

STAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MIRDIF



FOUNDATION | PRIMARY | SECONDARY

*STAR INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL, MIRDIF*

2021-2022

Prospectus Flow

Welcome to Star Mirdif! We are very excited to show you our wonderful community. We are a passionate school that prides itself on its research-driven education and family-oriented lifestyle. Take a look below for some more information.



WELCOME	Page 2
WHERE TO FIND US	Page 4
OUR VISION	Page 5
EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE	Page 6
PRIMARY CURRICULUM	Page 7
SECONDARY CURRICULUM	Page 10
KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM	Page 11
STAR'S HOUSES	Page 12
FACILITIES & EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	Page 13
CLASSROOMS	Page 14
STEPS TO ADMISSIONS	Page 15

Welcome to Star International School, Mirdif

A message from the Principal, Mr Neal Oates

"Star Mirdif's unique quality is that we are a family and our hearts are open to everybody who comes through our front door. We pride ourselves in creating an atmosphere for our children whereby they are encouraged to explore their limits within a nurturing and supportive environment. Our staff are a dedicated team of people who strive for excellence and work collaboratively in support of each other, the children and our wider community of parents and vendors.

Over the next 3 years we intend to build on our past successes to further develop our educational philosophy into a world-class school. Our curriculum has been redesigned around the concept of Awe and Wonder and will reach beyond the British national curriculum. We have added a STEAM+ curriculum across the school and we are investing in our facilities and technological infrastructure to support the ever increasing demands which new technology places upon our school. This being said, we will always balance technology in the classroom with traditional teaching methods. Technology is used when it adds value to learning and not for the sake of gimmicks and surface level engagement. Research informed practice is a passion of mine and we are placing this, along with a drive for excellence and wellbeing, at the heart of everything that we do.

We are uncompromising in our aspirations for both pupils and educators with a culture of high expectations for all. An ethos of distributed leadership and trust will empower our staff to be the very best that they can be in order to inspire our students.

It is an exciting time to be at Star Mirdif, and we are going to be taking ourselves to even greater heights in the coming years building a school that everyone wants to be a part of, and within all succeed.





About Star Mirdif

Star International School Mirdif is a BSME accredited, co-educational British Curriculum Through-School in the heart of the Mirdif community. Currently, the school is open to year groups EYFS 1 through to Year 10, with plans to subsequently expand into Year 11 in September 2022. This expansion has the aim of obtaining the school's first set of GCSE results in July 2023. The school is a research-driven, family-oriented school, guiding the children through learning with the school's Pillars for Learning; Learning for Self, Learning for Change, Learning for All. Star International prides itself on offering affordable education from British trained and qualified teachers.

Star's Early Years Foundation School (EYFS) offers an exclusive learning environment situated away from the Primary and Secondary school, which allows for plenty of space for inquisitive and energetic learners. EYFS offers an abundance of outdoor space for lessons and breaks, as well as a beautiful auditorium for assemblies, collaborative events such as house music performances and hot weather playtime. In addition to this, the school has a purpose-built splash pool to offer a safe introduction to swimming lessons in the younger year groups.

Over recent years, Star Mirdif Primary school has grown and developed from strength to strength. Our school community has expanded by 50%, with a thriving cohort of wonderful students who are excited about learning. Star has introduced a wider choice of Extra-Curricular Activities (ECA'S) covering areas from Newspaper Club to Badminton, Art and Drama. Throughout school, children are encouraged to be proud of their work and are offered plenty of opportunities to compete across all subjects, from Islamic, Sports, Science, Entrepreneurship and more.

Currently, Star Mirdif Secondary school offers education from Years 7 - 10 and will continue to grow organically into offering AS-Levels by the academic year 2023/24. We have begun to launch an exciting start to our GCSE offering, with children opting in for a wide range of qualifications to suit all interests and capabilities including GCSEs, iGCSEs and BTEC's, with subjects such as Physical Education, Art, History, Geography, Business Studies, Sociology and more. With the launch of our GCSE's, we have introduced state of the art Science Labs, STEAM+ Lab and Art Studio to further elevate our education.

The school is led by Mr Neal Oates as Principal, alongside Ms Jabeen as Head of EYFS and Primary and Ms Amanda as Head of Secondary; the team are passionate about investing and improving the quality of education provided at school consistently. With their direction, the school continues to reach goals of excellence by offering new facilities, educational equipment and learning experiences to the children.

