



MySchool an IB World School



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His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said

We go beyond the classic approaches of Education. We offer the most innovative and the latest International Curriculums. We are deep-rooted in our values. We develop critical thinkers and responsible citizens in a peaceful world.

**OUR
VISION**

MySchool aims to develop a learner who believes in the hopes of the homeland, meets the aspirations of the progress and bears in mind the international changes. A learner who is deep-rooted in the Omani values and heritage, familiar with all the methods enabling to be an inquirer and a lifelong learner.

**OUR
MISSION**

MySchool an IB World

March 2018 marked a turning point in MySchool journey. Indeed, headed by Mrs. Samia Moosa Al Belushi, MySchool principal, guided by Mr. Nabil Abdullah Al Raisi, MySchool owner, and facilitated by the HODs, teachers and with the contributions of admins and parents, we have succeeded to create a productive, positive and safe learning environment for our learners.

At MySchool, we have adopted creativity, enthusiasm, commitment and collaboration as work ethics.

It is a matter of fact that we have faced various challenges and obstacles, but we have also tried our best to overcome them and on the 8th of March 2018, we have cultivated the fruit of our hard work as we have been granted the IB accreditation for implementing the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and to take the privilege to become an IB World School. Acquiring the IB Authorization has put our efforts and ambitions forth. In fact, MySchool has planned to apply for the Middle Years Program (MYP) by January 2019 as well as we have started with the Professional Development and two of our school leaders are currently taking the IB MYP online workshop. And by 2021, MySchool aims to offer the IB continuum (three programmes: PYP, MYP, DP) to its students providing them with quality international education that opens for them new global horizons.



IB Programmes

Primary Years Programme

The PYP is designed for students aged 3 to 12. It focuses on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside. It is a framework guided by six transdisciplinary themes of global significance, explored using knowledge and skills derived from six subjects areas, as well as transdisciplinary skills, with a powerful emphasis on inquiry.

Middle Years Programme

The MYP is designed for students aged 11 to 16. It provides a framework of learning that encourages students to become creative, critical and reflective thinkers. The MYP emphasises intellectual challenge, encouraging students to make connections between their studies in traditional subjects and the real world. It fosters the development of skills for communication, intercultural understanding and global engagement—essential qualities for young people who are becoming global leaders.

Diploma Programme

The IB Diploma Programme is an academically challenging and balanced programme of education, with final examinations, that prepares students aged 16 to 19 for success at university and in life beyond. It has been designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students. The programme has gained recognition and respect from the world's leading universities.

Career-related Programme

The IB Career-related Programme (CP) is designed for students interested in pursuing a career-related education in the final two years of secondary school. It provides them with an excellent foundation to support their further studies, as well as ensure their preparedness for success in the workforce.



The Curriculum

To cope with the international approaches to education, meet the IB requirements and foster the learners needed skills to prepare them for a successful professional life, MySchool has adopted the inquiry-based & concept-based approaches to teaching and learning.

Indeed, inquiry is encouraged particularly when students are investigating and developing an understanding of the central idea (PYP) or the statement of inquiry (MYP) in a unit of inquiry but also, when they are learning about any subject outside the written curriculum.

Through inquiry the teacher encourages the students to work collaboratively, discuss, ask questions and reflect on their learning.

The PYP and MYP are also concept-based approaches to teaching and learning. The key and related concepts, scaffold the learning from a 2D shape form to a 3D one promoting a deeper understanding of the topic.

Through the concept based approach to teaching and inquiry, teachers become facilitators allow the students to think and express themselves in an authentic and creative way, use a range and a variety of strategies to meet students' learning needs and styles, engage students in reflecting on how, what and why they are learning.

Consequently, using the subjects concepts and related concepts, the teachers instructions would take the students into a journey beyond the expectations of the curriculum moving away from a content based approach to a transferable, timeless and universal teaching and learning.

This would also allow students to develop as critical thinkers, and problem solvers who dig deep into the cause and effect of relations that occur in every field. Students would be able to own their learning, inquire into, investigate, take decisions, and transfer and apply what they are learning in the school to real life.

To meet our goals, teachers design the curriculum according the scope and sequence guides of the subjects and reinforce it with multiple selected resources including the school books.

