to the school vision and values of developing the arts of Sport, Music and Drama, building vital life skills such as resilience, collaboration, leadership and a strive for excellence; in turn stimulating motivated learners to succeed in a wide range of academic, personal and social situations.

As technology advances the educational world, it is an inspiring time for the development of teaching and learning, and I look forward to working very closely with the incredible Al Yasmina community to take the school through its next stage of educational excellence.



Jennie Kellett
Head of Secondary

After completing my Geography degree at the University of Derby in 1996, I decided I wanted to combine my love of the world with working with children so in 1998 I embarked on a new journey and trained to be a teacher at the University of Leeds; 21 years later I am still driven by the same underlying factor – I want to make a difference.

After ten very successful years in the UK, I moved to the UAE in 2009, joining Al Yasmina as a middle leader in 2011.

In 2015 I joined the senior leadership team, and I am now very privileged to hold the position of Head of Secondary. I have an excellent track record of raising standards and have been an integral part of the Academy's journey over the last ten years, achieving BSME Outstanding, Investors in People Gold, BSO Outstanding and most recently ADEK Outstanding.

Over the years, having held various leadership positions, I truly understand the importance of developing the whole child. For me, education is the key to success, and this success is enveloped by a growth mindset where learning is at the heart of everything we do. With this philosophy in mind, there is no ceiling to learning, no limit to success and no cap to achievement; learning truly is an exciting journey of discovery for all.



Dennis Felix
Operations and
Support Services Manager

With over ten years of leadership experience in Outstanding Schools in Abu Dhabi, I am an accomplished Operations & Support Services Manager (OSM) who prioritises excellence. My unwavering focus on safety and well-being encompasses a commitment to creating exceptional learning environments that prioritise quality education. The amazing team at Yasmina, who share my commitment to excellence, have played a pivotal role in my success.

As a Master's degree holder in Strategy and Project Management and a current doctoral candidate with a focus on Operations, I implement the philosophy of Kaizen and agile methodology to drive continuous improvement and excellence.

As a trusted member of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT), I play a critical role in creating the environment necessary for an Outstanding School. I leverage my extensive experience in managing complex projects with multiple stakeholders efficiently exceeding expectations. Streamlining operations, improving processes, and implementing effective systems are key strengths I possess that support the organisation's success.

Growing up with parents who are educators in the UAE has instilled a passion for education and a commitment to providing the highest level of service.

In summary, I am committed to driving excellence within the organisation while providing exceptional service. My extensive experience, advanced education, focus on health and safety, and agile methodology make me confident in my ability to optimise our facilities and support the organisation's success.



Sarah Lane
Primary Assistant
Principal

My journey to teaching started in the North East of England, where I completed a degree in Primary Education. The first school I worked in, situated in a small English town named Hartlepool, gave me many excellent opportunities to work with children across the different Key Stages of the primary school.

In 2014 I decided to combine my love of teaching and travel and make a move to the U.A.E. My first five years in this country were spent in a large international school in Dubai. During my time in Dubai, I had the privilege of teaching children from all around the world and getting to know all about their different cultures and ways of life. I also became the Subject lead for English, and later the Director of Key Stage 1.

In 2019 I became the Assistant Principal for Primary at Yasmina British Academy. This was a move that I was very keen to make knowing that Al Yasmina is a school with an excellent reputation and incredibly high standards. I have thoroughly enjoyed leading on all pastoral aspects of the primary students' education. I firmly believe that in order to be successful educators, we must develop the whole child, focusing on their emotional needs alongside the academics.

One of my key priorities is to provide all children with classroom experiences where they feel secure and confident enough to try out new things and make mistakes, as this is a critical aspect of the learning process. All children should feel a sense of belonging and pride in their school, which is always a top priority in everything we do here at Yasmina British Academy.

Welcome from the Parents Committee

Parent Testimonials

Yalla Yasmina is Yasmina British Academy's parent association, working alongside the school to help enrich students' experiences at school.

