

Al Sadiq Islamic English School

Arabic Language Policy

Policy Name	Arabic Language Policy 2025-26
Stakeholder	All staff, students, and parents
Policy Directory Reference	Al Sadiq Islamic English School
Policy Lead	Vice Principal - Ms.Aisha Thasneem, Ms.Georgina Drake
Reviewed by	Mr. Julian Williams
Approved by	Ms. Sadia Wajid – Principal
Approved Date	September 2025
Monitoring Cycle	Annually

Purpose

At Al Sadiq Islamic English School, we recognise Arabic as the official language of the United Arab Emirates and an essential part of students' cultural and national identity. Our Arabic programme ensures compliance with the UAE Ministry of Education (MOE) and Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) requirements while providing high-quality learning opportunities for both native and non-native speakers.

Compliance

Year Group	Teaching
FS2 & Year 1	One-third of curriculum time will include Arabic language enrichment opportunities inclusive of 200–300 minutes per week of direct Arabic instruction.
Year 2 – Year 6	Minimum 240 minutes per week of direct Arabic instruction.
Year 7	Minimum 200 minutes per week of direct Arabic instruction.
Year 8 – Year 10	Minimum 160 minutes per week of direct Arabic instruction.
Year 11	Minimum 160 minutes per week of direct Arabic instruction (Arabic A students only).

Arabic Pathways

Arabic A (Arabs - Native Speakers - Arabic as a First Language)

- Mandatory for students registered under an Arab national passport, who are considered native Arabic speakers.
- No levels exist within Arabic A.
- Arabic B students may apply to transfer to Arabic A but must successfully pass a suitability test.
- Arabic A students cannot study Arabic B under any circumstance.

Arabic B (Non Arabs - Non-Native Speakers – Arabic as a Second Language)

- Mandatory for all students holding passports from non-Arabic speaking countries.
- Placement levels:
 - Beginner Programme (maximum of 1 year) – for students with no prior Arabic study. (Grades for beginner level is capped at Grade C).
 - Level 1 – for students with 1–3 years of prior study.
 - Level 2 – for students with more than 4 years of prior study.
- Students may progress levels based on ability and progress.

Arabic Exemption

Exemption from Arabic are very rare and only possible under strict conditions set by the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA).

- KHDA Approval
 - An exemption from Arabic lessons cannot be decided by the school.
 - It can only be granted once KHDA reviews the case and issues formal approval.
- Documentation Required
 - Parents must provide all supporting documents (e.g. nationality, passport, Emirates ID, proof of late entry into UAE, previous school reports).
 - The school is responsible for collecting these documents and submitting them to KHDA.
- Decision Making
 - KHDA carefully reviews each application and will only approve an exemption in exceptional circumstances.
 - Parents will be notified once the decision is made.

Until approval is officially granted, all students are expected to continue attending Arabic lessons.

Teaching and Learning Approach

Arabic teaching at Al Sadiq Islamic English School follows a student-centred, interactive approach aligned with MOE standards. Lessons focus on the four key skills — speaking, listening, reading, and writing — delivered through engaging activities such as role-play, storytelling, debates, and real-life scenarios. Skills are taught in interconnected ways.

Speaking

- Develop confident and accurate oral communication skills.
- From simple greetings and phrases (FS/KS1) → discussions, presentations, and debates (KS3–KS4).

Listening

- Build comprehension across registers and contexts.
- From following instructions and stories (FS/KS1) → analysing news, speeches, and media (KS4).

Reading

- Strengthen literacy and cultural appreciation.
- From letter/word recognition (FS/KS1) → independent reading and critical analysis of literature and media (KS4).

Writing

- Develop accuracy, creativity, and practical written skills.

- From emergent writing (FS/KS1) → extended essays, reports, and creative writing (KS4).

Assessments

Assessment in Arabic is designed to monitor progress, identify learning needs, and ensure that students achieve the required standards as set by the UAE Ministry of Education and KHDA. A range of assessment methods are used to provide a balanced and accurate picture of each student's attainment and progress.

Arabic ABT (Assessment Benchmark Test)

- All students sit the Arabic ABT baseline assessment at the beginning of the academic year.
- This provides a starting point for tracking student progress.
- The end-of-year ABT is conducted to measure overall progress and attainment.

Summative Assessments

- Conducted at the end of every term (three times a year).
- Assess students' knowledge, skills, and understanding of the term's taught content.
- Results contribute to the overall grade and are reported to parents.

Continuous Assessments (Formative)

- Ongoing, teacher-led assessments take place throughout the year.
- Include classwork, homework, quizzes, oral presentations, reading comprehension, and writing tasks.
- Provide immediate feedback to support learning and inform future planning.

End of Year Assessment

- In addition to the end-of-term assessments, students sit a comprehensive end-of-year exam covering the full year's content.
- This ensures readiness for the next academic stage.

KHDA Pass Mark and Promotion

- As per KHDA requirements, the minimum pass mark is 50% (Year 1 – Year 9) and 60% (Year 10 and Year 11) in Arabic.
- Students scoring below 50% will be identified for additional support and targeted interventions during the year.
- At the end of the academic year, any student achieving below 50% in Arabic cannot be promoted to the next academic year, as Arabic is a compulsory subject mandated by KHDA.

Curriculum Progression (FS – KS4)

FS1 – FS2 (Early Years)

- Early exposure through rhymes, stories, and oral practice.
- Recognition of letters, basic vocabulary, and name writing.

KS1 (Years 1 – 2)

- Development of short reading and writing skills.
- Expressing needs, likes/dislikes, and simple opinions.
- Introduction to Emirati culture and Islamic values.

KS2 (Years 3 – 6)

- Vocabulary expansion, grammar structures, and comprehension of short texts.
- Writing simple sentences with tenses and adjectives.
- Cultural learning through poetry, heritage texts, and role-play.

KS3 (Years 7 – 9)

- Structured writing with grammar accuracy.
- Extended reading of descriptive and informational texts.
- Oral fluency through debates, speeches, and discussions.
- Introduction to translation skills.

KS4 (Years 10 – 11)

- Critical study of Arabic literature and poetry.
- Extended essay writing and structured argumentation.
- Advanced oral communication in formal and cultural contexts.

Approval

- **Approved by:** Principal
- **Date:** August 2025
- **Review:** August 2026