Where to find us



Find Us On:

We have such a busy school at Star Mirdif, with lots of activities throughout the year. You can catch all of these on our social media pages and find out more information about our school via our website. Please see the below link titles to see what we're about:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/starschoolmirdif/

Instagram: www.instagram.com/starinternationalschoolmirdif/

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/starmirdifsch>

Website: www.starmirdifschool.com/

Star Mirdif Address

Star International School Mirdif
24B Street
Mirdif
Dubai
UAE
PO Box 90848
Telephone: 050 277 8083 or 04 288 4644

Who to contact?

Ms Shella - Head of Admissions - registrar@starmirdif.com

Ms Janine - Whole School Reception - reception@starmirdif.com

Find our most recent DSIB Inspection

If you would like to review our most recent DSIB inspection, [please click here](#)

Fee Policy and Registration Form

Please find our fee policy and registration form inserted at the back of this prospectus, along with any additional information.



Our Vision

“They say the sky is the limit for ambition. We say the sky is only the beginning.”

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

At Star International School Mirdif, we nurture creative, curious life-long learners who are equipped with the tools, knowledge and skills to make a positive impact on themselves and their environment in a local, national and global context.

Learning For Self

Learning For Change

Learning For All

LEARNING FOR SELF At Star, children are taught how the growth mindset can open doors, to enable them to be independently responsible for their learning. Through exposure to this mindset, they will be empowered to work independently, investigate, question, debate, trial new things, make mistakes and learn from them. Through the avenue of data analysis of CAT4 and GL tests, children will understand their strengths and areas for development. They will understand effective strategies that they can use to effectively improve their learning, giving them a holistic skill platform to make that impact in the local, national and global contexts.

LEARNING FOR CHANGE Our world is rapidly changing! We have enhanced the quality of our lives through technology, transport and medical discoveries, but we also need to reflect upon our behaviours and change them in order to protect and preserve our planet. Climate change, sustainability and the use of non-recyclable/renewable materials are all challenges which future generations in the C21st will have to find solutions to.

The introduction of 'The 5C's' will enable children to have the opportunity to take responsibility and ownership of these C21st challenges.

- Communicate
- Collaborate
- Think Critically
- Be Creative
- "I CAN" Attitude

By using the 5C's Star International Mirdif will support a child in acquiring the necessary C21st skills to function in our ever-changing world,

LEARNING FOR ALL Each child is unique. Star International Mirdif recognises that all children learn in many different ways and at different rates. Star promotes an inclusive attitude from everyone, which enables all children to have access to the curriculum in order to support, challenge and ensure ALL children reach their full potential. Star International Mirdif also recognises the need for staff to reach their learning potential. Star fully supports and empowers adults, within the context of school, to move their learning forward in order to achieve their own aspirations and goals.

Early Years Foundation Stage



At Star Mirdif, the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is based upon four principles:

- A unique child: developing resilient, capable, confident and self-assured individuals.
- Positive relationships: supporting the children in becoming independent learners.
- Enabling environments: where opportunities and experiences respond to the individual needs of the child by developing a strong partnership between practitioners, parents/carers and the child.
- Learning and developing: an acknowledgement that children learn in different ways and at different rates.

Children's attitudes and dispositions to learning are influenced by feedback from others. In order to encourage children to develop a positive attitude to learning, we use praise and encouragement through celebrations, sharing assemblies and positive behaviour management.

At Star International School, Mirdif, we meet the needs of all our children through:

- Providing a wide range of opportunities that build upon and extend children's knowledge, experience and interests in order to develop their self-esteem and confidence level. This will in turn help motivate and support children to learn effectively.
- Using a wide range of teaching strategies based on children's learning needs.
- Providing a safe and supportive learning environment in which the contribution of all children is valued.
- Using resources that reflect diversity and are free from discrimination and stereotyping.
- Planning challenging play activities for children whose ability and understanding are in advance of their language and communication skills.
- Monitoring children's progress and taking action to provide support as necessary.
- Developing strong partnerships with parents and the wider community.

Primary Curriculum



The Primary school at Star includes children in Year 1 - Year 6. The Primary is separated into two phases:

Key Stage 1 – Year 1 & Year 2

Key Stage 2 – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

Our school follows the new National Curriculum for England.

Whilst the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Computing skills are taught separately, the other subjects are taught through a themed approach. The themed planning supports the yearly statutory skills and objectives which must be covered. The planning is completed by all staff and is very innovative in its approach. The theme approach provides a meaningful context for learning which helps to engage the children and make learning interesting and fun.

Teachers are also using The National Agenda requirements of critical thinking, independent learning, enquiry based learning, deep thinking, research and enterprise. As such, the children at Star acquire a very balanced curriculum that will empower them to become highly functioning individuals in an ever-changing world where innovation, change and adaptability are the norm.





