



Introduction

The American Academy Larnaca promises an innovative and challenging academic environment in which the pursuit of excellence is balanced by kindness to support each individual to achieve his/her full potential.

Key values

The School provides a 'Distinctive Educational Opportunity' with the following key values:

- **The pursuit of excellence:** The American Academy Larnaca believes all children can excel in something and fosters this belief among its students and staff. It will constantly strive for continuous improvement in external examination results and 'add value' to each student tracked through internationally recognised programmes of diagnostic testing
- **The importance of innovation:** The American Academy Larnaca promotes discovery in both academic and personal terms. It regards personal discovery and free thought highly. It also seeks to be at the forefront of educational innovation
- **An education based on challenge:** The American Academy Larnaca holds fast to the concept of encouraging robust individualism; it promotes self-reliance but not self-interest. It provides grounding for the challenges of adult life
- **The dualism of formal academic education and personal education in the widest sense:** The American Academy Larnaca provides for the pursuit of academic excellence without compromising the importance of life skills and recognises that a school should promote both education and self-fulfilment
- **Awareness of others:** The American Academy Larnaca recognises the virtues of tolerance, human friendship and charity that go beyond disability, gender, religion and race. It fosters the vision of a community where each may care for all and all may care for each

Aims

The American Academy Larnaca's curriculum is balanced, broadly based and promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of the students and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

The curriculum is challenging and caters for all students in every year group. By offering a wealth of extra-curricular activities we balance the high demands placed upon the students in the classroom.

The American Academy Larnaca provides full-time supervised education for students up to the age of 19 which gives them experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education, appropriate for their ages and aptitudes.

Students are expected to acquire high-level skills in speaking and listening, literacy and numeracy.

The American Academy Larnaca sets out to:

- Ensure that students develop the essential literacy and numeracy skills
- Provide students with a full and rounded entitlement to learning
- Foster students' creativity and develop essential skills, including independent learning skills and maturity in decision making
- Inspire students to a commitment to learning which will last a lifetime
- Promote the highest standards in all teaching and learning
- Ensure that all students have the opportunity to learn and make maximum progress

As students progress through the School they should be able to:

- Develop a positive self-image
- Be effective users of numeracy, literacy and oracy skills
- Make a positive impact on the environment
- Be independent, self-motivated and self-disciplined
- Appreciate human aspirations and achievements
- Work together in co-operative groups
- Acquire the competences and attitudes needed for adult life

Responsibilities

- The BOD and CEO approve the curriculum as recommended by the Senior School Principal, Deputy Principal Curriculum and the rest of SMT
- The Senior School Principal, Deputy Principal Curriculum and SMT are responsible for the implementation of the curriculum policy, reviewing the curriculum to meet the needs of the students and providing the BOD with reports, evaluations and proposals for improvement
- HOFs are responsible for writing the curriculum in line with MOEC and Exam Board criteria, ensuring their teams effectively and efficiently deliver the curriculum and identify and implement improvements

Equal Opportunities

The American Academy Larnaca intends that all present and prospective students and staff shall enjoy equality of opportunity and shall not be disadvantaged by any condition or requirement that cannot be shown to be justifiable.

Students, staff, parents, BOD and all external agencies who support the work of the American Academy Larnaca are aware of the aims of the school and its expectations of behaviour that reflect the commitment to equal opportunity.

All aspects of the curriculum will reflect the American Academy Larnaca's commitment to equal opportunity and will respect the dignity and value of all individuals.

The American Academy Larnaca primarily offers A Levels and GCSE subjects although some students are also prepared for other examinations. Choice of exam board and specification is left to the professional judgement of the school management.

Appropriate careers guidance is provided in Year 3 for GCSE options, in Year 5 for A Level options, in Year 6 for drop/add and in Year 7 for University applications.

Students with Special Educational Needs are supported as per JCQ regulations to receive the same provision as they would in external examinations.

Where possible, students in all year groups are taught in sets of mixed ability. Due to a strong international dimension, the curriculum includes ESL and GSL programmes where appropriate.

Departmental schemes of work are designed so that all students have the opportunity to learn and make progress. Learning and progress are monitored regularly and are recorded through the school reporting and assessment procedures. Scrutiny of exercise books/files and student feedback helps to ensure students have interest in their work and they are developing the ability to think and learn for themselves.

Performance Management of all teaching staff takes place in a two-year cycle. This helps to ensure that lessons are well planned, effective teaching methods and suitable activities are used and that there is wise management of class time. A variety of teaching and learning methods and materials are used to suit students' different needs.

Faculty assessment policies and schemes of work are submitted to the Deputy Principal Curriculum at the beginning of each academic year along with a report on the external exam results for the previous year.

A meeting between the Principal, Deputy Principal Curriculum and each Head of Faculty will take place to review these results and plan for the new academic year.

September 2022