مدرسة جيمس فيرست بوينت

GEMS FirstPoint School

THE VILLA

The right choice for tomorrow's leaders.

GEMS EDUCATION

Our Vision

We know that happy children make the best learners. We have established a welcoming and friendly environment where learners are inquisitive, growing both socially and academically. Our School is family orientated and prides itself on the individualised journey we provide for our learners. We enable our family to excel in an ever-changing digital world.

Every moment with our School is an exciting voyage, bursting with exploration and discovery. Pupils, parents and teachers work together as a team to co-construct a bespoke pathway for each learner. We create exceptional learning opportunities for all members of our school family, developing innovative leaders who are globally aware. We provide a well-rounded education and are proud to be the GEMS Centre of Excellence for Digital Futures. Together we prepare learners for a future that reflects their highest aspirations.

Our Ethos

- ∇ Family first
- ∇ Happy, Engaged, Inquisitive Learners
- ∇ Cutting edge digital innovation
- ∇ Individualised Learning Journey for all
- ∇ Infinite Opportunities

Family First
We care about each other. Our family is made up of teachers, parents, pupils, friends and specialist industry partners. We provide our learners with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in an ever changing digital world. We ensure that the appropriate support and training is facilitated for our wider family members as we all adapt to the evolving demands of the 21st century and the 4th industrial revolution.

Happy, Engaged, Inquisitive **Learners**
We provide our learners with the courage and confidence to push and exceed traditional expectations. At GEMS FirstPoint School, we educate the whole child making sure they develop into well rounded individuals who will succeed in the future world of work. Our learners are inquisitive, innovative, creative, collaborative, critical thinkers and exceptional communicators.

Cutting edge **digital innovation**
Our learners will have direct access to some of the biggest corporations in the world through their close relationship with GEMS FirstPoint School. Learners will be immersed in the most innovative technology allowing them to enter employment as digital leaders from day one.

Individualised Learning Journey for all
All learners will be pushed and stretched through our mastery approach, while working at a pace that suits each individual. We listen and work collaboratively with all parties, including the learner. GEMS FirstPoint School blends traditional and industry standard qualifications in order to maximise learner outcomes making them the most attractive graduates when they reach the point of employment.

Infinite **Opportunities**
We ensure our learners have unique learning experiences, which allow them to flourish socially, emotionally and academically so every learner reaches new heights. The safety and wellbeing of our learners is paramount in every opportunity provided for our family.

INQUIRING

GEMS FirstPoint School

“Our children have been at GEMS First Point school since May 2017 and we are extremely happy with the school. Everyday we find the teachers, leaders and all other staff welcoming, caring, kind and professional. The support the children receive both individually and in a class group is first class and in our opinion always to a high standard. Our children really enjoy going to school and love sharing their school work with us. We are grateful that the school actively encourage parent involvement and we really appreciate all the extra curricular activities offered. We were really pleased with the seamless transition our eldest made going from Primary to Secondary. The school has definitely exceeded our expectations!”

Lesley and Richard Brooke
Parents of three children at FPS

CREATING

The Curriculum

Early Years Foundation Stage for children aged three to five.

Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables him or her to flourish. The Early Years Foundation Stage is designed precisely with that aim in mind and to ensure every child is “school ready” for Key Stage 1 and beyond.

Each child’s progress is closely monitored and assessed against appropriate age performance indicators. The key areas of learning and development covered at this stage are:

- Communication Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

The curriculum is designed for students to achieve their full potential. The focus for effective learning is by developing an enquiry approach, facilitated through play and this is supported by a positive and stimulating learning environment. At GEMS FirstPoint School, all children enjoy the opportunity to learn Arabic from FS2.

Early Years Foundation Stage continued

Children learn best when they actively participate in the learning process. Learning through structured play and a programme of educational visits form an integral part of the Foundation Stage curriculum.

Supported by a well-resourced library, our Desert School programme and computer facilities, students in the Foundation Stage are encouraged to explore and develop their natural abilities and talents.

By the end of the FS2, all students will have developed social skills and a love of learning, read, write and use simple Mathematics at a level appropriate for their age or beyond. They will have gained a significantly improved understanding of our world through knowledge of elementary History, Geography and Science.