Additional teaching initiatives:

Cursive Handwriting Program:

Some may wonder why students should learn to write in cursive in the age of tablets and iPads.

While electronic devices have added an element of convenience to the writing process, evidence is mounting that putting pen to paper has benefits that typing cannot replace.

At MySchool, we believe that “when students write confidently and legibly, their academics as a whole seem to improve”. On this concern, the management arranged a five days training for teachers on Cursive handwriting. The course has been led by Ms Rizwana Kurshid Firdousi, an expert on handwriting, who also presented a parents’ workshop on Thursday 14/12/2017 whereby she explained the importance of cursive handwriting and how it is based on scientific and artistic beliefs. After being trained the teachers have started implementing the program with our students from grades 1 to 10.

Creative Writing program:

This program requires students from grade 5 to 10 to write a total of two articles per week, one in English and the other in Arabic. This program aims to develop students writing skills and imagination.

Literature:

To prepare our students for the MYP literature course next year, we have decided to integrate a literature class for G 7 & 8 students.

MySchool Programmes



International Mindedness

Being an IB World School, MySchool is now attracting more expat learners in addition to the Omanis who represent approximately 79% of our students. MySchool is also trusted by many returning Omani parents returning home from countries like Canada and UK. The current year, we have welcomed students from South Africa, India, Pakistan, Zimbabwe and Philippines. And from the previous years, we have the Algerian, Tunisian, Jordanian, Egyptian, American and Sudanese nationalities.

Our teachers are also coming from different places in the world including Oman, South Africa, Iran, Tunisia, Egypt, India, Philippines, Sudan, U.S, Syria, Palestine, and Jordan. We believe that having this heterogeneous environment is actually fostering open-mindedness and encouraging empathy and mutual respect among our school community members. We all collaborate, support each other and understand our differences considering that it is just adding value and enriching our vision towards “the other”. In fact, we are all in this small community but we also belong to a wider one that is “The Sultanate Of Oman”, The Land of Peace and Love, under the wise leadership of “His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said”.



MySchool participation in the IB World Community

A main statement in MySchool vision indicates that “We offer the most innovative and the latest International curriculums” to our students. To do so, MySchool staff make sure to be up to date and to connect with scholars in terms of the latest educational approaches nationally and internationally. Thus, MySchool ties connections with different IB World School in The Sultanate, in the Middle East, and in the world in general. In fact, our programmes coordinators meet regularly with other IB schools’ coordinators in Oman for collaboration and for sharing expertise. This year, MySchool owner, Mr. Nabil Al Raissi, and principal, Mrs. Samia Al Belushi, have registered the school in the Middle East IB Association (MEIBA) and have attended the MEIBA conference that has been held on November 16th and 17th, 2018 in Bahrain. They took advantage of the event to learn more about the programmes updates (Enhanced PYP, MYP, DP) and to strengthen the relationships with the IB Middle East leaders in order to host future IB events in Oman considering that IB events are always held in countries like Dubai, Qatar, Jordan and Bahrain but never in Oman. We know that this kind of big events gathers many people from around the world who may think about Oman as a great tourism destination for their holidays which would in return benefit the economy of the country.



Why MYP

Thriving for the a quality education, MySchool decided to apply for the IB **Middle Years Programme (MYP)** by January 2019. The decision was based on a vision aiming to offer the IB Continuum. We believe that students graduating from IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) are in need of a programme that builds on the knowledge and skills they have learned in their primary education. In fact, MYP encourages the learners to become creative, critical thinkers and reflective that is to be a lifelong learner. Students are allowed to learn by doing and experiencing as through the MYP Community Project, they learn to service the community and connect what they learn in the classroom to “real life”.

The learning experiences and the assessment tasks teach them to analyze, evaluate issues, generate creative ideas and consider new perspectives. In this stage of learning, students are encouraged to use their high thinking skills and actually to learn to understand not just memorize facts or topics to prepare for exams.

MYP students are likely to explore global challenges and better understand significant ideas and issues. Consequently, learners develop an appreciation of their culture and personal history as well as the values and traditions of others. Students also feel empowered to prove their abilities and talents. Finally and most importantly, MYP prepares learners for their future education, IB DP or IB CP or any other national or international programme).