Yalla Yasmina helps organise and manage many community and school events throughout the year, mainly through fundraising, with donations going to charitable organisations as well as improvements within our school.

Fundraising efforts in the past helped support our school's primary library, new furniture in the Foundation Stage, equipment for the PE department, as well as appreciation gifts for the Green and Security teams.

Events include Pink October, the Arabic Book Fair, Flag Day, National Day, Heritage Week, among many others.

If you would like to learn more about Yalla Yasmina and how you as a parent can contribute to our school community's events and fundraisers, please email pre@yasminabritishacademy.sch.ae



Student Leadership Information

Within the school, we have a wide variety of leadership positions open for students to apply to if they seek further opportunities to develop their skills.

As a student leader, you are going to develop innumerable leadership skills including responsibility, teamwork, and communication. These leadership skills will come from having real-world leadership experience.

Parent Portal Information

Please make sure you are aware of the relevant people to communicate with in school and that you understand how to access the school Portal system as a parent. This information will be sent to all new parents and all existing parents already have been sent information on how this can be accessed.

General communication from the school will be uploaded onto the Parent Portal. If you are unsure of your log-in details, please contact our admin team at: ayaadmin@yasminabritishacademy.sch.ae to assist you further. You can also use this email address if you have any general school related queries.

Communication from primary class teachers will be sent via email and Seesaw. Within the secondary phase of Al Yasmina, our teachers will communicate with you via the Parent Portal or through email.



Curriculum Information

The English National Curriculum is renowned and respected the world over as being one of the most academically rigorous pathways to further education. One of its key advantages is that it is constantly evolving to encompass the changing world in which we live. Above all it is designed to foster a love of learning and at Al Yasmina, our aim is to inspire and challenge our students to approach the curriculum with a sense of curiosity and resilience, ensuring that we instil these skills in them for life.

With passion at the heart of everything we do, Al Yasmina nurtures all children through a rich and exciting educational journey. Successful foundations are laid early to engage and cultivate awe, wonder and imagination. Independence is developed and fostered through a safe environment where students feel comfortable to take risks and are not afraid to fail. Inclusive for all, barriers to learning are overcome through building trust to create confident, happy, reflective, and accountable learners, who make exceptional progress. Our curriculum is designed to be exciting, varied, and creative, enabling learning to flow through the different subject areas. All students are given opportunities to make connections, apply their skills and understand how their experiences relate to the real world.

At KS3 we build on the strong foundations by developing a wider and deeper understanding of individual subjects as well as utilise a range of 21st century skills and attributes. Students then go on to study their I/GCSE qualifications before progressing to A-levels – two of the most rigorous, reliable, and highly regarded examinations available. At the end of year 13 students go on to study at some of the most prestigious universities around the world with our Alumni including graduates from Oxbridge, Ivy League, and Russell Group institutions.

Academic Achievement:

I/GCSE

We recorded an impressive 56% 9 - 7 grades among all exams sat by its IGCSE students, while 95% of total entries earned 9 - 4 grades. In 2021 Al Yasmina recorded incredible achievements in the core subjects of English and Maths with 83% and 81% achieving grades of 9 – 6 respectively, in line with previous years.

A-Level

77% of Yasmina British Academy's A-Level students scored A*, A or B, exceeding UK schools benchmark of 53% and placing us in the top 5% of schools for value added. Top achieving students from Aldar Academies have already secured opportunities to pursue their higher education at prestigious Russell Group and Ivy League universities in the UK and USA.

Registration Forms/ Documents Checklist

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 residential visa (not applicable to UAE Nationals)
- ▶ Student's birth certificate
- ▶ Child's 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:

admission@yasminbritishacademy.sch.ae



School Uniform

(Photos for Early Years, Primary & Secondary, PE, Swimming, House T-shirts- Shoes, bags “all types”)



You can purchase items online at <https://uat.magrudy.com/uniforms/aldar-alyasmina-academy>
Alternatively, you can visit Magrudy's store.

