Affiliated to **University of Cambridge**, UK
Affiliated to **C.B.S.E**, New Delhi, India.
P.O.Box 80718, Al Ain, UAE
**Tel:** + 9713 781 0077 + 9713 781 0043
**Email:** info@alainjuniors.com
**Web:** www.alainjuniors.com



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| **POLICY TITLE:** | Parental Engagement |
| **DEPARTMENT:** | Academics |

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| Policy Contact: School Counselor | Issue Date: 24/03/2021 |
| School: Al Ain Juniors School | Revision Date: 28/06/2027 |
| Reference No: AJS_GP_AY 2026-2027 | Version No: 2.1 |

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Parental Engagement Policy is to establish a framework that promotes active and meaningful participation of parents in the educational journey of their children at Al Ain Juniors School. This policy is based on the **School Policy on Parental Engagement** issued by the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK). Al Ain Juniors School, as a K-12/FS2 to Year 13 institution affiliated with both the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Cambridge International Examinations, recognizes the significant role that parents play in supporting academic achievement, social development, and the overall well-being of students.

**Scope**

This policy applies to all parents, guardians, and caregivers of students enrolled at Al Ain Juniors School. It covers the channels, initiatives, and expectations for parent-school collaboration and sets the foundation for effective communication and involvement in school activities.

**Objectives**

- To foster a strong partnership between parents and the school for the benefit of the students.
- To ensure open, transparent, and effective communication between the school and parents.
- To involve parents in the decision-making processes that affect their children's learning and development.
- To support parents in their roles as primary educators by providing opportunities for involvement in school life.
- To encourage a positive school culture that values collaboration and mutual respect between parents, staff, and students.

**Parental Involvement in School Activities:**

**Regular Communication**
The school will maintain open lines of communication with parents through multiple platforms, such as:

- School newsletters and updates.
- Regular parent-teacher meetings, both formal and informal.
- Emails, SMS, and school apps for important announcements.
- Parent information sessions and workshops on relevant educational and parenting topics.

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**Parent-Teacher Meetings**
Al Ain Juniors School will organize regular parent-teacher meetings (PTMs) at various intervals during the academic year. These meetings are an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress, strengths, areas of improvement, and any concerns with the teachers. Parents are encouraged to actively participate in these meetings.

**Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA)**
The school will encourage the formation of a Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) that allows parents to be actively involved in school events, educational initiatives, and the decision-making process. The PTA will also serve as a platform for parents to voice their opinions and collaborate with the school leadership.

**Parental Involvement in Student Learning:**

**Support in Academic Progress**
Parents are encouraged to support their child's academic progress by:

- Providing a conducive learning environment at home.
- Encouraging regular study habits and completing assignments.
- Monitoring progress through the school's online portals or student progress reports.
- Communicating any concerns related to their child's academic needs with teachers and school counselors.

**Workshops and Educational Sessions**
The school will conduct regular workshops for parents to help them understand the CBSE and Cambridge curricula, teaching methods, and assessment practices. These workshops will also cover topics related to child development, mental health, and managing academic stress.

**Collaboration on School Projects**
Parents will be encouraged to collaborate with teachers and students on school projects, extracurricular activities, and events. These collaborations may include guest lectures, cultural programs, career counseling, or volunteering for school events.

**Communication and Feedback Mechanisms:**

**Open Communication Channels**
The school will ensure that parents have easy access to communication with teachers and school leaders. Parents will be provided with the contact details of their child's class teacher, subject teachers, and school management personnel. In addition, the school will utilize online platforms and social media to keep parents informed about school activities, news, and academic progress.

**Timely Feedback**
Parents will receive regular and timely feedback about their child's academic performance, behavior, and well-being. This feedback may be delivered through written reports, parent-teacher meetings,

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and other formal or informal communication methods. The school will also provide parents with updates on their child's extracurricular participation and achievements.

**Surveys and Parent Feedback**
To continually improve its practices, the school will conduct surveys to gather feedback from parents on various aspects of school life, such as academic quality, communication, and student well-being. Parent suggestions and feedback will be considered in school development plans and decisions.

**Inclusive Parent Engagement:**

**Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusivity**
Al Ain Juniors School is committed to respecting the diverse cultural backgrounds of its student body. The school will ensure that all parental engagement initiatives are inclusive and culturally sensitive. This includes providing information in multiple languages where possible and ensuring accessibility for all parents, regardless of their cultural or linguistic backgrounds.

**Engagement of Non-Resident Parents**
For parents who are not physically present in the UAE, the school will utilize virtual platforms to ensure their participation in school activities, including virtual parent-teacher meetings, webinars, and online feedback forms. The school will also keep non-resident parents informed of key events and developments.

**Parent Support for Student Well-being:**

**Supporting Mental Health and Well-being**
Parents will be encouraged to support the mental health and emotional well-being of their children. The school will provide information and resources on student mental health, such as coping strategies for exam stress, time management techniques, and healthy lifestyle choices. Counselors and school social workers will also be available to assist parents and students with any emotional or psychological concerns.

**Promoting Positive Behavior and Values**
The school will work with parents to promote positive behavior and values, such as respect, responsibility, and resilience, both inside and outside of school. Parents will be provided with tools to help reinforce these values at home and to collaborate with the school in addressing any behavioral issues.

**Volunteering Opportunities:**

**Parent Volunteers**
Al Ain Juniors School values the contribution of parent volunteers and encourages them to get involved in school activities. Parents may volunteer for tasks such as organizing events, chaperoning field trips, supporting extracurricular activities, or participating in the school's advisory committees.

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**Volunteer Training**
The school will provide training and orientation sessions for parent volunteers to ensure that they understand the school's policies and procedures. Volunteers will be made aware of their responsibilities and the importance of maintaining confidentiality and child protection standards.

**Parent Responsibility:**

**Active Engagement**
Parents are encouraged to be proactive in engaging with the school community and supporting their child's education. This includes attending meetings, participating in school events, maintaining open communication with teachers, and being involved in their child's academic and extracurricular activities.

**Respecting School Policies**
Parents are expected to adhere to the school's policies and guidelines and to foster a positive, respectful relationship with the school. This includes following the procedures for addressing concerns, providing feedback, and resolving conflicts in a constructive manner.

**Policy Review and Amendments:**

**Regular Review**
This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of the school community and aligns with changes in educational practices or ADEK guidelines. Feedback from parents, staff, and students will be taken into consideration during the review process.

**Continuous Improvement**
Al Ain Juniors School is committed to continually improving parental engagement practices by exploring new methods and technologies that can facilitate stronger relationships with parents and guardians.

| Version no. | Description of change | Owner | Date of Issue |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.0 | Adoption of Policy | Principal | 24.3.2024 |
| 2.0 | Significant changes to align more closely ADEK School Policy On Cultural Consideration | Science HOD | 24.6.2024 |
| 3.0 | Review | Science HOD | 8.3.2025 |