New Facilities and Initiatives

The Library:

Considered to be the core center of every successful school, MySchool library is well equipped with tangeable and digital resources including Literacy Planet App (to enhance students reading skills in English).

Our full time librarian works hard to encourage students to be active library members by engaging them in a variety of school based, national and international competitions and events.

Accordingly, MySchool learners participate in The “Arabic Reading Challenge” (تحدي القراءة العربي) every year.

And related to the local community services, MySchool has host Dar Al Attaa’s Mobile Library Bus (دار (العطاء: المكتبة المتنقل) for a week whereby all the school community purchased many resources such as fiction and non fictions books in different languages. Such action allowed our students to show empathy and to support their community in a positive way.

To ensure every student in the school read, our librarian organized a Reading Week event that allowed students to read stories and share their summaries, present role plays, and read poetry in the assembly. However, it is worth saying that this activity is not restricted to one week in the year as our student have a reserved day in the week when they can tell they schoolmates about what they have read or tell a story that they have wrote in any language they choose.

In addition to our participation in the MOE competitions, we have planned for a reading initiative entitled “ I read a book” (مبادرة قرائية: قرأت كتابا).

A new Chemistry Laboratory:

Responding to students’ needs is a commitment to MySchool Management. Accordingly, a new well-equipped Chemistry laboratory has been settled at MySchool to meet Grade 7- 10 subjects requirements in addition to the physics laboratory. The two labs are frequently used by related subjects teachers and students to encourage inquiry and performance-based tasks (science experiments).

The laboratories are maintained by a full time science technician.

Languages at MySchool

At MySchool, we pay close attention to students' language needs and abilities to ensure they are able to reach their full potential and to cope with national and international challenges. Students learn through a bilingual program that offers English as the language of instruction and Arabic as the mother tongue to maintain their culture identity in addition to French as a third language and the Chinese as a fourth language.

We believe that when students learn an additional language, other than their mother tongue, they will develop a broader understanding of other cultures as well as accept the other with all his differences.

Chinese language: Mandarin

Following the guidance of "His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said" on the importance to maintain the strong relationship of the Sultanate and China that has existed for many decades, we have decided to teach the Chinese language (Mandarin) to our students. In Fact, we hired a qualified Chinese teacher and the language course is being given to Grade 1 to 10 students who really seem to enjoy learning the language.

Just after few weeks, MySchool admins received a request from the Chinese Embassy to visit our school which they really like and to show their gratitude to the school management for teaching the Mandarin language as well as we have been informed that we are the pioneers to do so in the Middle East making us feel much more proud. The collaboration did not halt and we were requested to contribute in the recording of a documentary about the Omani - Chinese relationships by the Chinese TV.

Mirroring His Majesty's directions, makes us feel very honored wishing for more prosperity and success to the land of peace "Oman".



Support classes, Special Education Needs & Autism

Arabic Language B Support Class:

As we are welcoming non arabic speaking students, a language B class has been settled with a language specialist teacher to teach our little students the basics of the arabic spoken and written language. Learners have shown great enthusiasm and are learning very fast and they will be integrated in the respective classes soon.

Special Education Needs and Autism:

Thinking about all children to have the right to learn according to their abilities and needs, MySchool Management has decided to hire a Special Education Needs (SEN) full time teacher for the next academic year 2019-2020. We also hope that if we have got a new building, we will build a SEN section equipped with all the necessary tools and facilities as well as an Autism center that deals with the three different types of Autism Spectrum Disorder where children receive the appropriate treatment and have the opportunity to integrate in the society through well studied strategies.



Community Service

At MySchool, we believe that learning is better when it is related to real life. Indeed, involving MySchool students, parents and staff into community service has empowered our sense of belonging and strengthened our relationships by fostering empathy, care and solidarity.

Here are some of our events, participations and projects:

MySchool Marathon whereby all returns are granted to social associations (Child Cancer, Dar Al Attaa, Arahma association, ..)