Primary Specialist Classes

Arabic Language

The Arabic language classes at Star International School Mirdif, are divided into two sections: Arabic for native Arab speakers (Arabic A) and Arabic for non-native speakers (Arabic B). The curriculum for Arabic A follows the UAE Ministry of Education syllabus and is enhanced by a range of resources and activities that promote active and purposeful learning. Children are also encouraged to borrow Arabic books from the school library to ensure that they extend their appreciation of Arabic literature. The Arabic B classes are divided into differentiated levels within each year group to help ensure that appropriate support is provided for each student.

Islamic Education

Islamic Education is a subject taught for Muslim students. It is taught in Arabic for Native Arabic speakers and in English for those students who do not speak Arabic as their first language. The Islamic Department follows the Ministry of Education curriculum. Learning Islamic concepts are combined with practical learning at Star International School and related to real-life examples where possible. Our enthusiastic and dedicated teachers explain prescribed Islamic topics that include Hadiths, Aqidah (Faith), and Akhlaq (Manners), Islamic History, Islamic Social Studies together with the appropriate Surahs from the Noble Qur'an.

UAE Social Studies

Our Social Studies lessons provide children with in-depth knowledge, skills and understanding of the culture, heritage and traditions of the UAE. Social Studies lessons are taught from Year 2 to Year 9, following the Ministry of Education UAE Social Studies curriculum. As well as this, awareness of the UAE history, geography and traditions is embedded in our Theme lessons and assemblies.



Primary Specialist Classes

Music

The music department at Star international School inspires every child to develop a love for music. All children follow the British National Curriculum at Star, covering 4 important strands of music:

- Performing (instrumental and vocal)
- Improvising
- Composing
- Listening and appraising

From Foundation Stage children explore how music is created, communicated and expressed through singing and playing percussion instruments. At Key Stage 1, children progress to build a solid foundation in music and discover the key musical elements of pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations. From Year 4, all children learn how to play a selected instrument and in Year 6 children specialise in the keyboard.

Computing

The programme of study for Computing focuses on three main aspects: Digital Literacy, E-Safety and Computer Science. At Star, we aim to integrate Computing into the main curriculum, developing children's practical computing skills.

All pupils have a timetabled lesson in the Computing room each week. We have a BYODD system where students in Year 3 upwards have a Chromebook which gives additional opportunities for the integration of technology into the curriculum. EYFS-Y2 have iPad trolleys shared across classrooms to support research development and providing cross-curricular learning opportunities.

French

Our aim is to make French learning a pleasant and successful experience, within the framework of the National Curriculum. We teach French to all pupils from Year 3 onwards, which provides a sound basis for foreign language learning when children progress into Key Stage 3. Pupils are taught in mixed ability classes and receive weekly lessons.

Physical Education

Students at STAR are allocated 2 lessons per week in the PE department, one lesson for PE and one for swimming. We tailor PE lessons to ensure all students are challenged but also feel comfortable and confident. We plan engaging, stimulating lessons with the core aim of embedding a love for PE & sport. At STAR we believe providing a varied curriculum with exposure to new sports is vital in promoting lifelong participation in sport. We run a "Wake up shake up" programme, encouraged by the 30x30 initiative. We involve our whole community with physical activity to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

We have close links with private sports company "ACE" who are based at our school. We provide links to ACE for students that want to take part in clubs and activities outside of the school day. We also take students on PE trips and Sports Competitions to inspire students to be the best they can be, for example, to watch elite level athletes at events such as the Dubai Duty-Free Tennis.

STEAM

The academic year 2021/22 will be an exciting year for us at Star Mirdif, as we launch our exciting STEAM curriculum! Students will now be introduced to computer science and robotics at an early age and explore building and designing with technology at its focus. This will include the building of a state of the art Makerspace in the school ready for September 2021

Secondary Curriculum

The Secondary school at Star currently has students in Years 7 to 10. We are growing year on year, adding curriculum years as we need them. The Key Stages within the British Curriculum are:

- Key Stage 3 - Year 7, 8 and 9
- Key Stage 4 - Year 10 and 11
- Key Stage 5 - Year 12 and 13

Children at Star follow the National Curriculum for England with a clear focus upon preparing them for higher study and their GCSE / IGCSE / BTEC personal pathway.

