



## RAIS Kindergarten Curriculum Overview

Al Resalah American International School has a well-designed, age-appropriate curriculum implemented through thematic and integrated lessons. Learning is designed at developing a “holistic” learner who develops academic abilities through an age-appropriate curriculum; well-balanced with extended learning opportunities that challenges and provides learners with purposeful activities and resources that are related to all areas of learning, respecting every student’s individuality as well as creating an understanding for the culture and interests of others.

There are four guiding principles that shape our curriculum practice:

- ❖ **Unique Child:** Every student is unique, constantly learning, resilient, capable, confident, and self-assured
- ❖ **Positive Relationships:** Students develop respect for their peers and understanding of others cultures and traditions.
- ❖ **Supporting Environments:** Students learn and develop well in environments that support their learning and their experiences that respond to their individual needs in application to the real world.
- ❖ **Learning and Development:** We recognize that all students develop and learn in different ways and at different pace.

Al Resalah American International School implements the California Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Program for KG1 (4yr) and the California Kindergarten Standards for KG2 (5yr). The RAIS Kindergarten Program provides appropriate activities and learning experiences that help prepare young children for school. For a child to be school ready, it means they are socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively prepared for success. The school’s KG Program helps children become independent, self-confident, and enthusiastic learners. Participation in the program encourages children to develop good habits and daily routines. It encourages teachers to adopt child-centered instructional practices based on the interests and the skill levels of each child. Since research shows that children benefit most when instruction is child-centered, our child-centered instruction framework allows teachers to facilitate learning in a rich environment that fosters children’s initiative, exploration, and collaborative interaction with other children and adults.

### Through the RAIS Kindergarten Program, the child will:

- ❖ Develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- ❖ Develop mathematics skills by recognizing and using numerical concepts, understanding patterns and relationships, and problem solving.
- ❖ Develop science skills by exploring, manipulating, and experimenting with objects in the physical environment.
- ❖ Develop the ability to move in ways that demonstrate control, balance and coordination.
- ❖ Develop the ability to participate and function in a social environment.

### In Kindergarten, students’ experience:

- ❖ **Circle time-** Students come together as a community of learners
- ❖ **Story time-** Focusing on listening including understanding words/concepts
- ❖ **Hands on activities- Exploration** of curiosity through reasoning
- ❖ **Sensory development time-** Integration of processing sensory input
- ❖ **Guided reading time-** Develops students reading and writing skills
- ❖ **PE, Art, and Music-** Increases social interactions and relationships
- ❖ **Social Dramatic Play-** Targeting social and emotional growth





# RAIS Elementary Curriculum Overview

Al Resalah American International School's curriculum stresses rigorous concept development presents realistic and relevant applications and keeps a strong emphasis on computational skills. Teachers utilize a standards based direct instruction delivery model. A direct instruction approach provides students with specific skills-based instruction from their teachers at the beginning of new lessons followed by both guided and independent practice. It includes continuous modeling by the teacher, followed by more limited teacher instruction and then fading teacher instruction as students begin to master the material. Engaging students in problem solving and real-world applications are important aspects of instruction.

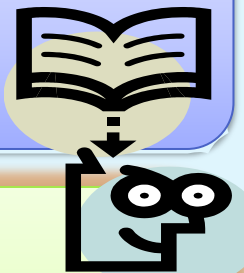
**The overall goal of grades 1-5 curriculum emphasizes the relationship between ideas and seeks to:**

- ❖ provide students opportunities to experience a continuum of activities with appropriate emphasis in each instructional area
- ❖ help students acquire and apply critical thinking skills
- ❖ help teachers identify and teach to a variety of learning styles
- ❖ help teachers utilize information from formal and informal assessments to plan and adapt instruction
- ❖ integrate new technology into the curriculum
- ❖ guide teachers in emphasizing global and multicultural concepts

Al Resalah American International School's Elementary Program strives to support high-quality learning while giving every student the opportunity to learn in the way that is best suited to his or her individual strengths and needs. The RAIS curriculum is designed to help every student reach his or her full potential through a program of learning that is coherent, relevant, and age appropriate. It recognizes that, today and in the future, students need to be critically literate in order to synthesize information, make informed decisions, communicate effectively, and thrive in an ever-changing global community. It is important that students be connected to the curriculum; that they see themselves in what is taught, how it is taught, and how it applies to the world at large. The curriculum recognizes that the needs of learners are diverse, and helps all learners develop the knowledge, skills, and perspectives they need to be informed, productive, caring, responsible, healthy, and active citizens in their own communities and in the world.

## Through the RAIS Elementary Program, the child will:

- ❖ Experience, knowledge, curiosity, and sense of wonder as a foundation of their learning.
- ❖ Learn through active involvement and hands-on experience.
- ❖ Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.



In Elementary, students' experience:

- ❖ **English, Math, Science-** Core subjects aligned with CCSS & NGSS
- ❖ **PE, Art, and Music-** Understanding responsibilities and social rights
- ❖ **ICT-** Integration of communication technologies
- ❖ **French-** Language development skills and pronunciation
- ❖ **Cognitive Exploration-** Organization of information through memory
- ❖ **Literacy Development-** Recognition of basic sounds and comprehension
- ❖ **STEM-** Engage in questions, problem solving skills, and innovation



# RAIS Middle School Curriculum Overview

Al Resalah American International School's Middle School Curriculum targeted for students in grades six through eight offers an academically rigorous environment with high expectations for student performance in a developmentally appropriate setting where teachers know each student personally, and students know their fellow classmates.