Participation in the Autism Day

Maa'joureen Project (مشروع مأجورين): This project is meant to collect Eid Clothes and Food supplies for those families in need. The project has been accomplished in cooperation with Wadi Shab Team (فريق وادي شاب).

The Ambassadors of values (سفراء القيم): a project that aims to spread values among the community members.

Guest speakers:

Workshops to students to promote awareness about healthy lifestyle (accredited doctors and nutritionist from Government and private hospitals)

Professionals: examples book writers, poets, athletes, doctors, firefighters, flight attendant...

Workshop to teachers presented by the United Nations (UN) Oman.

Civil Defence: evacuation / workshop to teachers

MySchool Students' Exhibitions: Art and Technology

Hosting and attending other schools' exhibitions (Umama Girls school 10-12)

Contribution to exhibitions and celebrations in schools and universities and colleges (SQU, Caledonian, Al Mashareq primary school ...)

Main Events and Activities at MySchool

While creating MySchool Academic calendar, we always consider main events to be held every year.

Arabic Week: To enhance the learners' proficiency and to instill the love of the Arabic language into our students hearts.

English Week: To empower our students' linguistic skills and encourage them to show different talents. (Creative writing, story writing, public speech, drama, poetry..)

Maths Olympiad: A competition about maths to allow students to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills

Science Quiz: A competition about science to consolidate scientific knowledge and application.

Arts and Technology Exhibition: To give students the opportunity to show their talents to the community outside the school. The exhibition involves painting, plastic art, pottery. Etc as well as robotics, programming, electronics etc.. ..)

Spelling Bee: It is a competition that allows students to learn new vocabulary and to revise the already known words.

Sports Day: To remind students about the importance of keeping fit and healthy in an exciting way.

MySchool Marathon: It is an event to encourage the community to run to support social associations as all returns are granted to them.



Professional Development

To be an inquirer, knowledgeable and a lifelong learner is a commitment of every MySchool community member. Indeed, in every possible occasion, the school management offers to its teachers and parents qualified training sessions presented by recognized international leaders in addition to the training sessions presented by MySchool principal and the programmes coordinators and HODs .

Taking this academic year as an example.

Face to Face / in-school workshops:

We have hosted two in-school workshops led by the international educational trainer and the IB leader Ali Ezzedine from “4 Generation 4 Education” training Center in Dubai. The workshops were about Inquiry based teaching and learning, Inquiry in Maths and Sciences. In addition, our KG2 English teacher has attended a workshop in Lebanon about Play-based approach to teaching and learning in Early Years presented by Ann Van Dam in cooperation with 4 Generation 4 Education. Moreover, MySchool ICT HOD and an ICT teacher has attended a workshop held by Apple Company in Dubai and had arranged for an onsite visit to an Apple Distinguished School in Dubai. Not forgetting that we make sure that MySchool staff attend the workshops organized by the MOE.

Online workshops:

We have also registered two of MySchool leaders in an IB online workshop related to The Middle Years Programme (MYP). The course lasts for four weeks requiring participants to read resources and write and submit assignments.

Although the expensive costs, MySchool’s plan is that by 2020 all MYP teachers take IB MYP trainings.



Technology@MySchool

An Apple Distinguished School

One of the important 21st C skills students need to develop is **digital literacy**. Accordingly, since its opening, MySchool provided students with a well equipped apple ICT Lab. Then, smart boards and desktops have been established in all classrooms. A for two years now, we have introduced portable devices to our students.

MySchool learners have their personal **iPads** for (Grade 3-7) and **MacBook Pro** for (Grade 8-10). And in the short term, we would like to purchase Apple TVs for all classrooms.

Lower Primary and Early Years have in-class iPads used occasionally as we think at this age students need develop basic skills like the fine motor ones.

Additionally, MySchool's long term objective is to become an **Apple distinguished School**. As a matter of fact, we have started since last year to train our teachers by Apple Distinguished workshop leaders which prepares them to be **Apple Distinguished Teachers**. Currently, seven have already become.

STEM Project:

Our ICT teachers integrated the **STEM project (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)** into their curriculum. We believe that doing so would foster students **critical thinking skills and creativity**.

The outcome of the objectives of the programme as exhibited at MySchool Art and Technology Exhibition as well as during any technology event that allows the participation of pupils.