ALDAR Academies' Uniform Policy

- Our policy is based on the view that a school uniform:
- Promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- Is practical and smart;
- Identifies the students with their school;
- Makes students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- Is regarded as suitable by most parents;
- Has been designed with the health and safety of the students in mind;
- Adheres to strict ADEK and government regulations.

School Bags

Please note that as per the Al Yasmina Uniform Policy, wheely bags are not allowed. Students should bring a rucksack with two shoulder straps, Al Yasmina's school bags are encouraged, but optional.

School Shoes

Smart, black leather shoes with white socks must be worn. Please note that boots, sandals and trainers (except for PE) are not permitted.

Hair

Hair should be neat and tidy, with no extreme hair colouring or styles. Hair below collar length should be tied back or plaited. Only plain practical accessories may be worn in the school colours.

Jewelry

Students are permitted to wear a watch. Stud earrings may be worn. No other jewelry is permitted. In line with safe practices, earrings must be removed for PE and swimming lessons.

Cosmetics

Make-up, lipstick, nail varnish, nails extensions or temporary tattoos are not permitted in school. Any perfumed toiletry products used (e.g. perfumed deodorants) should be kept to a minimum in consideration of other children who may have allergies.

Cultural Sensitivity

It is recognised that some parents of young girls would prefer that their arms and legs are fully covered. In such circumstances, second skins/in t-shirts (obtainable through major retailers such as Lulu, Max, Splash, Sun and Sands) and leggings may be worn underneath uniforms, or trousers may be worn (obtainable tailor-made, from the uniform supplier).

Where to Purchase Uniforms

Aldar Academies' uniforms are available exclusively from Magrudy's Uniforms. You can purchase items online at www.magrudy.com simply by searching for the academy name.

Alternatively, you can visit Magrudy's store at World Trade Centre Mall, Abu Dhabi or Al Forsan Central Mall, Abu Dhabi.

Post-16 Uniforms

The uniform for Post-16 students at Yasmina British Academy consists of professional attire in black, white, blue or grey..

Students wearing professional attire will:

- Encourage independence, responsibility, and maturity
- Increase comfort and enhance a sense of freedom
- Promote a stronger sense of identity and self-expression
- Foster a formal, professional, and mature environment
- Prepare students for the real world, such as university, internships, and the workplace

Parents/ Guardian ID

“Parent Passes will be used to further enhance our security procedures and should be worn whenever you are at school. When collecting your child from school you may be asked to show your Parent Pass. The pass will be checked when situations out of your child’s normal collection procedure arise.

For example, if someone different is collecting your child, if the class teacher is absent or if you are late to collect your child. In these instances, staff will ask to check the name and photograph on the parent pass, so we encourage you to have it clearly on display during this part of the day.

If for some reason you do not have your Parent Pass, you may confirm your identity by supplying your child’s unique PIN.

If you’d like your child to be collected by someone who does not have their own Parent Pass, please inform your class teacher via e-mail in advance. You can then provide your Parent Pass to the person responsible for picking up, which will be checked by the class teacher.

The e-mail request plus the Parent Pass provided by yourself will help staff to confirm that we have the authorisation to allow pick up for this adult. Alternatively, if they are not able to provide the pass, they will be asked to confirm your child’s unique PIN.



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.

To sign up for the bus, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3zSkD9u>

Darna Rewards

The Darna Rewards Programme is a free mobile application to earn points upon payment of tuition, or for experiences and purchases across Aldar and participating brands; which can then be redeemed for future payments.

To apply, register through the Darna Rewards application by using the same e-mail provided to the school. Your points accrued will then be added to your account.



Bring Your Own Device

In order to support the learning whilst adhering to the latest health and safety guidelines, we would like to invite all students from Year 1 to Year 13 to bring their own device (BYOD).

