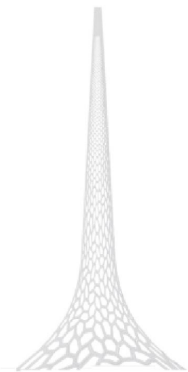




# Student / Parent GES HANDBOOK 2019 -2020

Inspiration.  
Integrity.  
Achievement.





























teacher on the back of their coupon in the event that it is misplaced. All cooked lunches are provided and served by Tamimi Catering as a service for the school.

All other students will need to bring their lunches from home. Within the daily schedule there will be two breaks set aside for eating/drinking. Children can drink water whenever they need to. Water dispensers are available in along corridors for children to refill their bottles.

Please send some healthy snacks such as fruit, nuts and muesli bars etc. for morning break to help your child make it through to the lunch break.

## **Library**

Students can check out books from the library on a regular basis. They have a weekly scheduled library time with their class and as we have open circulation, students have opportunities through the week to visit the library to change books and/or participate in a variety of activities/clubs. We have a collection of over 18,000 books, allowing students to choose chapter books, non-fiction (information) books, picture books, ready to read books, magazines, and online database subscriptions. We also have Arabic and mother tongue books, as well as a range of eBooks accessible through two platforms -the library catalog and Eplatform.

Parents can personally check out up to 10 books for their family, and access the databases and ebooks. Contact the librarian(s) to ask for further information on downloading the Destiny Discover App, to access all these resources.

## **Medication / Health Office**

### **Contagious Illness**

If your child is diagnosed with a contagious illness, please contact the school nurse. Families will be notified if there is a student with a contagious illness in their child's class.

### **Illness or Injury**

The school nurse will take care of minor injuries and illnesses and will notify the parents. If more than minor care is required, parents will be called. In a medical emergency, the student will be taken directly to the Medical Clinic for treatment and parents will be notified.

### **Medication**

If your child requires medication during the school day, please bring the medication - in its original container with prescribed directions - to the nurse's office. The nurse

will insure that the medication is listed in the child's health record. If your child requires medication daily, or has an occasional need for medication due to a chronic medical condition (i.e. asthma, bee sting or other allergy), please be sure you have correctly filled out the form at intake and contact the school nurse to ensure that medication is readily available in case of an emergency.

### **Head Lice**

Schools occasionally experience outbreaks of head lice. Should this happen in your child's class, you will be notified by the school nurse. Students found to have head lice will be required to go home to be treated. The school nurse must verify that the student is free of head lice before s/he may return to the classroom.

### **Mobile Phones**

Mobile phones are not to be used during school hours. In the classroom, cell phones must be properly stowed and turned off. Students not following these guidelines will have their phone turned in to the school office. Parents will need to visit the school office in order to have the phone returned.

Personal devices (e.g. Smart Phones and Tablets) should be out of sight in a bag and turned off or on 'silent' during the school day (7:45 am – 3:10 pm). Students in need of contacting home during the school day are encouraged to use the handset at the main office or at reception. Under exceptional circumstances, they may use their device with teacher approval.

### **Mother Language Language Program**

The KAUST School offers mother tongue support for students in GES. A student who is eligible for mother tongue support classes must have at least one parent who is fluent in the language. We believe that mother tongue language maintenance and development has a number of benefits including:

- Multilingualism
- Enhances students' ability to access the language learning pathways and the IB curriculum
- Fosters cultural identity and esteem for the language and literature of the mother tongue
- Supports transitions to future communities and education systems, including home country

The establishment of a mother tongue language class in the PYP is coordinated by the Mother Tongue Coordinator and approved by the Principal. For children participating in the

PYP, two 'blocks' per week are available for students to study in their mother tongue: two during Islamic Studies. In addition, school facilities may be used after school for mother tongue classes.

## **Parent Communication**

Parents are our partners in the education of our students. We value your input and strive to maintain open communication on a regular basis. We encourage parents to volunteer their time and talents. Communication with parents can take the form of email, class blogs, student-led conferences, curriculum nights, open houses, phone calls, and the school-wide newsletter, The Wave. Conferences will take place two times a year, in the fall and in the spring. Report cards are issued at the end of each semester. Please keep in mind that individual contact with teachers should take place outside of instructional time. We recommend emailing your child's teacher to make appointments for visits. To ensure that parents receive communications from school, it is essential that parent contact information is up-to-date.

## **Personal Possessions / Valuables**

Students are responsible for all items brought to school. The School cannot be responsible for items brought from home. Please leave valuables at home.

To ensure safety, anything that could serve as a weapon is prohibited on school grounds.

## **Physical Education Dress**

Students will need appropriate shoes and clothing for movement during physical education classes.

For swimming lessons, students must wear suitable swimwear. Girls must wear a one-piece swimsuit. Boys must wear swim trunks.

## **Ramadan**

The Holy Month of Ramadan is a special time in Saudi Arabia and the school makes arrangements for students who want to observe this important period. All academic programs continue during Ramadan. Students will be given advice regarding conduct and dress during this time.

## **Shark Shares and Musical Showcases**

Shark Shares are assemblies organized for homeroom classes approximately once per month. Musical showcases are open to all students and typically occur a couple



times a month during a lunch recess. Both gatherings are student led and provide a regular forum for students to share and celebrate their learning amongst their elementary school peers. As building understanding and strengthening partnerships within the community are important to GES, parents are welcome to attend, particularly when their child is sharing.

## **School Hours**

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday:	07:45 – 3 pm
Tuesday (Early Release Day)	07:45 – 2 pm

## **Sun Safety**

Children play outdoors everyday and there are a number of shaded spots available around the playground. Additionally, the gym and library are often open should a child want to remain indoors during a recess.

It is recommended to apply sunscreen before your child comes to school. If you wish to leave sunscreen in the classroom for re-application, please label this clearly with your child's name. Your child is also encouraged to leave a hat at school to wear when outdoors.

## **Technology**

The KAUST School has a one-to-one device program across the elementary school. These devices are integrated into the curriculum to enhance learning experiences, empowering students to create, connect and collaborate. The devices are a combination of iPads (Grades 1 and 2) and Macbooks (Grades 3 - 5). They are provided by the school and are used by the students at various times throughout the school day. The devices remain in school and may not be taken home by the students.

## **Youth Sports and Enrichment Activities**

We offer a co-curricular program which provides students the opportunity to experience and develop skills. Youth Sports provides a range of indoor and outdoor sporting activities ranging from core sports skills to modified sports. Students will learn and develop the required skills to participate in the sport, leadership skills and positive social skills towards developing a balanced lifestyle.

The Enrichment program encourages students to enhance their creativity with a wide variety of arts and crafts, puzzles, games, and outdoor activities to build critical

thinking skills, listening, memory, visualization, concentration through singing, hands-on experiments, physical movement, word puzzles, art projects, and more.

**2018-19 Season Dates**

Season # 1: 16 September to 22nd November

Season # 2: 9 December to 21 February

Season # 3: 10 March to 16 May