The overall educational experience is enriched with a focus on Personal, Social and Emotional development. Students also enrich their creative talents in Art and Music alongside their physical development through Swimming, Dance, Games and Gymnastic activities.

LEADING

THINKING

Bringing Learning Alive

At Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (Year 1 to Year 6)

Students in this programme follow Key Stages 1 and 2 of the English National Curriculum, which continues to build on the strong skills that are established in Foundation Stage.

Ongoing review ensures that each student's progress and development are continuous and meet predetermined standards. We encourage students to think independently, use their initiative and to participate in a meaningful and active manner in the learning process.

As well as the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Arabic & Islamic, our curriculum also includes UAE Social Studies, Design Technology, Computing, Enterprise, Physical Education, Modern Foreign Language and Performing Arts. Arabic is taught to all students and caters for native and non-native speakers. In addition, the school offers an Islamic Education programme for Muslim students. The overall education experience is enhanced and supplemented with an enriched visual arts and performing arts programme that embraces both western and local culture as well as excellent school sports provision.

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (Year 1 to Year 6) continued

A wide selection of extracurricular activities broadens the opportunities to challenge themselves.

Extracurricular activities at GEMS FirstPoint School are offered in the following faculties:

- Information & Technology
- Creative Arts
- Humanities
- Sports
- Languages
- Science & Maths

Throughout the educational experience at School, students are involved in learning the practical use and application of traditional technologies (such as food & textiles) as well as the new technologies such as Computing & Robotics. Through its association with globally respected industry companies such as Microsoft, the school offers additional practical courses during these Key Stages.

Development of leadership qualities and skills are put into practical application in Key Stage 2, providing each student the opportunity to share class and school responsibilities that nurture organisational skills, co-operation, accountability and team work. Enterprise and Entrepreneurship are key features of our School.

By the end of Year 6, all students will have experienced a progressive and well-rounded education, developed a strong character, supported by our core values and be well-prepared for their secondary phase of education.

