

Repton Dubai

Emirati Students Policy

January 2026

Owner: Deputy Head – School Improvement · Review cycle: Annual · Aligned to UAE Ministry of Education requirements and Repton values

1. Purpose

Repton Dubai is committed to celebrating, supporting, and promoting the educational, cultural, and personal development of Emirati pupils within the context of a British international school in the United Arab Emirates. This policy sets out how the school ensures equal opportunity, appropriate support, and meaningful inclusion for Emirati pupils, while honouring the heritage, values, and national identity of the UAE.

2. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Ensure Emirati pupils have equal access to all aspects of school life.
- Celebrate Emirati culture, heritage, and national identity.
- Provide targeted academic, pastoral, and social support where required.
- Promote leadership opportunities for Emirati pupils.
- Foster a strong sense of belonging and pride within the Repton community.
- Uphold and promote Repton values of Respect, Integrity, Kindness, Courage, and Excellence, ensuring these are embedded throughout school life.

3. Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

Repton Dubai is committed to equality of opportunity for all pupils, regardless of nationality, culture, or background. Emirati pupils:

- Are treated with respect and dignity at all times.
- Have equal access to the curriculum, enrichment activities, leadership roles, and extracurricular programmes.
- Are supported to achieve their full potential academically, socially, and emotionally.

The school actively promotes inclusion by ensuring that policies, teaching practice, and school culture reflect respect for Emirati traditions, language, and values.

4. Access to Support

Emirati pupils have access to a range of academic and pastoral support, including:

- Class teachers and form tutors, who monitor progress and wellbeing.

- Heads of Year and Phase Leaders, who oversee pastoral care.
- Learning Support and intervention programmes, where appropriate.
- Wellbeing, counselling, and safeguarding support, in line with school policy.

Support is provided in line with Repton values, ensuring Emirati pupils are treated with respect and kindness, encouraged to show courage in their learning, and supported to achieve excellence. Provision is closely aligned with UAE national requirements, including:

- Arabic Language provision appropriate to age and attainment.
- Islamic Studies for Muslim pupils, delivered in accordance with UAE expectations.
- Moral Education, supporting the development of character, citizenship, and national identity.

5. Arabic, Islamic, and Moral, Social and Cultural Education — Ministry of Education Compliance

Repton Dubai is fully committed to meeting and exceeding the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Education (MoE) in relation to Arabic Language, Islamic Studies, and Moral, Social and Cultural Education. These subjects are central to the preservation of national identity and the promotion of UAE values within an international school context.

5.1 Arabic Language Provision

Arabic is delivered in full compliance with MoE mandates and taught by appropriately qualified and experienced teachers. Provision is tailored to the needs of Emirati pupils, ensuring clear progression in language acquisition, literacy, and cultural understanding. Arabic is recognised as a cornerstone of Emirati identity, and pupils are encouraged to develop pride, confidence, and fluency in their national language. Assessment, moderation, and reporting in Arabic are carried out in line with MoE guidance, with progress monitored regularly to inform planning and targeted support.

5.2 Islamic Studies Provision

Islamic Studies for Muslim pupils is delivered in accordance with Ministry of Education requirements and Islamic principles. Teaching promotes core Islamic values, including respect, compassion, honesty, tolerance, and responsibility. Lessons are age-appropriate and support pupils' spiritual, moral, and personal development within a safe and respectful learning environment. Provision is carefully monitored to ensure high-quality teaching, appropriate assessment, and accurate reporting to parents.

5.3 Moral, Social and Cultural Education

Moral, Social and Cultural Education is delivered in line with UAE national frameworks and supports the development of character, citizenship, and social responsibility. Through Moral Education, pupils develop an understanding of UAE values such as tolerance, coexistence, respect for diversity, and civic responsibility.

5.4 Compliance, Monitoring and Quality Assurance

The school ensures full compliance through:

- Regular review of curriculum content against MoE guidance.
- Monitoring of teaching, learning, and assessment.
- Moderation of pupil outcomes and reporting.
- Ongoing professional development for staff delivering Arabic, Islamic Studies, and Moral Education.

5.5 Alignment with the UAE National Agenda and Repton Values

This provision supports national priorities including tolerance, coexistence, sustainability, and responsible citizenship, and aligns closely with the Repton values of Respect, Integrity, Kindness, Courage, and Excellence — ensuring pupils develop as ethical, reflective, and socially responsible individuals who contribute positively to the UAE and the wider world.

6. Qudwa Big Brother / Big Sister Mentorship Programme

Repton Dubai operates the Qudwa Big Brother/Big Sister programme to support Emirati pupils, particularly at key transition points such as joining the school or moving between phases.