The RAIS Middle School program combines a liberal-arts curriculum with an interdisciplinary approach to engage students. Themes for each grade level help students to understand the relationships between and among different subjects. Activities such as research assignments, class discussions and group work highlight these relationships. Our Middle School comprehensive instructional program seeks to meet students' academic, social and emotional needs. The curriculum is richly diverse, multifaceted and challenging with a wide range of courses aligned with the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. Students will have many opportunities to be involved in learning experiences that explore connections among ideas and fields of knowledge. These experiences make learning more meaningful. Students learn to solve problems using skills and knowledge from many disciplines and do not spend large amounts of time learning skills in isolation. Applications of skills in real-life situations are extremely important.

Al Resalah American International School's Middle School Program understands that its mission is to embrace the whole child as an active and ever-changing learner. We strive to foster an environment that guides identity development, strengthens character, enhances individual interests, and supports young students taking healthy risks within a nurturing environment. Middle School students are expected to develop independence of thought and action while accepting responsibility for their choices. Developmentally, Middle School students progress from concrete thinking patterns toward abstract thought. They are able to go beyond a literal meaning to greater levels of critical thinking.

## **The RAIS Middle School Program incorporates the following educational principles that are identified in the context of the early adolescence stage of human development:**

- ❖ Curriculum is grounded in rigorous, academic standards.
- ❖ The focus will be on what students should know and be able to do.
- ❖ The school is a safe and healthy environment that provides purposeful and meaningful relationships among students and staff.
- ❖ Families and the community are involved in supporting student learning and personal growth.
- ❖ Instruction is congruent with best educational practices.

## **In Middle School, students' will experience the following curriculum:**

- |                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| ❖ English-         | ❖ Art-                        |
| ❖ Science-         | ❖ PE-                         |
| ❖ Math-            | ❖ Arabic and French Language- |
| ❖ Social Studies-  | ❖ Arabic Social Studies-      |
| ❖ Moral Education- | ❖ ICT-                        |







# RAIS High School Curriculum Overview

Al Resalah American International School's secondary students are enrolled in a rigorous American curriculum that both encourages and inspires students to reach their full potential. Our academic program uses a distinctive Core Sequence, an approach to teaching that is geared to each discipline, advanced coursework, high standards, and thoughtful feedback that in the hands of expert instructors to shape students into exceptional thinkers, accomplished scholars, and engaged citizens. Our curriculum has clearly defined goals that allow families and teachers to work together to ensure that our students succeed academically, grow emotionally and develop the critical thinking skills needed for college and career readiness. In order to be granted an American High School Diploma, the student must complete all credits as per the graduation requirement.

The school offers career and guidance counselling to enable students to understand the graduation requirements and make the right choices regarding their course selections including electives and their respective minimum credit requirements of 22 credits. In high school, students have the option to enroll in a total of 27 credits. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are offered throughout the 4-year high school program

The curriculum in Al Resalah American International School incorporates all the learning experiences within the school and includes not only knowledge and skills but the attitudes, beliefs and values which underpin the relationships within our school community. Following our students' transition from middle school, we at RAIS aim to offer a broad curriculum to our older students by exposing them to the wide variety and range of subjects taught by subject specialists where they can develop the important skills of teamwork, reflection, self-management and critical thinking. By exposing our high school students to the full range of subjects within the curriculum, they are given the opportunity to find their particular talents and, further, select subjects that reflect their interests, strengths and weaknesses. Pupils are encouraged to achieve their full potential during their time here, leaving the school equipped with the necessary skills for success in the wider world. RAIS aims to be inclusive in all aspects of its work and students' individual needs and learning styles will be accommodated in the classroom. RAIS offers a broad range of electives based on the American curriculum with an international perspective. Refer courses below of our high school curriculum. Please note, electives will run depending on student enrollment in the course.

## IN HIGH SCHOOL, STUDENTS WILL CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- |                             |                        |                             |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • <b>English</b>            | • <b>Marketing</b>     | • <b>AP Biology</b>         |
| • <b>Drama</b>              | • <b>Accounting</b>    | • <b>AP Chemistry</b>       |
| • <b>Journalism</b>         | • <b>Economics</b>     | • <b>AP Physics</b>         |
| • <b>Algebra I</b>          | • <b>World History</b> | • <b>Art</b>                |
| • <b>Geometry</b>           | • <b>Sociology</b>     | • <b>Physical Education</b> |
| • <b>Algebra II</b>         | • <b>Psychology</b>    | • <b>Regular Arabic</b>     |
| • <b>Statistics</b>         | • <b>Global Issues</b> | • <b>Islamic</b>            |
| • <b>Business Math</b>      | • <b>Biology</b>       | • <b>Special Arabic</b>     |
| • <b>AP Calculus AB</b>     | • <b>Chemistry</b>     | • <b>Other Electives</b>    |
| • <b>Business</b>           | • <b>Physics</b>       |                             |
| • <b>MOE Social Studies</b> | • <b>French</b>        |                             |
|                             | • <b>ICT</b>           |                             |