INQUIRING

GEMS FirstPoint School

EXPLORING

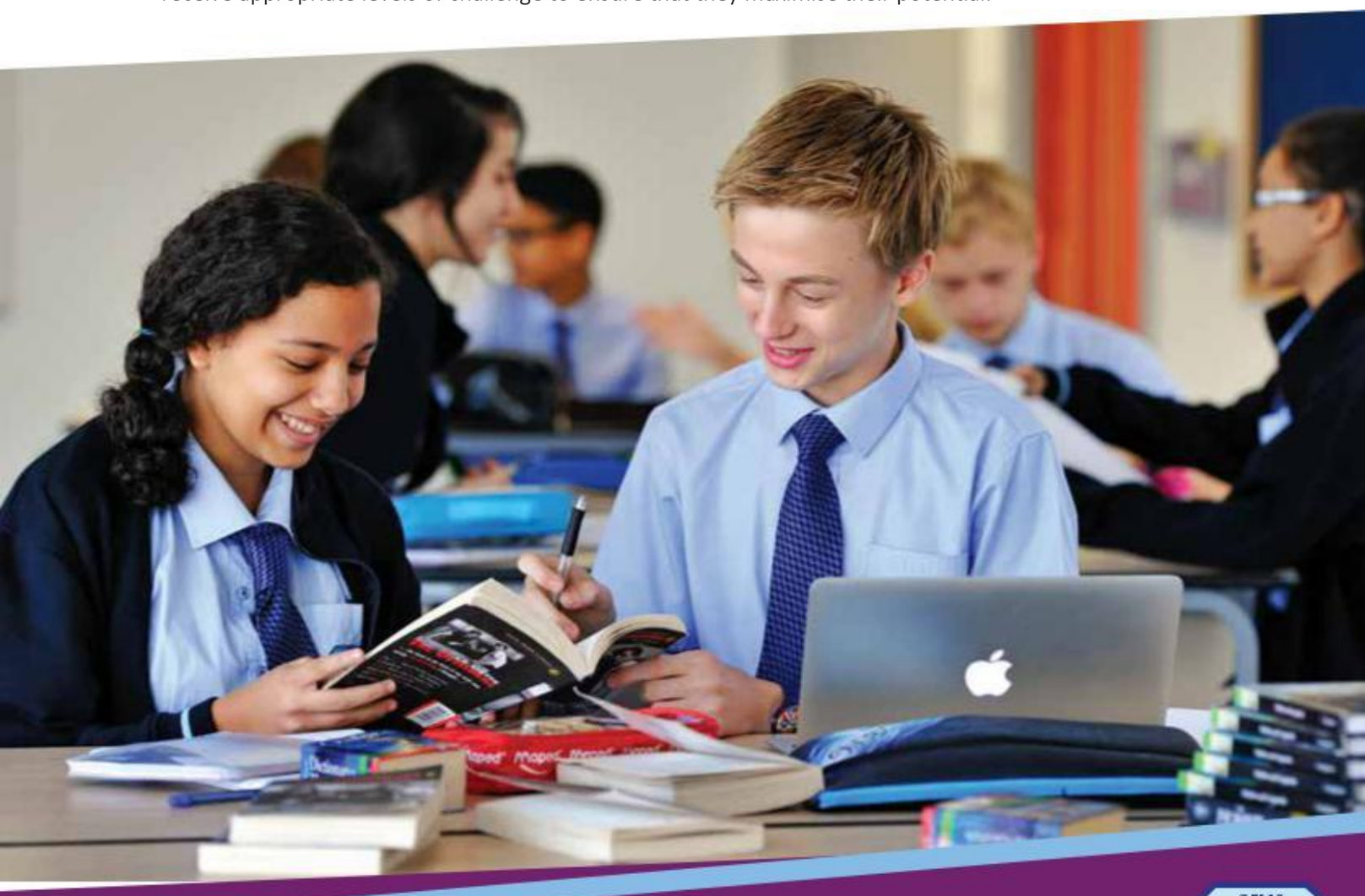
Bringing Learning Alive

At Key Stage 3

Years 7, 8 and 9 are traditionally known as Key Stage 3 and follow the English National Curriculum. This stage includes subjects such as: English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science, Arabic, Spanish, French, Art and Design, Technology, History, Geography and Physical Education. Islamic, Moral Education, Performing Arts, are also offered.

The transition between Year 6 and Year 7 is designed to be “seamless”. This is achieved through project based learning approaches and a dedication to tailoring the curriculum to the needs of the students. In particular this is supported by our Business Design and Enterprise curriculum.

Key Stage 3 provides a greater depth and breadth of knowledge across the full range of subjects. Students receive appropriate levels of challenge to ensure that they maximise their potential.



Bringing Learning Alive

At Key Stage 4

We provide students with highest quality education that raises aspirations and inspires confidence.

This means:

- ∇ Offering a full, broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 4
- ∇ Offering a range of specialised courses that cater to the needs of every student
- ∇ Participating in deep learning days, educational visits, work placements and university and industry seminar workshops

These initiatives help bring learning alive.

In Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11), the IGCSE, GCSE and BTEC Level 3 curriculum is introduced.

The full range of subjects, provides families the opportunity to select the curriculum that best meets the aspirations of every child. These will include the compulsory core subjects of English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, as well as elective GCSE pathways. PE, Arabic A and Islamic Education (for Muslims) are also compulsory.

A wide range of option subjects to stimulate student's interests and talents includes:
• French • Spanish • History • Geography • Economics • Business • Psychology • Music • Dance
• Drama • Art & Design

And a whole range of technology subjects are also be available:
Resistant Materials • Food Technology • Graphic Design • Electronics • Textiles

CREATING

GEMS FirstPoint School

INNOVATING

Bringing Learning Alive

In Sixth Form

GEMS FirstPoint School offers an exceptional Sixth Form for Dubai's young adults. The Sixth Form promotes excellence for all, providing options for students that will stretch and challenge at all levels. The dedicated Sixth Form team provide the support that prepares all students for their next step in education or employment.