Students at Key Stage 3 experience a broad and balanced curriculum consisting of:

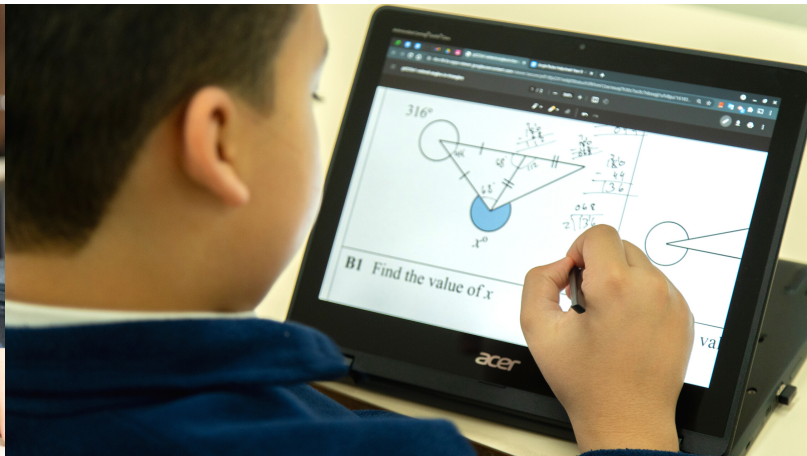
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Arabic
- Islamic - for Muslim students
- Social Studies
- Moral Education
- French
- Art
- Drama
- Humanities (Geography / History)
- IT
- Music
- Physical Education (including swimming)
- STEAM-based project work

Teachers in the Secondary phase are British trained and qualified to teach their subjects to IGCSE / GCSE / BTEC standard and beyond.

At the end of Key Stage 3, students will be encouraged to choose their personal learning pathway designed to prepare them for their future life. This is an opportunity for students to focus their studies upon their strengths, interests and future career aspirations.



Key Stage 4 Curriculum



Personal Learning Pathway

During Year 9, students are given the opportunity to shape their curriculum and timetable for Years 10 and 11 (Key Stage 4). In addition to the necessary subjects for the English National Curriculum and also the UAE Ministry of Education:

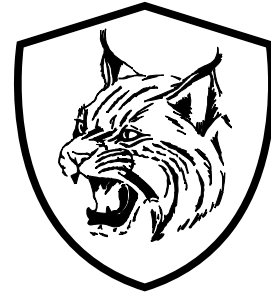
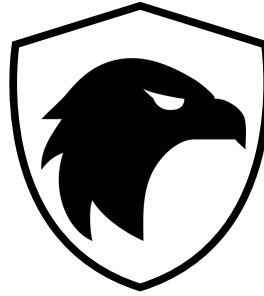
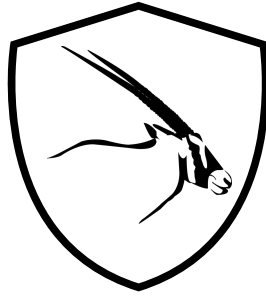
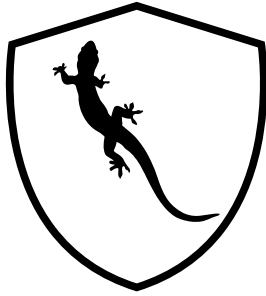
English Language *	Islamic (for Muslim students)
English Literature *	Social Studies
Mathematics *	Moral Education
Science *	Physical Education (including swimming)
Arabic*	

Each of the subjects indicated (*) will lead to a world-recognised qualification (iGCSE / GCSE / BTEC).

Students must choose four additional subjects, from an extensive range of GCSEs, iGCSEs and BTECs, for further information, please reach out to our registrar and the secondary team.

At Star, we are unashamedly academic in our approach to teaching and learning. We believe that a firm foundation in education will allow students to pursue their dreams; live happy and fulfilling lives and positively contribute to the world around them. We also understand that this can only be achieved when we develop the whole child. To facilitate this we have a supportive and nurturing pastoral system in place. Each child is allocated to a form group with a Form Tutor. This Form Tutor meets with the students every morning and is the first point of contact for any concerns or issues arising in the school day. The Form Tutors are part of the larger Pastoral Team responsible for the wellbeing and monitoring of all of our students throughout their time in school. This ensures that your child is safe, happy and making good progress every day.

Star's Houses



The lifeblood of the whole school is our House System. On admission, the children are allocated to a particular house, these being: Wildcat, Oryx, Gecko or Falcon; all native animals of the UAE. The children work in a vertical capacity when in houses, with the older children taking a nurturing role and supporting the younger children in the many different activities which are evident.

The house system allows the older children to take responsibility and ownership of a certain area in school. They are allowed to put their skills as leaders, innovators, scientists and mathematicians into practice by suggesting and organising events. House competitions take place throughout the course of the year. These may be art and craft or sports, but ultimately, our house competitions stem from our pupil's voices; taking on board what the children wish to pursue.