“If we do one thing, we need to ensure every Emirati child has a trusted older Emirati student who knows them, supports them, and serves as a role model.”

This simple belief is the foundation of Qudwa — the Arabic word for role model — and shapes every aspect of how the programme is designed and run. The Qudwa programme:

- Pairs younger Emirati pupils with older Emirati role models.
- Supports social integration, confidence, and wellbeing.
- Encourages leadership, responsibility, and positive role modelling.
- Provides a safe, consistent, and supportive peer relationship throughout a pupil's time at Repton.

Older pupils involved in the programme receive guidance to ensure they model Repton values and provide appropriate, age-aware support to their younger peers.

Further information on the Qudwa programme, including how mentors are selected and trained, is available at: [\[insert Qudwa programme link\]](#).

7. Tracking, Monitoring and Directed Intervention

The progress and wellbeing of Emirati pupils are carefully tracked through:

- Regular assessment and data analysis.
- Pastoral monitoring by tutors and Heads of Year.
- Review meetings, where necessary, to identify strengths and areas for support.

Tracking processes reflect the Repton values of integrity and excellence, ensuring early identification of need and timely intervention. Where concerns are identified, directed interventions may be implemented, which may include:

- Targeted academic support or intervention.
- Pastoral or wellbeing support plans.
- Close communication with parents and carers.

All interventions are reviewed regularly.

8. Celebration of Emirati Culture and National Identity

Repton Dubai is proud to celebrate Emirati culture and heritage throughout the academic year. This includes:

- National Day celebrations and events.
- Participation in UAE national and cultural initiatives.
- Curriculum opportunities that reflect UAE history, values, and traditions.
- Assemblies, displays, and activities that promote understanding and appreciation of Emirati culture.
- Daily raising of the flag on the Repton Circle and playing of the national anthem each morning in all areas of the school and in every classroom.
- Celebration of Emirati events, including Haq Al Laila, Ramadan, Flag Day, Commemoration Day, Emirati Children's Day, and Emirati Women's Day.

These celebrations play an important role in strengthening pupils' sense of identity and community.

9. Emirati School Council and Future Leaders Programme

The school supports an Emirati School Council, providing Emirati pupils with a meaningful voice within the school community. The Emirati School Council:

- Represents the views and interests of Emirati pupils.
- Promotes leadership, responsibility, and courage.
- Supports cultural initiatives and national events.
- Works alongside the wider School Council.

Through the Council, Emirati pupils demonstrate integrity, respect, and excellence as ambassadors for their community.

The Future Leaders Programme:

- Develops student leadership skills.
- Enables Emirati subject ambassadors to promote and lead on subjects they are passionate about.
- Supports student independence, with pupils leading the implementation of their own innovative projects.

10. Phase-Specific Provision

10.1 Early Years

Emirati pupils are supported through a nurturing, play-based approach that values family, language, and cultural identity.

10.2 Junior School

Support focuses on academic foundations, wellbeing, leadership opportunities, and enrichment.

10.3 Senior School

Support focuses on academic progress, wellbeing, leadership, mentoring, and preparation for future pathways.

11. Partnership with Parents and the Community

Repton Dubai values strong partnerships with Emirati families. The school:

- Communicates regularly with parents regarding progress and wellbeing.
- Welcomes parental involvement in cultural events and celebrations.
- Works collaboratively with families to support pupils' development.
- Hosts the Emirati Parent Series of events.
- Maintains a dedicated 'Friends of Repton' Emirati Representative.

12. Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Principal	Champions the policy and ensures strategic alignment and resourcing.

Role	Responsibility
Deputy Head – School Improvement	Oversees delivery, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting; line manages the Emirati Engagement leads.
Deputy Heads of Academic and Heads of Department	Ensure curriculum and enrichment, across all subjects (not only MoE subjects), reflect UAE priorities, identity, and progression.
Heads of Key Stages	Ensure daily practice, communications, and pastoral interventions are implemented consistently.
Emirati Family Liaison	Primary point of contact for Emirati parents; supports translation, meetings, family events, and feedback loops, and supports families with career guidance and the equivalency process.
Pastoral and Wellbeing Lead	Tracks wellbeing, belonging, attendance, and transitions; coordinates targeted support.
Emirati Engagement Leads	Meet weekly to review Emirati pastoral and academic data, plan interventions and cultural events, coordinate the Qudwa mentorship programme, and lead the Emirati Future Leaders Programme.

13. Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed regularly to ensure it remains effective, inclusive, and aligned with UAE expectations and Repton Dubai values.