



ADVANCED LEARNING SCHOOLS
ADMISSION POLICY
This is a whole School Policy

Revised September 2022



Introduction:

ALS Vision

Advanced Learning Schools prepare global citizens to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world, while honoring their own cultural heritage and identity.

ALS Mission

Advanced Learning Schools offer a high-quality education in a safe and caring environment, with a commitment to life-long learning and digital citizenship, while inspiring students to become creative, compassionate, and analytical thinkers.

IB Mission statement

The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



General Admissions Criteria:

All enrolments at Advanced Learning Schools are made by the Admissions office based on the academic level as well as space availability. Criteria for enrolment include age, entrance assessment, previous school records, English language proficiency, learning achievement, and the ability to make tuition and fee payments.

General Admissions Process:

- The applicant's profile must be complete with all required documents on the checklist to be scheduled for an entrance assessment.
- The acceptance of any student from Grade 2-12 is pending upon the receipt of the original file from the previous school.
- Once the student completes the entrance assessment and is offered admission to ALS, the admissions office will issue an acceptance letter to the parents in order for them to submit it to their previous school. This will ensure that the previous school will release the original records to the parents.

Waiting Lists:

Any student applying for a waiting list will be given priority in the waiting list if they have siblings *attending* the school. If space becomes available, all applicants on the waitlist will be invited to proceed with assessment.

Admission Process in the PYP program (KG - Grade 5)

The school administration reserves the right to place the student at the most appropriate grade level based on the results of the interview as well as the criteria of the oral and written assessments, which include English language proficiency and Mathematics. Students are required to exhibit sufficient listening and speaking proficiency in English with which to follow instructions and explanations in the classroom. Students must be able to express their ideas in written form and read with comprehension at the required grade level. For students applying to KGI and KGII, they will be given assessments that are developmentally appropriate for their age.



Age Requirements:

Ministry of Education popularization number. 32971247 dated May 10, 2011, effective the 2011-2012 academic year, states that a child who is 5 years and 6 months at the beginning of the school year may enter Grade 1 providing that he or she has been in a KG program for two consecutive semesters and has a certificate from that school. This is based on the Hijri calendar which translates into 3 years and 5 months on the Gregorian calendar. Please note that the KG program has to be one that is licensed and certified by the Ministry of Education.

Based on this, ALS has decided to accept students into KG1 who are 3 years and 6 months Gregorian date in order to accommodate them entering Grade 1 at the age of 5 years and 6 months. However, the child must meet the admissions requirements including the entrance assessment in order to ensure that he/she will succeed in this grade level.

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Approximate Age as of August 22, 2022</u>
KG I	3 Years and 6 Months <u>(calculated on the first day of the school academic year)</u>
KG II	4 Years and 6 Months <u>(calculated on the first day of the school academic year)</u>
Grade 1	5 Years and 10 Months <u>(calculated on the first day of the school academic year)</u> or (5 years and 6 months if they have been in a KG programme based on Hijri calendar.) <u>(calculated on the first day of the school academic year)</u>

Admission Procedure

Students interested to enroll in the PYP program at ALS need to follow the procedure outlined below:

Stage 1: Informative Interview

The Admissions and the PYP coordinator meet with the students and parents to give a general overview of the IB PYP and school philosophy.



For further information, students and parents are encouraged to read the following documents:

- ALS Parent Handbook
- ALS Policies
- ALS Tuition Fees Table Parents and students can now make an informed decision concerning their willingness to enroll in the programme.

Stage 2: Application Students applying to the programme need to provide the following documents:

- Completed ALS Open Apply application form
- Uploading all of the required documents
- Copies of the student's previous school reports/transcripts for the previous years

Stage 3: Admission Assessments

➤ Entrance Assessments: All interested students are required to take entrance assessments for mathematics and language arts and a general interview. The KG entrance assessments are interactive and are based on hands-on activities. The entrance assessments are conducted by a selected team (library teacher, learning support teachers, Vice Principal and/or Principal) and revised by the Principal for a final decision on acceptance.

MYP-DP (Grades 6-12) Entrance Assessments:

- All MYP-DP applicants (Grades 6-12) are required to complete an entrance assessment in order to evaluate their English language proficiency as well as their Mathematics skills, using the MAP screening test.
- We do not share MAP screening results, as each admissions decision is based on a complete review of the applicant's profile. MAP entrance results may be evaluated in comparison with a range of school-based norms.
- The assessment will be administered by a member of ALS staff who will then forward the results as well as his/her recommendations to the building principal. **The Principal reviews the entire file for a final decision.**
- The Admissions Office will notify parents of the admissions decision within 2-3 working days from the day of the entrance assessment.



- The entrance assessment fee is 5,750SR (VAT inclusive), payable on the day of the assessment. This fee covers the cost of the assessment only and non-refundable. In case of the child being denied admission, the applicant may retake the entrance assessment one additional time within 6 months without paying a new assessment fee.
- Students applying to Grades 11-12 normally have to be transferring from an IB Diploma school. The number of credits earned will be evaluated by both the Diploma Programme Coordinator and the Principal in order to decide whether the student is able to graduate in Grade 12. Acceptance is based on the results of an interview, entrance assessment, and the availability of ALS DP courses.

Next review: January, 2024

This policy should be considered alongside and in conjunction with the following school policies: Inclusion Policy, Language Policy and Assessment Policy.