



YAS
AMERICAN ACADEMY

PARENT INFORMATION PACK

ACADEMIC YEAR
2026 - 2027



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GATE



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VISION

To holistically develop confident learners with the skills, knowledge, and passion to contribute to an inclusive and more sustainable global society.

MISSION

- To encourage and support outstanding academic and sporting performance, with all students maximizing their potential.
- To provide a high-quality, focused curriculum that embeds the skills and knowledge required for an ever -changing world.
- To foster a positive learning community founded on the values of respect, collaboration, innovation, determination, and integrity.

VALUES

Integrity

Respect

Determination

Collaboration

Innovation

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



For more than 30 years, I have dedicated my career to education, with a passion for helping students, educators, and school communities thrive. I believe that every child deserves an environment where they feel safe, valued, challenged, and inspired to achieve their full potential.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of leading schools in both the United States and the UAE, focusing on school improvement, academic excellence, and building positive, inclusive school cultures. Most recently, I served as Principal of Summit International Schools in Abu Dhabi, where I led the school's growth from a KG–8 campus to a full K–12 school while strengthening student outcomes and achieving a Very Good ADEK inspection rating.

In 2025, I was deeply honored to be recognized by the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) as Principal of the Year, an achievement that reflects the collective efforts of the dedicated educators, students, and families I have had the privilege to work alongside.

My leadership philosophy is rooted in relationships. I believe that when people feel seen, supported, respected, and empowered, they are inspired to do their very best. By fostering a culture of compassion, trust, accountability, and high expectations, we create learning communities where every student and every member of staff can flourish.

I hold a Bachelor's Degree in English, a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, and a Professional Teacher's License. I have also completed executive leadership programs at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, experiences that have strengthened my commitment to continuous learning and educational excellence. Beyond my role as a school leader, I enjoy mentoring aspiring leaders, speaking at educational conferences, and contributing to school improvement initiatives across the region.

As I begin this exciting journey at Yas American Academy, I look forward to working closely with our students, families, staff, and the wider community. Together, we will continue to build on the school's strong foundations, celebrate every learner's success, and create an environment where excellence, innovation, and wellbeing go hand in hand.

LEE W. DABAGIA JR
PRINCIPAL, YAS AMERICAN ACADEMY



MEET OUR SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



DALIA MOUAWAD
HEAD OF SECONDARY

I have lived in the UAE for 18 years. I am a mother to three children—one in the Early Years, one in secondary school, and the oldest in university. This means I personally cover every single stage of the education system, giving me a 360-degree perspective on navigating the complex worlds of students, parents, and the institutional system itself! However, from all perspectives, two decades of dedicated service have reaffirmed my core belief that education represents both a profound privilege in shaping human lives and a critical responsibility in preparing future citizens for a continuously evolving world.

My professional journey began in the classroom as a language teacher, holding two degrees: one in Pedagogy followed by a major in French Literature. This academic background reflects two deeply held values that inspire my work every day: the science of how we learn and the stories that shape who we are, reminding us of the critical role of culture and ethical narrative in building character.

This dual focus on academic rigor and pastoral attention was the catalyst for my progression into senior leadership roles—advancing from leading academic departments to heading Middle and High School. In these roles, the aim was not only to guarantee academic excellence but also to intentionally transcend it, equipping learners with the skills, values, and adaptability they need to thrive and lead with purpose and ethics.

Ultimately, my goal is to help cultivate an environment where every person feels seen, challenged, and inspired. To play a role in that legacy is what truly motivates me and drives my dedication to this profession.



MISAAL GILL
KG AND ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL,
VICE PRINCIPAL

I joined the Yas American Academy leadership team as Assistant Principal for KG and Elementary. After three years, I became Head of Elementary and Vice Principal.

I am from the United Kingdom where I have completed my studies, holding a BA in Human Rights with History, a Post Graduate Certificate in Education, and a master's degree in Educational Leadership.

I have worked in private schools in Abu Dhabi for over 12 years and I am invested in the development of education in the region. I bring with me extensive knowledge of curriculum, assessment, and understanding of the local culture.

I am a firm believer that parents are our partners in education and will ensure that I work towards building excellent relationships with them by building the capacity for parents and educators to connect.

I am passionate about ensuring all students reach their full potential and that we use their interests to drive our curriculum and learning experiences at school. I advocate for and implement ways that students can take more responsibility for their learning.