BYOD will ensure that students are building on their increasing independence, enabling the innovative teaching and learning methods to transfer back to the physical classroom and ensure that students continue to be able to express and engage in learning in diverse ways, whilst having access to their work anytime, anywhere.

The use of devices in school will be carefully planned and monitored by staff and used to enhance the learning experience. Yasmina operates a secure and closed network and the full details of safe use can be found when agreeing to the terms and conditions as part of the MED BYOD Policy. All students from Year 1 to Year 13 will be trained at an age appropriate level how to integrate technology into their everyday learning.

It is essential to emphasise that your child's learning is the key focus around this initiative and there will still be a huge focus on active learning where possible as well as speaking, listening, writing and drawing and that devices will be used mainly as a tool to access resources and record learning. Students will continue to learn away from their device and our highly skilled teaching staff will plan lessons very carefully to allow for this.





Nutrition/ Catering

PRIMARY

Students must bring their own packed lunch and snacks to school daily, as well as their own water bottles. Water dispensers will be available should students need to re-fill.

SECONDARY

We have partnered with Food Nation to open a canteen for Secondary students.

Food Nation prides itself on its commitment to providing honest, healthy and tasty food to students, and works across a wide range of schools in the Emirate.

The following options will be on offer daily:

1. Grab and Go Range = AED 2.00 to AED 15.00
2. Meal of the day (Protein with starch and side) = AED 15.00
3. Meal of the day (Protein with starch, sides and dessert) = AED 18.00

Should you wish for your child to purchase food at school, please ensure that they bring in the correct amount of money each day.



Online Education Platforms

► Microsoft Teams





School Day

(Timings)

YEAR GROUP	DAYS	DROP OFF	START OF SCHOOL	PICK UP
Nursery	Monday-Thursday	7:15 am - 8:00 am	8:00 am	2:15 pm - 2:45 pm
	Friday	7:15 am - 8:00 am	8:00 am	11:15 am - 11:45 am
FS2	Monday-Thursday	7:15 am - 8:00 am	8:00 am	2:15 pm - 2:45 pm
	Friday	7:15 am - 8:00 am	8:00 am	11:15 am - 11:45 am

YEAR GROUP	DROP OFF	PICK UP MONDAY - THURSDAY	PICK UP FRIDAY
YEAR 1	7:15 am - 8:00 am	2:50 pm	11:50 am
YEAR 2	7:15 am - 8:00 am	2:50 pm	11:50 am
YEAR 3	7:15 am - 8:00 am	2:55 pm	11:55 am
YEAR 4	7:15 am - 8:00 am	2:55 pm	11:55 am
YEAR 5	7:15 am - 8:00 am	3:00 pm	12:00 pm
YEAR 6	7:15 am - 8:00 am	3:00 pm	12:00 pm

Timings, Entrance & Exit Procedures from Monday 9th May

	LOCATION	ENTRANCE TIMES ALL DAYS	EXIT TIMES MONDAY - THURSDAY	EXIT TIMES FRIDAY
7	Gate A	7:25 am - 7:40 am*	3:00 pm	11:50 am
8	Gate A	7:25 am - 7:40 am*	3:00 pm	11:50 am
9	Gate A	7:25 am - 7:40 am*	3:05 pm	11:55 am
10	Front Fire Doors	7:25 am - 7:40 am*	3:05 pm	11:55 am
11	Front Fire Doors	7:25 am - 7:40 am*	3:05 pm	11:55 am
12 and 13	Main Entrance	7:25 am - 7:40 am*	As per timetable	As per timetable

* Please note a student arriving after 7:40 am will be marked late, so please ensure that your child arrives in school before 7:40 am to receive a normal attendance mark.



Payment Information

All our academy fees are regulated by the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) and are only subject to review every two years.

To pay tuition fees, you can either pay via a bank transfer or cheque.

