



IIS CULTURAL CONSIDERATION POLICY-AY-2026-2027

Approved By: Principal and School Board

Effective From: Academic Year 2026/27

Date of Evaluation and Review: 6/4/2026

Next Date of Review: April 2027 (Review Cycle: Annual or upon ADEK updates)

Applies To: All staff, students, contractors, volunteers, parents/guardians, and visitors

Authorized Signatories

Principal

Vice-Principal

Compliance Officer

Vision – Mission – Values

International Indian School Abu Dhabi envisions creating a respectful, inclusive, and globally minded learning environment that celebrates diversity while aligning with the UAE's cultural values and national identity framework. We are committed to nurturing tolerance, respect, and awareness of UAE heritage, ensuring that teaching and learning are consistent with cultural expectations and ADEK guidelines.

Introduction

The UAE is home to a diverse population, enriched by the contributions of non-nationals in education and society. While IIS embraces this diversity, the school recognizes the importance of respecting and adhering to cultural and national practices in Abu Dhabi. This policy guides staff, students, and parents on culturally appropriate conduct, resources, and school activities to maintain compliance with ADEK requirements and UAE law.

Purpose

- To ensure cultural sensitivity in all teaching, learning, and school activities.
- Provide clear expectations for the school community to align with UAE laws and traditions.
- Establish systems for vetting resources, training staff, and monitoring compliance.





- Promote tolerance, respect, and national identity awareness within the IIS community.

Definitions

- Cultural Consideration – Awareness and respect for UAE cultural values and practices.
- Culture – Traditions, values, beliefs, and way of life that shape society.
- Indoctrination – Biased teaching promoting a specific doctrine, religion, or ideology.
- National Identity – The values and heritage of the UAE, as promoted by its constitution and Ministry of Culture.

Policy details

Adherence to UAE Laws

IIS follows all ADEK regulations, UAE Federal Laws, and MoE circulars on cultural considerations and national identity.

All teaching content must respect Islamic values, Arab heritage, and UAE laws on public morals.

School communications (newsletters, social media, events) will be monitored to ensure compliance.

Cultural Practices at IIS

Daily singing of the UAE National Anthem.

Observing UAE public holidays and national events.

Displaying only the UAE flag and leaders' portraits in school.

Dress code for students and staff aligned with UAE cultural expectations.

Covering tattoos, limiting piercings, and ensuring modest attire.

Teaching and Learning Resources

IIS will establish a Resource Selection Committee to vet all teaching resources.

Materials must be Age-appropriate.





Respectful of UAE values and traditions. Free from content promoting drugs, alcohol, smoking, violence, gambling, alternative gender identities, or political/religious extremism.

Teachers must seek approval for any sensitive or controversial content.

Parents will be informed in advance of lessons involving sensitive topics (e.g., reproduction, evolution) and may request exemptions.

Conduct of the School Community

Staff, students, and parents must:

Respect UAE cultural and social norms.

Avoid promoting inappropriate stereotypes, behaviors, or ideologies.

Refrain from protests, rallies, or culturally insensitive displays on school grounds.

Ensure the appropriateness of celebrations, trips, and events.

Roles and responsibilities

Roles	Responsibilities
Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Form a Resource Selection Committee to review, vet, and approve all resources.• Implement and document the school-level vetting process for selecting teaching and learning resources (as per Section 2.1.2).• Provide ADEK, upon request, with full documentation of the vetting process (as per Section 2.3.4).• Communicate school-level processes and procedures clearly to all staff.• Ensure all selected or developed resources are age-appropriate and culturally aligned.• Ensure delivery of cultural consideration awareness training (induction and refresher) for staff, parents, and students.• Report any non-compliant resources to ADEK and ensure they are immediately removed from circulation.• Ensure staff engage parents by:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Reminding parents of their role in overseeing children's internet use at home to minimize exposure to inappropriate content.





	<p>2) Expecting parents to report non-compliant content to the school and the ADEK Parent Hotline (800 2335).</p> <p>3) Advising parents to exercise caution when posting school information on public forums and social media channels.</p>
Senior Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review and approve lesson plans and resources submitted by teachers.• Ensure all resources are age-appropriate, culturally considerate, and vetted by the school's process.• Supervise the use of resources and monitor lesson delivery to ensure compliance.• Continuously monitor approved digital resources for compliance with ADEK regulations and guidelines.• Report any non-compliant content immediately to the Principal.
Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show respect for national identity and sovereignty (Clause 12, Article 11, Federal Law No. 18 of 2020).• Develop lesson plans using resources approved through the school's vetting process.• Conduct additional screening to ensure classroom content is culturally appropriate.• Prepare and vet online resources in advance to ensure they are free of culturally inconsiderate material (e.g., inappropriate images, texts, color schemes, or terms).• Avoid indoctrination when discussing political or cultural matters in class.• Immediately report any non-compliant content to senior leaders and the Principal.• Ensure adherence to this policy, including data confidentiality when posting on public forums or social media.
Librarians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review, vet, and approve all requested resources to ensure they meet ADEK requirements and are age- and culturally appropriate.• Submit lists of acceptable and non-acceptable resources to the Resource Selection Committee for review and approval.• Continuously monitor both digital and non-digital resources, including textbooks, to ensure compliance.





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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report and immediately remove any resource found to be in violation of this policy. |
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Compliance

Effective from 2026-2027 IIS must remain fully compliant at all times.

Non-compliance may lead to ADEK warnings, penalties, or legal accountability under UAE law.

Policy will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with new ADEK directives

Reviewed By

Ms Shanty P Devasia

(Vice Principal)

Approved by

Dr. Beno Kurien

(School Principal)