Learning will be brought alive through:

- ∇ Regular lectures and events with celebrated and notable leaders of academia, the Arts, Industry and Education
- ∇ Teaching by subject specialists who will encourage students to think, question and argue in a way that genuinely stretches their mind
- ∇ A curriculum examined by gold standard international A levels, BTECs and Cambridge qualifications that prepare students for entry to the best university courses worldwide
- ∇ Subject master classes with small group tutorials, industry specific qualifications will also be available for students

Subjects students will choose from include:

• Arabic • Art • Biology • Chemistry • Drama • Economics • English • French • Geography
• History • Technology • Mathematics • Physics • Spanish
As well as a range of Level 3 Applied Learning courses (please refer to the Post 16 options course guide for full details).

Students will be exposed to an array of international cultural influences which will help to challenge their attitudes and develop their behaviour which is just as important as their academic qualifications in preparation for employment in the 21st century.

Overall, our aim is that our young men and women of tomorrow have the reference points, social skills, resilience and competences necessary for happy lives and fulfilling futures.

Enterprising

Beyond the classroom

This state-of-the-art school, a community learning resource, continues to offer a rich selection of extracurricular activities designed to enhance students' all-round development. The school continues to develop its excellent national and international reputation for its inter-school sports activities and tournaments.

Regular sports activities will include Swimming, Cricket, Football, Netball and much, much more.

Photography, Chess, Drama, Arts, Environmental Club and Debating Club are regular features of the after-school programme. Support classes in a variety of subject areas are also a key feature of after school activities to ensure that any student who requires additional guidance or opportunities beyond the curriculum content will be able to obtain it.

A full range of other accredited skills-based courses designed to develop Enterprise and Entrepreneurship are available including: Microsoft, Sports Leadership, Child Care, CISCO (IT), ACCA (Accountancy & Finance).

Applying learning and developing professional skills remain a priority for young people's successful futures.

LEADING

GEMS FirstPoint School

CARING

Partnerships with Parents

Through regular communication - written and data reports, SMS, email, weekly newsletters and a programme of consultation evenings - parents are regularly updated on the progress of their children and on activities in the School. Parents are welcome to discuss their children's individual progress with the concerned teacher or school Principal or any member of the Senior Leadership Team at a mutually convenient time.

Parent Voice including a monthly forum with the Principal are conducted on a regular basis. These meetings provide an opportunity to all our parents to voice any concerns, suggestions or ideas they may have. Any more pressing matters will be dealt with immediately by the school.

Education Professionals

Our highly qualified and motivated teachers have been carefully selected for their teaching excellence and ability to inspire students to exceed traditional expectations. We implement an ongoing programme of workshops and professional development sessions, often conducted by noted educationalists from across the world, to ensure that our teachers are up to date with the latest developments in educational techniques and methods.

The Senior Leadership Team and a team of Subject Leaders from the United Kingdom are complemented by professional teachers from other parts of the world to meet the needs of our international student population.

Facilities at FirstPoint School

- Science Laboratories – Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Electronics and Robotics Laboratory
- ICT Discovery Spaces
- Full Primary and Secondary Libraries
- Art & Design Studios
- Food Technology Catering Suite
- Electronics Workshop
- Resistant Materials Workshop
- Graphics Studio
- Textiles Studio
- 500 Seater Auditorium
- 25m Swimming Pool
- Learners Pool
- Six Court Sports Halls
- Specialist Drama Space & Black Box Theatre Space
- Music Technology Suite
- Ensemble Room
- Recording Studio
- Dance Studio

“ I witnessed the energy and passion that the teachers had for their subjects when I first visited the school with my children. The reception staff and parent liaison representative were ever so warm, friendly, enthusiastic and efficient. From there onwards, my children and I knew that we wanted to secure a place at GEMS FirstPoint School.

Both my children absolutely love the school and look forward to going each day despite a daily travel of 40 minutes each way. My daughter talks with real enthusiasm of her teachers who bring the classes alive through practical examples making subjects thoroughly enjoyable. Our children are flourishing - going from confidence to confidence. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend GEMS FirstPoint School to other parents. ”

Samina Mushtaq
Mother of two chidren in Year 6 and Year 8

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GEMS EDUCATION

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