Please note that when you make a direct deposit to our bank account, we do not necessarily recognise your payment unless you provide us the bank deposit slip. Kindly send a copy of the bank deposit receipt to the following email finance@yasminabritishacademy.ae immediately, so we can allocate funds accordingly and send you a confirmation receipt.

For online transfer, please see the below bank details.

Bank Name: Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank
Bank Branch: Abu Dhabi Main Branch, P.O Box 2934 Abu Dhabi
Account Name: Aldar Academies -AL Yasmina SchI LLC
Account Number: 10482902020008
IBAN: AE880030010482902020008
Swift Code: ADCBAEAA

Please note you can check your outstanding balance or download invoices/receipts by logging in to the Parent's Portal, under "My Account".



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.

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

الدار للتعليم
ALDAR EDUCATION

Mobile Application

► Seesaw

ADEK Rating

Rated as “Outstanding” by the BSO & ADEK

In their 2018 report, the British School Overseas inspection deemed Yasmina British Academy to be “Outstanding”. The report highlighted the “Outstanding” provision from Early Years through to Sixth Form in quality of teaching, learning, and assessments, as well as leadership and management. In addition to academic success, they deemed the personal development, behaviour, and welfare for students to also be “Outstanding”.

We were also rated as ‘Outstanding’ by Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) in all six performance standards in 2019. The report commented that, ‘Leaders set an extremely clear strategic vision and direction for the school’, and that ‘The school’s outstanding curriculum means that students have clear and effective academic guidance and support at all stages in their education’.



Outstanding

Drop off - Pick up

School timings based on each year group can be found on page

You have the option to drop your child off at 7.15 am to support you with drop-offs at both campuses and to allow us to work around your schedule.

If you are dropping your child off between 7.15 am and 7.30 am, they are welcome to bring in their breakfast to eat at school.

We are a busy school, especially in the mornings and afternoons - parents must ensure that students understand that they can only cross the roads at the designated crossing points; the safety of students, parents and staff is a priority for us all.

Please drive safely and slowly within and around the school site and observe all requests from all members of the Al Yasmina staff, including our security and facilities teams during drop-off and collection.

Late Procedure – End of Day

Please ensure that you collect your children promptly at the end of the day to support them with routines. In the event of an unforeseen circumstance, please contact your child's Form Tutor in advance so they can speak with the child as the late collection may lead your child to feel anxious and worried. Persistent late collection may result in the involvement of our Senior Leadership Team.

Students Leaving Alone

Students Year 6 and above are permitted to walk home alone. You must speak to your child about the importance of walking home directly and not waiting around school. Children are not permitted to congregate inside or outside of the school grounds.

Post-16 Students

As part of our Post-16 provision, students may be able to leave the site before the 2.40 pm finishing time. Information on this will be sent by the Post-16 leadership team.

Key Contacts

Please make sure you are aware of the relevant people to communicate with in school and that you understand how to access the school Portal system as a parent. This information will be sent to all new parents and all existing parents already have been sent information on how this can be accessed.

General communication from the school will be uploaded onto the Parent Portal. If you are unsure of your log-in details, please contact ayaadmin@yasminabritishacademy.ae who will be able to assist you further.

Communication from primary class teachers will be sent via email and Seesaw. Within the secondary phase of Al Yasmina, our teachers will communicate with you via the Parent Portal or through email.

Contacting the School If you need to contact the school with a query, there are two ways to do so.

If your question is related to a specific lesson or subject, then the first port of call is the subject teacher, followed by the Head of Department.

If your question is relating to a welfare concern or your child is in primary, then the first port of call is your child's form tutor, followed by the Head of Year.

Should further clarification be required or it is not resolved, it will then become appropriate to escalate to the next level.

For all general enquiries, please contact our Parent Relation Executive at PRE@yasminabritishacademy.ae

Other Useful Emails:

reception@yasminabritishacademy.sch.ae

admission@yasminabritishacademy.sch.ae

finance@yasminabritishacademy.sch.ae



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