WELCOME FROM THE PARENTS COMMITTEE

PARENT TESTIMONIALS

I want to cheer the school administration for their tremendous hard work. As a parent, the school provides me and my son with pleasant and comfortable feelings due to the lovely environment. I can see its positive impact on my son every morning when we enter the school... In addition, he has improved academically. His personality changed positively. Furthermore, the focus on key subjects, particularly Arabic, Islamic Education, and National Identity, is essential giving a positive impression and fulfilling the parent's expectations. I have experienced courteous and helpful teachers. I got the response whenever I needed them. Above all, following an open-door policy by the principal enabled me to follow up on my son's behavior and educational development. **-Nawal Almansoori**

Our experience at Yas American Academy has been exceptional. The teachers are truly invested in my children's education and their growth as learners. Adjustments are made as needed to meet their needs. **-Ohoud Juma Aldhaferi**

Choosing a school in a new country is always tough. The admissions team at Yas American Academy were extremely helpful during the transition. Having spent a few months at YAA, it is clear that the leadership team are progressive in their planning of career choices for our children. Education is evolving and being ahead of the curve is imperative.

-Nisreen Abrahams

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Being Head Boy at Yas American Academy has been an immensely fulfilling journey of personal growth and community contribution. In this role, I organized events, advocated for student interests during weekly meetings, and proudly served as a school ambassador. Welcoming distinguished guests and communicating our vision further reinforced my commitment to leadership and service.

I am deeply grateful for the trust placed in me and will forever cherish the invaluable lessons and memories from this experience.

- Rashed Almemari, Head Boy

I have loved growing up at Yas American Academy. I have been here since Grade 4 and I am proud to represent Yas American Academy as Ruby House Captain. There are lots of great students and members of staff who help me and everyone in the school learn new things and enjoy our time at the Academy. I enjoy spending time and inspiring the students in the younger grades and helping them enjoy their time in our school. **-Fatima AlMenhali, Ruby House Captain**

Here at Yas American Academy, I love how the teachers are very welcoming and kind. They always help me when I have any trouble doing work and supporting me in every lesson. My favorite things about the Academy are my friends and making new friends and representing Yas American Academy in Math Competitions. **-Reema Alhashmi, Onyx House Captain**



CURRICULUM INFORMATION

At Yas American Academy, we deliver the Massachusetts State Curriculum, aligned with the US Common Core Standards, one of the most highly regarded education systems in the United States. The curriculum has a long-standing reputation for academic excellence and is closely associated with world-leading institutions such as Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Our curriculum places a strong emphasis on literacy, mathematics, science, technology, critical thinking, and inquiry-based learning. Students are encouraged to become confident learners, creative problem-solvers, and responsible global citizens through engaging, student-centred teaching and meaningful learning experiences.

Alongside our academic programme, we offer a rich range of co-curricular and extracurricular opportunities that support students' personal growth, leadership, wellbeing, and talents, ensuring they develop into well-rounded individuals.

KG AND ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM

Our KG and Elementary programme provides a strong foundation for lifelong learning through an engaging, inquiry-based approach that nurtures curiosity, creativity, and independence.

In Pre-KG, we follow The Creative Curriculum for Preschool, an internationally recognised early childhood programme that supports the holistic development of every child. The curriculum focuses on key areas including social-emotional development, language and literacy, mathematics, science and technology, physical development, the arts, and social studies, while encouraging strong partnerships between home and school.

From KG onwards, students follow the Massachusetts State Curriculum alongside the UAE Ministry of Education requirements. Learning is delivered through an inquiry-based approach that encourages students to explore ideas, ask questions, solve problems, and make meaningful connections across subjects including English, mathematics, science, social studies, Arabic, Islamic Studies, the arts, and physical education.

Students benefit from a broad and balanced curriculum supported by a wide range of co-curricular activities that promote collaboration, resilience, creativity, and a love of learning.

SECONDARY CURRICULUM

Our Secondary curriculum builds on the strong academic foundations established in the elementary years while preparing students for university and future careers.

Students continue to study the Massachusetts State Curriculum alongside UAE Ministry of Education subjects through an inquiry-based, student-centred approach that develops critical thinking, collaboration, research, and independent learning skills.

In High School, students have access to Advanced Placement (AP) courses, providing university-level academic challenge and opportunities to earn credit recognised by many universities worldwide. Students are also supported in preparing for university entrance examinations, including the SAT, EMSAT, IELTS, and TOEFL, where appropriate.

Beyond the core curriculum, students can explore specialist subjects such as engineering, robotics, coding, food technology, and performing arts, allowing them to discover and develop their individual interests and talents.

Our Secondary programme also promotes UAE values, culture, citizenship, and leadership while ensuring students are well prepared for Ministry of Education examinations in Arabic and Islamic Studies. Graduates leave Yas American Academy equipped with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to pursue higher education at leading universities in the UAE and around the world.



