



CULTURAL CONSIDERATION POLICY

Introduction

The UAE national identity refers to the sense of belonging and allegiance that concerns the citizens of the United Arab Emirates, and the residents living on its territory alike.

It is a system of social and moral values associated with the lifestyle of the people in the past, present and future. Enhancing the national identity is a matter of national, religious, collective and individual commitment to the cultural values, customs, traditions, language, dialect, doctrine and faith of the UAE as a nation. Promoting and enshrining these elements is a collective national duty incumbent upon the community, individuals, government and institutions.

National identity is based on six pillars through which it is possible to realize the main objective of protecting and preserving that identity and strengthening and consolidating its presence in the community. To this effect the schools in UAE are to promote and to steadfastly practice upholding the national identity & culture of the UAE.

The scope of the policy

1. The staff
2. The Purpose and Task to be done
3. The person responsible for monitoring & Reporting
4. Student Participation
5. Evaluating Success

1. The Staff

Once a staff has been hired, he/she has to abide by the existing rules and regulations including adherence to ADEK/MOE policies and laws of the UAE government. This includes the National Identity & culture.

As part of our mission, we integrate national identity and culture education in all activities in the school. It is naturally included in the school life and teaching. The staff delivers the education through lessons & co-curricular activities.

To hone their knowledge on national identity & culture,

the staff:

- Attends training, participates in ADEK events & themes in support of the national identity & culture.
- Continuously educate / train students through co-curricular activities on national identity & culture.

Purpose & Task to be done

OOL has aligned this policy with the 6 Pillars that support the strengthening of the national identity, which seeks to consolidate the sense of belonging to the homeland, and the spirit of social responsibility among all community members.

A. The first pillar is culture - maintaining, promoting, and disseminating the national identity.

Our school shall embody the:

- Enclosure in the curriculum, particularly in the ministry subjects such as : Arabic, Islamic Studies, UAE Social Studies and Moral Education
- Promotion through the co-curricular activities such as National Day, cultural Day, Flags Day &etc.
- Focus on activities in specified disciplines or writing in Arabic & and English subjects across the grade levels.
- Promotion of UAE culture e.g. in the Morning Assemblies by opening each school day with the singing of the National Anthem and reading of the Qur'an.

Our school shall seek to :

- Develop instructions on how to nurture talents among the students through the advice and coordination of ADEK.
- Educational trips to heritage centers, museums & and other places that feature UAE identity & and culture.

Community Conduct: All members of the OOL community are expected to uphold standards of behaviour that demonstrate mindfulness and respect for cultural considerations of the UAE. The following guidelines outline the expected conduct:

- Respecting UAE Cultural and Social Norms – All OOL community members shall respect the cultural and social norms, values, and traditions of the United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- Avoiding promotion of inappropriate stereotypes – All OOL community members shall refrain from directly or indirectly promoting inappropriate stereotypes, preconceptions, and assumptions about the UAE and the region
- Refraining from culturally inconsiderate behaviour - All OOL community members shall abstain from encouraging behaviour, practices, or displays that are culturally inconsiderate, including but not limited to drug and alcohol use, smoking, violence, promotion of alternative gender identity and sexual orientation, and indoctrination
- Avoiding symbols and imagery associated with culturally inconsiderate movements - All OOL community members shall refrain from using symbols, colors, or imagery associated with any movement/beliefs related to political, social, or extremist religious groups that are culturally inconsiderate
- Prohibition of activities promoting extremism, racism, and discrimination - All OOL community members shall refrain from engaging in activities and/or using content that leads to the indoctrination and promotion of religious/political extremism, racism, bullying, and all other forms of discrimination
- Restriction on rallies, demonstrations, and protests - All OOL community members shall refrain from holding rallies, demonstrations, and protests on school premises or during school-related events offsite

- Culturally considerate appearance – Bigger, visible body tattoos (men and women) and multiple of piercings in the ear (women) should be covered. All OOL staff shall adhere to appropriate clothing in line with the school’s dress code as outlined in the HR Handbook
- Appropriateness of School-Organized Events - All OOL community members shall ensure that all school-organized events and celebrations are culturally appropriate in adherence to this policy

Adherence to UAE Laws - All OOL community members shall adhere to the laws of the UAE, conducting themselves accordingly.

Implementation: OOL Heads of School will communicate and enforce this policy among all members of the school community.

BREACH Any kind of Breach or concerns related to community conduct should be reported promptly to the Head of School for appropriate resolution and consequences. Consequences will include verbal warning initially and written warning thereafter if repeated.

Reporting Procedure

Assistance Supervisor → Supervisor → HR / Vice Principal → Principal

B. The second pillar- promoting values, history of the UAE, and heritage.

Our school shall embody the:

Integrate values education into the curriculum.

Disseminate the values of development across all subjects and programs.

Encourage young people to interact with the community through the promotion of the importance of brotherhood and practicing it.

Instill a sense of environmental responsibility in children through the development of awareness and care for ecosystem D

Our school shall exemplify the following:

Develop a clear and concise values statement that reflects the school's commitment to fostering these values.

Recognize and reward students who demonstrate the desired values. This could involve acknowledgment in school assemblies, certificates, or other forms of positive reinforcement.

Foster a positive and inclusive school culture where students feel safe, respected, and valued. A positive environment contributes to the successful implementation of values education.

Provide counseling and support services to address any behavioral issues or challenges related to values.

C. The third pillar -Citizenship- encourages and promotes a strong sense of belonging, volunteering, and conservation.

Our school shall epitomize to:

- Incorporate global citizenship education to broaden students' perspectives and instill a sense of responsibility towards global issues such as human rights, environmental sustainability, and social justice.
- Ensures that students actively contribute to the betterment of their community.
- Increase students' participation in performing volunteering activities.

Our school shall demonstrate to:

- Implement character education programs that emphasize the development of virtues such as responsibility, empathy, and cooperation, which are foundational to good citizenship.
- Create an inclusive environment that celebrates diversity and teaches students to appreciate and respect differences in culture, background, and opinions.
- Establish civics clubs or organizations where students can explore and discuss civic issues, share ideas, and plan community service projects.

3.The person Responsible for Implementing & The person responsible for monitoring and reporting.

The SLT/MLT and the My Identity Co-Ordinator shall be the people responsible for implementing this policy. They shall see that the contents are aligned to the school's existing curriculum. The co-curricular activities shall always be associated to the lesson or occasion. The school designates the lead staff that will be responsible for the monitoring and reporting. All staff and management of this school are required to be involved in this undertaking.

4.Student Participation

- The school shall ensure that students are fully aware of this policy on enhancing the National Identity & Culture and apply it to their real life.

5. Evaluating Success. This school policy will be kept under regular review. In addition, evidence will be gathered regarding:

- Staff awareness
- Academic progress of students where this is appropriate
- Improved behavior of the children, where this is appropriate
- Increase in the level of awareness achieved
- Parents' involvement.