Examples of projects:

- Programming (Scratch)
- Sphero
- EV 3



Communicators

Derived from the IB Learner Profile, we try hard to maintain open communication with parents and everyone wishing to contact us. Thus, we have had created an attractive website, social media accounts (facebook, instagram, twitter, youtube ..). HODs are always ready to receive calls and emails from parents and respond as soon as possible to parents' queries.

ManageBac:

To allow MySchool parents to easily and all time follow up their children's academic progress, we purchased ManageBac where teachers send their weekly plans, announcements (trips, tests, quizzes, share resources, upload videos and photos...) and parents only have the login at anytime, anywhere in the world to have an idea about what their kids are doing in the school. Moreover, ManageBac contains all students e-portfolios allowing them to keep evidence of their learning and be shared with their parents who can write note and comments to teachers and children.

At MySchool, we use ManageBac for reporting too. Teachers write their periodical descriptive reports and can be shared immediately with the guardians.

We think that ManageBac is an effective tool to keep parents informed and to maintain open communication between the school community.

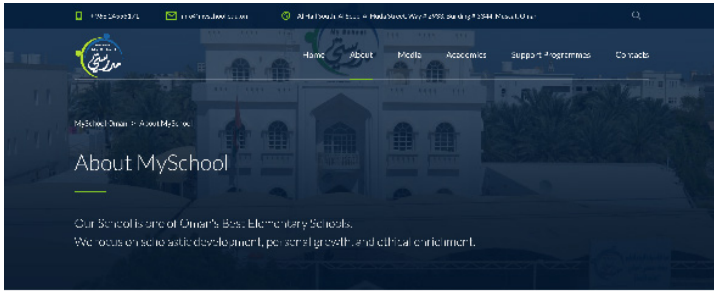
The 2 Way Conferences: It is a meeting between **teachers and parents** to discuss students progress. IT is held twice a year.

The 3 Way Conference: It a meeting including **student - parent - teacher**. The meeting is led by the students whereby they share what they have learned with their parents as well as it is an opportunity for academic discussion and future objectives setting. It is held at least 3 times a year.

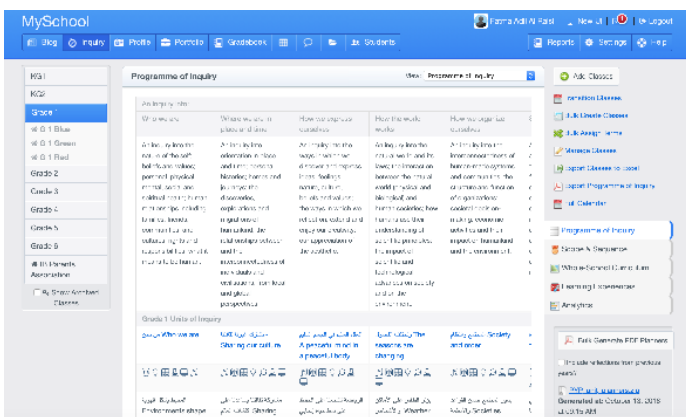
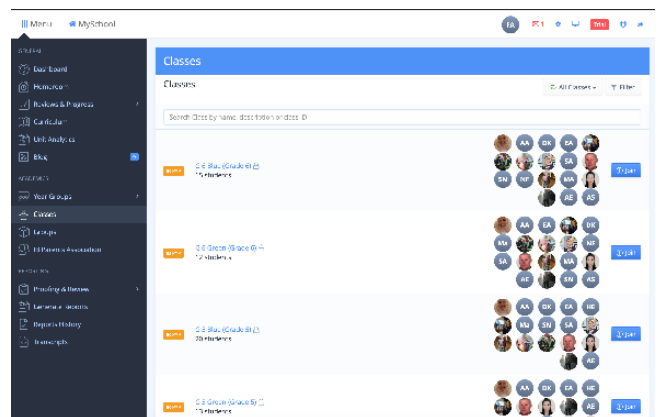
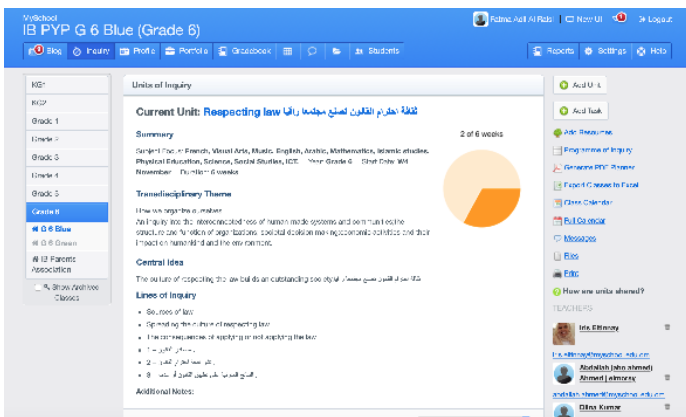
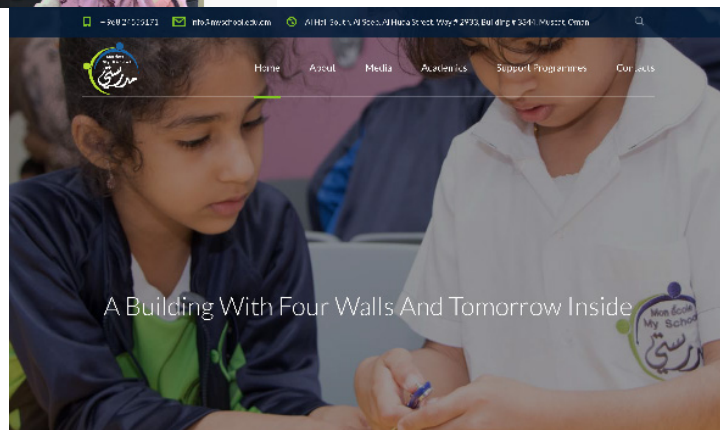
Term Reports: Besides to the MOE reports, the school report students' progress to parents 3 times a year for the Primary section and twice for the middle section.