Our house system seeks to embody and elevate our Star Values, which are held dear to us all at Star Mirdif. These are the behaviours that we believe all of our children should strive to embody throughout their academic careers, that will set them up to succeed in all walks of life after school. Our Star Values are:

Self Belief

Teamwork

Adventure

Respect



ECA's & Facilities



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ECAs)

ECA's are an important feature of our school, we are very proud of the wide range of activities we offer. ECAs can build children's self-confidence and self-esteem and open up a whole new world of interests and hobbies. We aim to offer a balance between our activities, which are provided by our staff, and those that are externally sourced to enhance our provision. ECAs vary from term to term in order to offer a wide range of clubs throughout the course of the year.

Examples of clubs and activities include:

Yoga	Basketball
Swimming	Music
Netball	Arts and Crafts
Rugby	Football
French	Arabic/Islamic

Accompanying ECAs, Star also has sports squads. The squads meet after school, either for training or for fixtures. Children have fixtures with many international schools in Dubai. They also take part in the sporting fixtures which arise.

SPORTS

We are very fortunate to have outstanding sporting academic facilities. Our sports facilities include a large outdoor (temperature controlled) swimming pool. This is used during school time by Star pupils and after school by outside providers.

We have a multipurpose sports hall, which facilitates a 5-a-side football area, plus tennis, badminton, basketball, netball and volleyball courts. The sports hall is well equipped with gymnastic equipment and a trampoline.

Outside is a large astroturf area, usually used for football. All areas are used to capacity, with outside providers using the areas in the evenings.

Throughout the year, children use these facilities for lessons, competitions and for acquiring more specific skills and qualifications.

Classrooms

FOUNDATION

Our Foundation Stage Unit is equally well provided. Foundation Stage children have the use of three splash pools, where PE staff arrive to give children specialist introductory swimming lessons.

Each Foundation classroom is open to the outside play area. Children, therefore, have the ability to learn in the class environment or in the outside classroom. The Foundation Stage has a large outdoor area for all children. Due to the hot weather, the Foundation Stage children are also equipped with indoor areas.

PRIMARY

Star is a large school and boasts many specialist classrooms. All children at Star have their Science lessons in a full-sized science lab, or they may complete work in the specialist outdoor classroom; this is a grassy, shaded area outside which supports the teaching of Science and other outdoor activities.

Within the primary area, children also have the use of:

A fully equipped computing suite, a cookery room, a music room, a dance studio, an art room, a library, science labs and a games room.

SECONDARY

The Secondary classrooms reflect the wide range of subjects taught. Each room has specialist equipment dependent upon the specific curriculum area. This includes (but is not restricted to) science labs, art room and drama studio. The Secondary school also has a prayer room.



Steps to Admissions



Admission into our school is broadly open. We admit to any year group that has available spaces. We admit pupils from a diverse range of backgrounds and are committed to treating everyone equally. The Principal is solely responsible for all admissions.

Admissions Procedure

Our admissions procedure normally consists of Application, Assessment and Admission.

Application

Applicants will be offered a place depending on:

An academically positive report from the previous school.

Attaining a pass in all elements of the Assessment taken at Star International School Mirdif.

Prior to the Assessment, applicants with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) must provide copies of any medical, specialist or psychologist's reports detailing the child's specific requirements to determine if the school can accommodate their needs.

Assessment & Admission

Parents are required to pay a non-refundable assessment fee at the time of registering for an assessment. Upon successful completion of the assessment, an offer letter will be sent to parents detailing the next steps in the admission process.

Documents to be Submitted with Admissions Forms

- Completed Registration/DHA Medical Form.
- Copy of the student's, mother's and father's passports with valid UAE visa.
- Original Emirates I.D./Copies for the student(s) and father or mother.
- Four Passport size photographs.
- Copies of Birth Certificates in English or Arabic.
- Copy of most recent school report, including examination results.
- Copies of any applicable external reports e.g. speech therapy. Full details and copies of any Special Educational Needs referrals and any relevant reports should be on official letterhead with a school stamp and signature.
- Copies of immunisation records.
- Original AND copies of transfer certificate

ONLY UPON SUBMISSION OF ALL DOCUMENTS, SIGNATURE OF ALL FORMS & 3 POSTDATED CHEQUES FOR THE 3 ACADEMIC TERMS WILL ADMISSION BE CONFIRMED.



Star International School Mirdif

24B Street, Next to Abaya Mall

Mirdif, Dubai

04 288 4644

+971 (0) 50 277 8083

