

## THE ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

#### **Welcome to the American Baccalaureate School**

The American Baccalaureate School is accredited by the Kuwait Ministry of Education and Cognia (formerly AdvancED)/North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), and the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC). In our most recent review period, the feedback was highly positive about the commitment and enthusiasm of ABS.

The American Baccalaureate School (ABS) offers programs within the elementary school that are based on sound educational principles and practices. Many of the programs, materials, and techniques used at ABS have been adapted from successful U.S. and International based curricula. The school strives to provide the best educational opportunities and experiences for the students, and every effort is made to meet individual needs and interests and to ensure that high self-esteem is maintained in each student. By providing a caring and supportive classroom environment, the students are encouraged to develop independence, respect for others, and a sense of responsibility for themselves. By working both independently and in cooperative groups, our students develop life-long learning skills.

Achieved the highest possible rating from the Academic Accreditation Association



### **REGISTER TODAY!**

Tel: (+965) 24 791 791 Email: registration@abs.edu.kw

#### **School Year Office Hours:**

Sunday through Thursday 7:00am to 3:30pm

Saturday - 9:00am to 12:00 pm

Friday - Closed

Abraq Khaitan, Block 6, Street 59, Ibn Zuhair Street State of Kuwait

#### **Curriculum Focus**

The curriculum emphasizes traditional disciplines, including English language arts e.g., English usage, writing, etc. Arabic, Islamic studies, math, social studies, science, art, music, computers, and physical fitness and health. Character education is integrated into the general curriculum. Children, through a variety of teaching strategies, learn to explore their world and develop a love of learning that lasts a lifetime. Students are encouraged to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills. It is our goal to maximize each child's potential and to prepare them for their role in an ever-changing global community.

As the students progress from the lower elementary grades to the intermediate (grades 3-5), they continue to meet the challenges of a stimulating and expansive curriculum. They are provided with an understanding of the world in which they live and with the tools for future success. The concepts introduced in the primary grades are further developed and new concepts and skills are introduced. Innovative ideas are explored and creative solutions to problems are encouraged. Children learn appropriate work habits and become independent and responsible students.

Though the primary language of instruction is English, Arabic is taught as part of the regular curriculum and is the language of instruction for Religion and Social Studies. The periods per week vary with each grade level.

#### STEM Learning

STEM is an interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning that emphasizes design principles and real-world connections, wherein students are given authentic opportunities, using integrated technologies, to develop critical skills, knowledge, and practices that will help them thrive in postsecondary, workforce, and community environments.

With a cohesive approach to embed STEM across our K-12 curriculum here at ABS, we will continue to deliver with an interdisciplinary application to develop learners who are able to successfully work as part of a team yet have the rigor and confidence to execute a task independently. Furthermore, STEM learning will nourish student's scientific literacy, ability to critically think, and thus develop a generation of future innovators. This means that students should expect to be challenged in their classes, find elements of science and mathematics in their English classes, make positive contributions in group projects, and much more.

#### **Academic Support**

To assist those students whose English and Math skills are below grade-level standards, the school offers a support program which is organized and taught by interventionists. This program starts in grade 1. However, it should be noted that this program provides limited instruction and is not meant to replace a professional after-school program such as Oxford Learning Center. ABS elementary also offers extra learning support in reading and math after school at no cost. A sustained after-school program can assist a child to reach grade level proficiency.

#### Library

The Library is a special place in the school as it serves all students and staff at ABS. Students and staff may check out books, audiobooks, Follett eBooks, Play Aways, Guided Reading kits, DVDs, Guided Reading Books, and Listening centers. Students and staff may read books, newspapers, and other periodicals while visiting the Library. They may also use computers for educational use when classes are not in session. The Library is often used for many student organization meetings as well as professional meetings for staff. It is the role of the Librarians to make the Library space welcoming for students and staff for a variety of educational purposes.

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#### **Other Offerings**

#### We take great pride in offering:

- An extensive technology program including 3D design and printing and robotics highlight STEM initiatives.
- Students in Grades 3-5 use specially designed laptops for research and Microsoft applications
- An Arts program that includes Visual Arts, Music, and Drama
- A competitive P.E. program offering a triple gym and indoor swimming pools, football and basketball courts, and after-school sports activities and teams.
- Character Education- guiding social emotional learning

#### **Celebrations and Events**

# Among the yearly highlights which enrich the academic program, elementary students participate in:

- · Pat on the back for student recognition
- Organized Team Sports
- · Extracurricular clubs
- · International Day
- · Spelling, Math and Geography Bees
- · Science Fair
- · Parent Coffees
- · Afternoon of the Arts
- · Kuwait National Day Celebration
- · Mother's Day Assembly
- · Spring Charity Carnival
- · UNESCO activity
- · Talent Show and Spring Concert
- Awards Ceremony and Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony

