



المدرسة العالمية الأمريكية  
UNIVERSAL AMERICAN SCHOOL  
FESTIVAL CITY

 **Al-Futtaim**  
Education Foundation



# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE

### 2024/25

FOREVER DRIVEN BY KNOWLEDGE,  
INSPIRED BY SUCCESS.

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# VISION

FOREVER DRIVEN BY KNOWLEDGE,  
INSPIRED BY SUCCESS

# MISSION

TO NURTURE AN INTERNATIONALLY  
MINDED COMMUNITY OF INTEGRITY  
AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

# VALUES

RESPECT, INTEGRITY,  
COLLABORATION, EXCELLENCE



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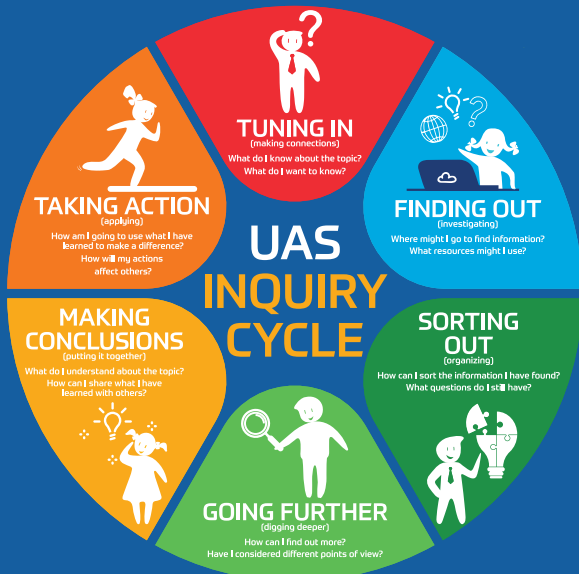
# UAS: AN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL WITH A WHOLE CHILD APPROACH

## UAS AND THE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM (PYP) FRAMEWORK

The Elementary School program is based on the knowledge and understanding required by the New York Next Generation Standards and taught using the PYP approaches to teaching. The PYP Framework allows students to inquire, make connections to the world around them, and understand big ideas that they can then transfer across contexts

and subject areas. At UAS students are at the center of the learning process and we aim to develop life-long learners.

UAS has developed an inquiry- and concept-based cycle to guide students in the exploration and understanding of real-world topics.



## INQUIRY: THE UNIVERSAL AMERICAN WAY

As a PYP school, student learning at Universal American School is organized through the PYP units of inquiry using comprehensive, research-based curriculum aligned to the philosophy of the PYP. Our program features exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and lifelong critical-thinking skills.



The UAS Elementary School Leadership Team

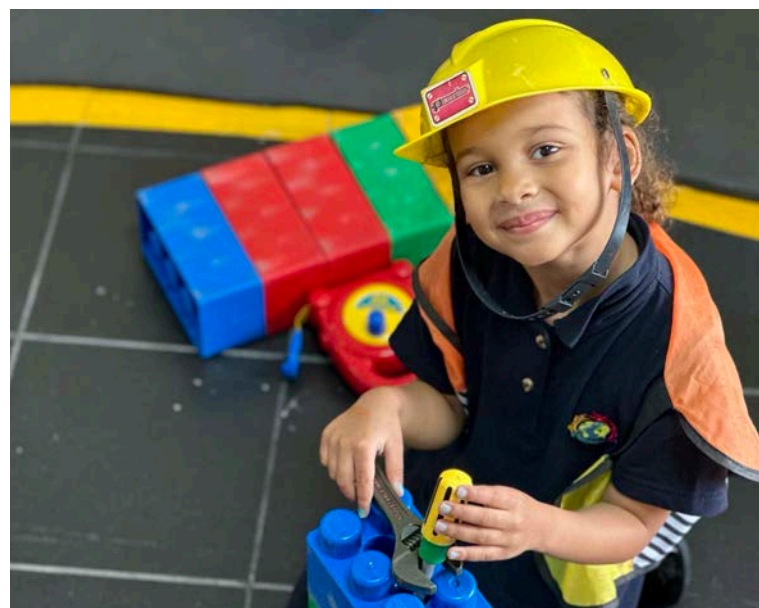
# EARLY YEARS – PRE-KINDERGARTEN TO KINDERGARTEN 2

The units of inquiry are studies that span several weeks and are in-depth, project-based investigations of concepts that are part of your child’s everyday life. They feature topics like music making, buildings, insects, imagination, and communities.

Children raise questions about the concepts and find answers by exploring, experimenting, and investigating with a hands-on approach through activities that take place in our indoors and outdoors

learning spaces and beyond.

The Discovery Room is an extension of our Early Years classrooms. Students are given further opportunities to learn through Dramatic Play with exciting themes based on PYP units and student interests.



## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A UAS EARLY YEARS LEARNER

- Purposeful play
- Personalized learning
- Highly qualified, dedicated Teachers and Learning Assistants
- Consistent exposure to Arabic language
- Cultivate creativity through Music and Visual Arts
- Consistent monitoring of student progress

<b>7.45</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8.00</b>	Homeroom
<b>8.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8.40</b>	Morning meeting & Centers (Language or Math focus)
<b>8.40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9.10</b>	Arabic
<b>9.10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9.40</b>	Snack and Break
<b>9.40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10.20</b>	Specialist classes: Music, Art or PE
<b>10.20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10.50</b>	Open Inquiry (Indoor, outdoor or Discovery room)
<b>10.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11.30</b>	Lunch and Break
<b>11.30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12.20</b>	Centers (Science or Social Studies focus)
<b>12.20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12.45</b>	Homeroom & Dismissal



# ELEMENTARY - GRADE 1 TO 5

Universal American School is committed to educating the whole child by supporting and nurturing student's development and learning – from social-emotional to cognitive skills. Our Elementary school curriculum is aligned with the New York Next Generation Standards for English and Mathematics, and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for Science.

These standards provide curriculum consistency across the grades and guide the content we teach to ensure that our students are ready for success in middle

school and beyond. During their elementary experience, students are encouraged to develop important skills such as collaboration, thinking creatively, reasoning critically, and communicating effectively.

To support our American curriculum, technology is integrated throughout the Elementary school, it provides students with innovative chances to learn and create. Students are given the opportunity to use devices independently and effectively.







## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEARNER

The UAS program includes core subjects taught in a homeroom environment -English, math, science, social studies, Arabic A/B, and Islamic A/B- and specialist classes - music, art and PE (Physical Education).



<b>7:45</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8:00</b>	Homeroom
<b>8:00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8:50</b>	Math
<b>8:50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9:40</b>	Reader's Workshop
<b>9:40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10:00</b>	Morning Snack
<b>10:00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10:50</b>	Writer's Workshop
<b>10:50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11:40</b>	Arabic A/B
<b>11:40</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12:30</b>	Lunch and Recess
<b>12:30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1:20</b>	Specialist classes:
<b>Day</b>	<b>A</b>		Music
<b>Day</b>	<b>B</b>		Art
<b>Day</b>	<b>C/D</b>		PE
<b>1:20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2:10</b>	Science/Social Studies
<b>2:10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3:00</b>	Lunch
<b>3:00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3:15</b>	Homeroom





# UAS APPROACHES TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

## 1

### Literacy



**Literacy:** To ensure that students are taught the skills and concepts needed to progress in literacy we use a balanced approach that emphasizes Reader's and Writer's workshop model, and University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) for phonics. With this approach students receive personalized learning tailored to their needs.



## 2

### Math



**Math:** Bridges in Mathematics provides a rigorous, coherent and engaging math program. The program focuses on developing students' deep understanding of math concepts, proficiency with key skills, and the ability to solve new and complex problems.



## 3

### Science



**Science:** To teach science we use real-life scenarios, hands-on activities and science projects as these are effective teaching techniques in the science curricula.







## DSIB INSPECTION COMMENTS

**KHDA has rated the overall quality of education at Universal American School as very good.**

- *The effective teaching of reading strategies in lessons enables students to improve their comprehension skills with confidence.*
- *Numeracy skills are well developed in the KG and Elementary school, through a variety of hands-on activities and mental mathematics practice sessions.*
- *Students frequently use technology in the classroom to carry out research that helps them enhance their knowledge and understanding of concepts.*
- *Students maintain excellent relationships with others because of the caring and nurturing environment of the school.*





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# LEAP & LEAP Jr.

FUN,  
CHALLENGING,  
PERSONALIZED  
AFTER SCHOOL  
PROGRAMS



## LEARN

LEAP is designed to allow students to continue their academic development beyond the typical school day.



## ENRICH

Your child has a safe place to learn valuable skills that give them self-confidence and the encouragement to find and cultivate their personal passions.



## ACTIVATE

Students engage in activities that enhance their motor skills and promote health and wellbeing.



## PERSONALIZE

An individualized schedule of activities is created to meet the academic and personal needs of each child.

For all your after school activity needs!  
Available from prek to Grade 6



LEAP Jr. is a teacher-led, fun & active, after school program for students in PreK and KG1.



LEAP is a teacher-led, personalized, after school program for students from PreK through Grade 6.

## SCHEDULE

LEAP Jr. is offered after school  
Monday to Thursday  
from 12:45 pm to 3:15 pm.

## SCHEDULE

LEAP is offered after school  
Monday to Thursday.  
You may pick up your child  
anytime until 6:00 pm.

## FEES ★

NO. OF DAYS	FEES FOR 2022-23	ELIGIBLE GRADE	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3
LEAP 4 days	AED 9900	Pre Kg-Grade 6	AED 3960	AED 2970	AED 2970
LEAP 3 days	AED 8400	Pre Kg-Grade 6	AED 3360	AED 2520	AED 2520
LEAP Jr. 4 days	AED 5500	Pre Kg, KG 1			

\*Monthly fees option is also available for LEAP  
TO SECURE YOUR SPOT COMPLETE  
PAYMENTS AT ACCOUNTS.

Tel: +971 4 524 0444  
registrar@uasdubai.ae  
www.uasdubai.ae



## ORIENTATION

The goal of the LEAP program is to create a personalized extended day for your child.

Before a student joins LEAP, teachers will coordinate with parents and homeroom teachers to determine the student's needs and goals for the year. Perhaps your child needs handwriting practice, assistance with homework, more physical activity, or math practice? These are some ideas that you can share with our LEAP team. Based on our conversations and student assessment we will create a personalized program for each of our LEAP participants.



## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE UAS LEAP PROGRAM?

Research shows that Elementary students that participate in after school programs show improvement in the following areas:

- ➔ Academic achievement
- ➔ Social and emotional development
- ➔ Health and wellness

Our LEAP program:

- ➔ Builds stronger academic, social, and emotional foundation for students.
- ➔ Builds endurance for learning.
- ➔ Engages students in various activities that support their regular classroom learning.

## FAQs

### Is there an age requirement?

LEAP Jr. is available for our PreK and KG1 students. LEAP is available for our PreK to Grade 6 students.

### On which days is LEAP offered?

LEAP is offered after school Monday to Thursday. You may pick your child anytime until 6pm. LEAP Jr. students will need to be picked up at 3:15pm.

### What activities will be offered?

We will create a personalized plan for each student before LEAP begins. Homework instruction will be provided each day by our teachers. Other activities may include: outdoor play, sports, arts and crafts, games and music.

### Who will work with students

### during LEAP?

LEAP is run by teachers with the support of learning assistants.

### What are the timings of the LEAP program?

LEAP Jr. starts at 12:45pm and ends at 3:15pm. LEAP starts at 3:15pm, you can decide what time you wish to pick up your child.

### Can my child attend both LEAP Jr. and LEAP?

Yes, LEAP Jr. students can also secure a spot in LEAP.

### Do I need to provide my child with a snack?

Students attending LEAP Jr. should bring an extra snack. Students attending LEAP will be provided with a meal.

## AN AL FUTTAIM EDUCATION FOUNDATION (AFEF) SCHOOL

AFEF is an initiative started by the Al Futtai family to support the UAE Government's vision for the creation of a globally competitive knowledge economy while maximizing their social contribution to the community through this not-for-profit endeavor. The vision of AFEF is to create excellence; to prepare our students for university and to give them the skills to successfully embrace global citizenship and future opportunities in the UAE and beyond.

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New York State Standards PreK-12  
IB Primary Years Programme





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