Informal Reports and meetings: Parents are free to contact the school at any time in case they wish to take an appointment to meet with teachers or to receive an informal report about their child's academic progress.

Messages sent to parents' mobile numbers (SMS) / Letters: The school makes sure to keep parents informed. Thus, all major announcements are sent to parents as a letter (hard copy) and as an link in an sms sent to their personal mobile numbers.



Since MySchool's foundation in 2012, we have been striving to go beyond the traditional teaching methods. Using an international school model will assist in the most updated teaching techniques over our main objectives. Since the first day we centered the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) which is considered one of the most evolving educational organizations offering the best curriculum framework for the benefit of its students and outcomes.



MySchool - MyFuture

It has been said once that “THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE BEAUTY OF THEIR DREAMS”, and here at MySchool we dream big. We think that we are those kind of people who are courageous, hard workers, and persistent. We care for our students and we believe that they deserve always the better. We dream for a modern school that meets our students ambitions.

Our little thinkers wish to have spacious classrooms with flexible sitting and effective educational tools. A big library where they can nurture their minds, a big art workshop and an auditorium to show their creativity and talents and why not a studio to record and share their movies, stories and news. They also hope to have a big football stadium and a well equipped gym to keep fit and healthy. A swimming pool and a Yoga classroom to meditate and refresh their energy. They want a beautiful green area to grow plants and crops. MySchool pupils wish for a sustainable school working on the solar energy, with less trash, and more consideration to our planet. In recess time, they would like to have a spacious area where they can play video games or thinking games (Chess, puzzles..), or listen to their favourite music... They have many many more dreams... and it is their right that we adult should fight for them.

We feel that our teachers too deserve a better working environment as if they are feeling academically nurtured, professionally progressing and socially safe, they will spend more than what they can of their energy for our dear and beloved students.

As for the school management, we dream that their dreams come true... and if so the school will be able to open its doors from early morning to evening providing services and curricular and extracurricular activities to everyone with teachers and supervisors taking shifts to make sure they are safe and sound.

At MySchool, we use to face challenges with an open heart and a belief that we will succeed one day in a way or in another. We strongly believe that we will! Cause with the support of our parents, big community, organizations and government we can achieve our goals and more.