PASTORAL CARE

A Culture of Care, Community, and Character at Yas American Academy

At Yas American Academy, we believe that children learn best when they feel safe, supported, and valued. Our school fosters a warm, inclusive environment where students are encouraged to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Central to this is our strong pastoral care structure led by our dedicated Dean of Students, Heads of Grades and Homeroom teachers, who work together to provide daily, personalized support to every student.

From the moment students join Yas American Academy, they become part of a nurturing community that emphasizes positive relationships, mutual respect, and a strong sense of belonging. This culture of care enhances student well-being and drives progress both inside and outside the classroom.

Rooted in the values of Collaboration, Integrity, Respect, Innovation, and Determination, students are encouraged to live out the 'Yas American Way' every day. Positive behavior and contributions to school life are celebrated through our ePraise application rewards system, where students earn house points and can redeem them for exciting prizes such as Yas Mall vouchers, places on exclusive rewards trips, and even access to our state-of-the-art esports gaming room during lunchtime.

Yas American Academy is proud to be a School of Character, where values are embedded into every aspect of school life to nurture compassionate, responsible, and resilient students. This values-driven approach not only builds character and confidence but also ensures that every student feels seen, supported, and empowered to succeed.

Learn more about our community and policies here:
<https://www.yasamericanacademy.ae/school-policies/>

Thank you

PARENTS/GUARDIAN ID

Upon registering at Yas American Academy, each parent is required to fill out the "Adult Identification Form" which our team then processes in order to create the Adult ID card to allow you to safely access the school premises.

You can request it by emailing the reception team at **reception@yasamericanacademy.ae**

SCHOOL UNIFORM

You can purchase items in Magrudy's Store at Abu Dhabi Khalifa City, Al Forsan Mall [050 385 4799](tel:0503854799) or online [HERE](#).

It is our policy that all students must wear their Yas American Academy school uniform when attending school from the moment that they enter the premises. They must also wear full uniform when participating in an organized event outside of school, unless stated otherwise.

BUS INFORMATION

EMIRATES TRANSPORT

The buses we use have been inspected by the Department of Transportation (DoT) and have been given approval to operate. The transport team has received first-aid, child-protection, and safety training.

If you would like to make use of the bus transportation service for your child, please contact Emirates Transport at westyas@et.ae

The operator will then respond to collect information on your location and payment preferences. You can also contact the bus coordinator on 050-7919356 for any further inquiries.

Registration for new students can be done online through the below link or by using the below application which can be found in the App Store for iOS users and Play Store for Android users. Link: <http://one.et.ae/>

DARNA REWARDS

Darna Rewards Program is a free application available to parents and enables them to earn points upon payment of tuition or for experiences and purchases across Aldar and participating brands, which can be redeemed for future payments.

- Parents need to register through the Darna Rewards application by using the same e-mail provided to the school
- The points accrued will be added to the parent's account within 7 days.

SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS

PRE-KG	KG1- G12
Monday - Thursday : 7:45 AM - 1:50 PM	Monday - Thursday : 7:45 AM - 2:50 PM
Friday: 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Friday: 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Note : The school gates open at 7:15 am . All learners are expected to arrive before 7:45am for morning drop off.



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 high-quality ingredients and all products are made from scratch, ingredients are unprocessed and additive-free and use healthy fats over trans fats that are found in many processed foods.

Food Nation's '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 is served in our cafeterias, and menus are rotated every three weeks to ensure variety and a balanced, nutritious program. Payment can be made via payment cards or online.

The school actively promotes healthy food choices through:

- Educational programs on healthy eating and balanced diets.
- Encouraging consumption of fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.
- Limiting sugary drinks and processed foods.
- Celebrating cultural food diversity while highlighting healthy options.
- Unsafe food items such as those containing allergens (e.g. nuts) are prohibited for personal consumption or distribution on school premises.

Healthy Food Services

School meals and snacks offered on campus will adhere to the Abu Dhabi Guidelines for Food Canteens in Educational Institutions (ADFG-FC-EI) set by the Abu Dhabi Department of Food Safety (ADAFSA).

This ensures meals are:

- Nutritious and balanced, with a focus on fresh ingredients.
- Prepared with minimal added sugar, salt, and unhealthy fats.
- Clearly labelled for allergen content.
- Regular inspections will be conducted to ensure adherence to ADAFSA guidelines.

Nutrition Education

The school curriculum will integrate nutrition education across various subjects. This will include:

- Understanding the importance of a healthy and balanced diet for growth and development.
- Reading food labels to make informed choices about packaged foods.
- Learning about sustainable food practices, such as reducing food waste and supporting local agriculture.
- Interactive activities, workshops, and cooking demonstrations will be employed to make learning engaging.

