



Junior School Information Booklet



KENT COLLEGE
DUBAI

Our School

The Junior School at Kent College provides a dynamic learning environment which is full of energy, enthusiasm, and creativity. The British-based approach to education instils a love of learning which can be seen in all areas of work and play. The experience, expertise and dedication of our highly-qualified staff create a positive atmosphere where pupils thrive and can achieve their very best as independent learners.

We nurture learning through child-centred approaches, technology and a variety of learning styles. The development of thinking skills and strong personal characteristics are a key focus for us at Kent College and supported in all areas of school life. In the Junior School we strive to deliver creative and interactive programmes of study that are further enhanced and enriched by a comprehensive programme of extra-curricular activities which add breadth and depth to our pupils' learning.





Pastoral Care

In the Junior School, we strive for every individual to feel respected, known and cared for. A strong pastoral system nurtures positive relationships and promotes an ethos that both values and celebrates children as individuals while nurturing a strong sense of community. Members of staff are committed to creating an inclusive environment that fosters well-being and emphasises personal development. The school has effective policies and takes very seriously its responsibilities to ensure that children are safe.

Underpinning the curriculum are the Learner Profile qualities, which we develop through regular assemblies, a strong PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education) programme and a wide range of memorable experiences both inside and outside the classroom. Emphasis is placed upon children developing the qualities of independence, responsibility and resilience. We want our children to have confidence to take life's ups and downs in their stride and to understand that challenges and mistakes are part of the learning process. The development of children's ability to communicate and collaborate effectively features prominently throughout school life.

We strive for our children to have a clear understanding of their place in the world and provide them with opportunities to contribute with confidence through leadership and community involvement. This is achieved through our house system, the GREAT programme (for Key Stage 2 pupils) and positions of responsibility across all areas of school life. Supporting charities and making links within the community is actively encouraged. Our curriculum reflects the school's international setting and celebrates the diversity of Dubai and the region.





Our Curriculum

At Kent College we use the English National Curriculum, which provides detailed programmes of study and encompasses a broad range of subjects which include:

- ▶ English
- ▶ Maths
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Arabic
- ▶ Islamic / Cultural Studies
- ▶ History
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ Music
- ▶ Physical Education (P.E.)
- ▶ Art and Design
- ▶ Design Technology
- ▶ Computing
- ▶ Languages (French)



Extra-Curricular Activities

From Year 1 onwards, pupils are expected to take part in the Extra Curricular Activities Programme. Each half term a new and wide range of activities are offered in the areas of sport, visual and performing arts, ensemble and individual music, languages and more.



The GREAT Programme

The Gifted, Really Enthusiastic, Able and Talented programme is an exciting lesson for all children in Years 3-6. The focus of GREAT is to develop and support children's own interests in an area of their choosing. The groups are flexible and of mixed ages and ability, encouraging collaborative learning and social skills from all of our Key Stage 2 pupils. Children have the opportunity to learn with new teachers and children in fun and creative ways.



Learning Support

At Kent College, we are an inclusive learning environment and believe that each child is entitled to a curriculum that facilitates their individual development and support which allows them to achieve their full academic potential. Most of the time, the learning needs of our pupils can be met by class teachers. However, at certain stages along their learning journey some pupils may need curriculum modification or specific intervention.

In the Junior School, when a child experiences challenges that require additional support, we have a well-resourced Learning Support team who are able to cater to more individual needs. Through a collaborative, caring approach and working in partnership with children, parents and colleagues, the Learning Support team provides a range of interventions to support learning differences across the Junior School. A range of assessment tools are used to identify learning needs, track progress and to determine the correct level of support. Attention is given to the learning preferences of each child and these are accommodated through our multi sensory programmes. Where necessary, Individual Support Plans are set up which provide achievable and measurable targets that are regularly reviewed. Some children may need additional support with the adjustment to new learning environments and routines as they move through the school and the transition processes is closely monitored with the Learning Support team playing a strong role, academically and pastorally.



Languages

At Kent College, our aim is to encourage a love of languages and an appreciation of cultures, as well as to equip our pupils with essential language learning

skills which will form a strong platform for fluency and further study if appropriate. Language lessons are of a high standard and delivered in the same motivating and inclusive way as all other lessons. We believe that children should look forward to their language lessons and take pride in their increasing abilities to communicate in another tongue. Language learning at Kent College is characterised by active learning in stimulating and supportive classroom environments. Lessons are led by well qualified, experienced language teachers. Currently at Kent College, we offer French from Year 3 upwards and Arabic from Foundation Stage 1 upwards.



Technology

At Kent College we recognise the enormous potential of modern technology to enhance and enrich learning. We are also committed to preparing our children to be successful in a society permeated with technology. We embrace new technology wherever it supports pupils' learning. Staff are confident users of technology and are encouraged to be innovative. Pupils use technology to inquire, communicate and safely take risks. In the Junior School, the use of technology to support learning is embedded across the curriculum and our specialist ICT teacher ensures that the children are increasing their skills, confidence and experience of using ICT as they progress through the school. All children in the Junior School join our Google Classroom programme and regularly use this to access information. Our hardware of choice for pupils is the Google Chromebook which is owned by the pupils from Year 3 upwards and managed by the school. In addition to the Chromebooks, each year group area has access to a range of technology, including interactive Promethean boards in each classroom. In Years 1 and 2, class sets of iPads are also available to teachers for specific tasks.



Library

The Junior School Library is a delightful learning environment, spread over two floors, which provides a wide range of books and other media to support and enrich our curriculum. It has a strong role in facilitating voluntary reading and literacy development. All pupils visit the library on a weekly basis with their class, and are encouraged to use the library at other times, such as breaks and after school, when there is a happy, relaxed atmosphere in which to enjoy reading in a truly inspirational environment. Librarians are happy to advise about reading choices, and promote the reading habit through author visits, competitions and other means. Our books have been purchased from a range of countries to ensure a rich diversity and we also have books in Arabic to support and inspire language development. The library may be used by all members of the school community: pupils, parents, staff and visitors.





Reporting to Parents

We are constantly seeking to strengthen our partnership with parents and one of the ways we do this is through reporting to parents and actively involving parents in their children's learning. Parent orientation sessions, workshops, parents' evening and coffee mornings are planned for parents to come into school at regular points throughout the year to meet and speak with teachers and Senior Leaders about their child's academic and social progress.

Progress reports are written at the end of the Autumn term and all children receive a summative report in June.


Although we have calendared, formal opportunities for parents at school, we have an open door policy, which means that teachers are always available to meet with parents at a mutually convenient time throughout the year and discuss any concerns they may have.









 kentcollege.ae

 registrar@kentcollege.ae

 +971 (0) 4-3180700

 Kent College Dubai,
PO Box 334022,
Dubai,
United Arab Emirates