

Al Rayan International School

Saturday Programme

Welcome to the ARIS Arabic Saturday Programme Handbook!

This Handbook will act as a guide illustrating the teaching and content of the ARIS Arabic Saturday Programme. We aim to give the community an overview of the curriculum that will take place throughout the year. The aim of this Handbook is to support your child in the learning process, and to be part of our journey.

ARIS being an International School with a multicultural group of Students and Staff, we strongly encourage our students to learn foreign languages, as it exposes them to different cultures as well as different linguistic systems, thereby, enabling an understanding of diversities and similarities in communities around the world. We believe that intercultural awareness, understanding and competence are not only essential skills for modern life and work, but they are intrinsically of value. More than 40 languages are spoken in the ARIS community but so far ARIS offers the following: English, Arabic, French, Spanish, German, Mandarin and Hindi.

Beside the weekly routine schedule, ARIS runs an Arabic Language Saturday Programme. This Programme caters to students who attend other schools in Ghana. In addition to the benefits gained by the students who participate, it is an important way of supporting and strengthening our local connections.

Students within the Saturday programme can also benefit from the Aris Library, facilities, educational resources and software.

It is important to note that ARIS has been awarded for its Cambridge IGCSE Arabic results in the past five years, in addition to always scoring higher than the world average in International Baccalaureate Diploma Arabic language course.

All ARIS Arabic teachers are International Baccalaureate and Cambridge International Assessment accredited educators that receive training on a yearly basis on best practices in teaching and learning. They collaborate strongly with all other language and subject teachers as a way to constantly improve on the programme.

On another note, the Saturday Programme also offers an Islamic Studies Programme that also includes Quran for Muslim families who opt in.

Please use this booklet as a “key” to unlock the door to many answers that you may be searching for, about learning Arabic, ISP and Quran.

Feel free to contact your child’s Saturday Programme class teacher if you have any further questions or make an appointment to see them in person. Alternatively, you may send an email or call the Head of the department for further queries. To do so, please refer to the (ARIS-GUIDE TO A SUCESSFUL SATURDAY PROGRAMME). Photographs and biography of the

Arabic and ISP staff currently teaching on Saturday are available on the school website www.aris.edu.gh

Saturday Arabic Programme Mission and Aims:

At ARIS (Saturday Programme), we aim to inspire and empower the students to learn the Arabic language, through a diverse and exciting curriculum. We are working hard to develop a systematic curriculum which is dynamic, balanced and simple to ensure that the students enjoy a practical, fun and challenging learning experience that prepare them to be effective learners, communicators and thinkers. We are also committed to make our students sit for the IGCSE exam.

ARIS Saturday Programme curriculum is a based level and it is designed to fit a large number of people who are Arabic native speakers and no native speakers.

Aims of the curriculum are to:

- introduce foreign language awareness and appreciation at an early age
- nurture a love for the Arabic language
- foster a positive attitude and respect towards a diversity of cultures specifically the Arab's Culture
- help learners understand their own Mother Tongue and culture (Native Speakers)
- acknowledge language diversity
- enhance learners' personal development
- strengthen lifelong learning skills
- promote digital literacy for language learning

Activities:

Many activities can feature as part of the school calendar of events. These can include activities focusing on intercultural aspects, storytelling, drama/role play activities, cooking sessions etc. All parents are welcome to attend either as an audience or as ambassadors of their respective countries and cultures.

Assessment:

The content of our syllabus is designed to enable students to attain the different targets in The Level Descriptors established by the *Bonnie Campbell Hill* (<http://www.bonniecampbellhill.com/support.php>)

A copy of the Level Descriptors for Arabic is found on each student exercise book.

Teachers of Arabic should make use of different assessment strategies to make sure that information is being recorded regarding the knowledge and understanding that are being acquired.

Assessment strategies should be according to the learning outcomes being addressed, be manageable in number and be encouraging of the learning process. We have two types of assessment; Formative and Summative.

Assessment is fundamental for students' learning advancement. With the evidence that is recorded or collected from the students' work, teachers of Arabic should be able to make balanced judgements when reporting about their students' performance. Since assessment is formative and summative.

Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing: These skills should be carried out throughout the academic year. Teachers of Arabic are expected to keep records of students' marks and level obtained in their class registers.

- *Listening* (15%). Assessment activities for this skill may include dictations, listening comprehension texts, and songs with lyrics, television programmes, and educational videos.
- *Speaking* (15%). Assessment activities for this skill may include conversations in groups, role-plays, one to one, prepared oral presentations, interviews, culture or artwork presentations, displays and dramatic sketches in Arabic.
- *Reading* (20%) Assessment activities for this skill may include reading aloud or in silence stories, rhymed prose, poems and other informative or literary texts. Reading aloud should help the students to practice pronunciation and intonation and to answer questions orally on a given text.
- *Writing* (50%) Assessment activities for this skill may consist of any writing task such as essays, translations, written comprehension texts, letters, electronic messages, multimedia presentations, and grammar drills, editing and collecting information in Arabic from the internet or other sources.

Saturday Arabic Programme Mission and Aims:

ARIS Saturday Programme also includes an Islamic Studies Programme. The Islamic Studies curriculum in ARIS focuses on personality and character development of children, paying close attention to the real needs and concerns of students, and preparation of students with the critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed to function successfully as Muslims in the global world.

On Saturday we are aiming to help shape the children's first and lasting ideas about themselves, their religion and their culture

- Motivate the students to develop a love for their Qura'an and to enable them to memorize at least Juzu'Amma
- Encourage students to become independent learners who have a responsibility to present their identity and be proud of it
- Learn, apply and practice the Islamic values and follows the path of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)

General objectives for the Islamic Studies Programme:

- To teach students the fundamentals of Islam which includes:
 1. Iman (Faith)
 2. Quran and Hadith
 3. Fiqh
 - Ibadah (Worship)
 - Akhlaaq (Morals)
 4. Shariah (Islamic Law)
 5. Sirah (History of Islam and the prophets)

Reporting system

- Reports are to be sent to parents through their emails at the end of the academic year in June.

School Days:

- All days are set on the calendar, please refer to www.aris.edu.gh Saturday Section

Timings:

- Our doors are open at 8:30 every Saturday and we close at 12:30 for the Early Years students and 12:45 for other classes, in case of late arrival or early pick up, student must report to the admin office.
- Break time is from: 11:00am to 11:30am and students are provided with different kind of pastries and juice.

Dress code:

- Students should wear a comfortable and protective outfit and shoes to be able to take part in all activities.

Pick up:

- Parents are to pick their ward from the security point showing their ID card, No student will be picked up without an ID.