Canteen Application (Spare)



**Download on
Google Play**



**Download on the
Apple Store**

PAYMENT INFORMATION

We accept through the integrated wallet using the ALDAR LIVE app, bank transfer, online payment, cheque, or credit card using the POS machine. Cash payments are not accepted under any circumstances.

Kindly send a copy of the bank deposit to the following email address

finance@westyasacademy.sch.ae immediately, so we can allocate funds accordingly and send you a confirmation receipt .

0% Payment Plans Available. To support our families, we offer flexible 0% installment plans through selected credit cards. In partnership with leading banks including FAB, ADIB, and ENBD, parents can conveniently spread the cost of school fees into manageable monthly installments.

For online transfer, please see the bank details below.

Bank Name: Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank

Bank Branch: Abu Dhabi Main Branch, P.O Box 2934, Abu Dhabi

Account Name: Aldar Academies- West Yas S.LLC-BR 6

Account Number: 10482902020007

IBAN: AE180030010482902020007

SWIFT Code: ADCBAEAA

<https://www.yasamericanacademy.ae/school-policies/>

Fee Structure

PRE-KG	57,090	22,836	17,127	17,127
KG1	57,090	22,836	17,127	17,127
KG2	57,090	22,836	17,127	17,127
G1	59,330	23,732	17,799	17,799
G2	59,330	23,732	17,799	17,799
G3	59,330	23,732	17,799	17,799
G4	59,330	23,732	17,799	17,799
G5	59,330	23,732	17,799	17,799
G6	63,820	25,528	19,146	19,146
G7	63,820	25,528	19,146	19,146
G8	63,820	25,528	19,146	19,146
G9	68,850	27,540	20,655	20,655
G10	68,850	27,540	20,655	20,655
G11	68,850	27,540	20,655	20,655
G12	68,850	27,540	20,655	20,655

* The above tuition fee for Academic Year 2026/2027 is based on the latest confirmation from ADEK

Key Due Dates

	Registration Fee	Re-Registration Fee	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Full Year Invoice
Payment Due Date	Within 7 days upon offer acceptance	1 st May 2026	1 st Aug 2026	1 st Dec 2026	1 st Mar 2027	1 st Aug 2026

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

The school has transitioned to Apple devices. Students in Grades 2–12 are permitted and encouraged to “bring their own device” as part of our BYOD strategy.

Alongside traditional teaching methods, students will utilize iPads as a learning tool. To ensure a secure learning environment, we have introduced the Aldar Education Digital Safety Package, available exclusively through the Aldar Education E-Store. This package includes essential learning applications and safety features to optimize student learning experiences both at school and at home. Please note that, as per Aldar policy, students are only permitted to use their iPads in school if they have the safety package installed.

Recommended iPad (currently available on the Aldar Education E-Store):

1. iPad (10th generation), 64GB or 256GB
2. Logitech Combo Touch Keyboard Case
3. Stylus

iPads purchased from the Aldar Education E-Store come with the safety package pre-installed and will be ready for use in school.

Minimum Requirements (if using a previously purchased device or purchased from another vendor):

1. iPad 8th Gen, iPad Air 3rd Gen, iPad Pro 12.9 4th Gen, or iPad Pro 11 2nd Gen
2. Keyboard Case
3. Stylus
4. Digital Safety Package (purchased from Aldar E-Store)



Digital Safety
Package Overview



AE E-store
Overview



Technical Device
Set-up

ONLINE EDUCATION PLATFORMS



KEY CONTACTS

Parent Relations Executive

pre@yasamericanacademy.ae

Reception

reception@yasamericanacademy.ae

02 885 7000

Admissions

admissions@yasamericanacademy.ae

Registrar

Registrar@westyasacademy.sch.ae

Finance

finance@westyasacademy.sch.ae



Your School App – Live Aldar

*With **Live Aldar**, you'll have everything you need at your fingertips! Be sure to install and register on the app before the school year begins.*



**DOWNLOAD
THE APP TODAY!**



SCHOOL ESSENTIALS

Order school uniforms, school devices and school meals directly in the app.



YOUR SCHOOL CALENDAR

A single calendar for all school events, class timetable and more.



FAMILY & STUDENT DASHBOARDS

View your family or individual student key information in one simple dashboard.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Real time visibility on your child's school attendance.



ACADEMIC UPDATES

View your child's subjects, teachers and keep track of your child's academic progress.



COMMUNICATION

Receive school communication in one convenient place, no more searching through emails. A single inbox with announcements, newsletters and more.



SERVICE REQUESTS

Raise a request for support or provide feedback seamlessly through your app.



SEAMLESS PAYMENTS

Pay school fees securely and track your transaction history and statement of accounts through the integrated wallet.



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