

# Document 1: UAE National Education Policy 2025-2030

## EMIRATES EDUCATION ADVANCEMENT POLICY

### FEDERAL CABINET RESOLUTION NO. 15 OF 2025 Concerning the National Education Policy Framework 2025-2030

#### PREAMBLE

In pursuance of the UAE Constitution, specifically Articles 17 and 23, and in alignment with the UAE Vision 2071 and "We the UAE 2031" national development plan, the Federal Cabinet hereby promulgates the National Education Policy Framework 2025-2030, designed to establish the UAE as a global leader in educational excellence and innovation.

#### POLICY OBJECTIVES

**1. STRATEGIC VISION** To develop a world-class education system that prepares UAE citizens and residents for the knowledge economy of the future, fostering innovation, critical thinking, and global competitiveness while preserving Emirati cultural values and identity.

#### 2. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

- Excellence in educational delivery and outcomes
- Equity and accessibility for all learners
- Innovation and technological integration
- Cultural preservation and national identity
- Global competitiveness and international standards
- Sustainability and environmental consciousness

#### SECTION I: CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS

##### 1.1 Core Curriculum Requirements

- Mandatory Subjects:** Arabic Language, English Language, Mathematics, Science, Islamic Studies (for Muslim students), UAE Social Studies, Physical Education
- Emerging Technologies Integration:** Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Coding, Digital Literacy (mandatory from Grade 1)
- 21st Century Skills:** Critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, problem-solving
- Global Citizenship:** Environmental sustainability, cultural awareness, ethical leadership

**1.2 Artificial Intelligence Education** Effective academic year 2025-2026, all public schools shall implement mandatory AI education integrated within the Computing, Creative Design, and Innovation subject framework:

- Grades K-2:** Basic computational thinking and digital citizenship

- **Grades 3-5:** Introduction to algorithms and pattern recognition
- **Grades 6-8:** Machine learning concepts and AI ethics
- **Grades 9-12:** Advanced AI applications and future career preparation

### 1.3 Language Policy

- **Arabic Language:** Primary language of instruction for core subjects, mandatory for all students
- **English Language:** Medium of instruction for Mathematics and Science from Grade 6
- **Third Language:** Mandatory from Grade 7 (Chinese, French, German, or Spanish)

## SECTION II: TEACHER DEVELOPMENT AND STANDARDS

**2.1 Teacher Licensing Framework** The Teacher and Educational Leadership Standards (TELS UAE) Licensing Programme establishes:

- **Minimum Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in relevant field, professional teaching certificate
- **Continuous Professional Development:** 40 hours annually for license renewal
- **Performance Assessment:** Annual evaluation based on student outcomes and professional standards
- **Specialization Requirements:** AI literacy certification mandatory by 2026

### 2.2 Educator Support Systems

- **National Teacher Training Institute:** Establishment by 2026 with campuses in each emirate
- **Professional Learning Communities:** Mandatory participation for all licensed educators
- **Mentorship Programs:** Pairing experienced educators with new teachers
- **Research and Innovation Grants:** AED 50 million annually for educational research

## SECTION III: ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

### 3.1 National Assessment Framework

- **Emirates Standardized Test (EmSAT):** Mandatory assessment for Grades 3, 6, 9, and 12
- **International Benchmarking:** Participation in PISA, TIMSS, and PIRLS assessments
- **Continuous Assessment:** 60% continuous assessment, 40% standardized testing
- **Skills-Based Evaluation:** Assessment of 21st-century skills alongside academic content

### 3.2 Quality Assurance Mechanisms

- **School Inspection Framework:** Annual quality audits by Ministry of Education inspectors

- **Student Progress Monitoring:** Real-time tracking through National Education Management System
- **Parent and Community Engagement:** Mandatory quarterly progress reports and stakeholder feedback

## SECTION IV: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

### 4.1 Digital Infrastructure Requirements

- **Connectivity Standards:** High-speed internet (minimum 1GB) in all educational institutions
- **Device Access:** 1:1 student-to-device ratio by 2027
- **Learning Management Systems:** Unified national platform for all schools
- **Data Analytics:** AI-powered systems for personalized learning pathways

### 4.2 Innovation Labs and Makerspaces

- **Mandatory Infrastructure:** Every school must establish innovation labs by 2026
- **STEAM Education:** Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics integrated curricula
- **Entrepreneurship Programs:** Business incubation support for student innovations
- **Industry Partnerships:** Collaboration with private sector for real-world learning

## SECTION V: SPECIAL EDUCATION AND INCLUSION

**5.1 People of Determination Support** Federal Law No. 29 of 2006 implementation enhancement:

- **Individualized Education Plans (IEPs):** Mandatory for all students with special needs
- **Assistive Technology:** State-funded provision of necessary educational technology
- **Specialized Staff:** Trained special education teachers in all schools
- **Inclusive Environments:** Universal design for learning principles in all institutions

### 5.2 Gifted and Talented Programs

- **Identification Systems:** Standardized screening for exceptional abilities
- **Acceleration Options:** Grade skipping and subject-specific advancement
- **Enrichment Programs:** After-school and summer intensive learning opportunities
- **Scholarships:** Merit-based funding for advanced educational opportunities

## SECTION VI: PRIVATE EDUCATION REGULATION

### 6.1 Licensing and Standards

- **Curriculum Approval:** 17 approved international curricula (UK, US, Indian, IB, French, German, etc.)
- **Quality Standards:** Mandatory adherence to UAE educational standards
- **Teacher Licensing:** All educators must hold UAE teaching licenses
- **Fee Regulation:** Transparent fee structures approved by education authorities

## 6.2 Charter School Initiative Abu Dhabi Charter Schools expansion:

- **Public-Private Partnership Model:** Government funding with private sector management
- **Performance Contracts:** Results-based accountability systems
- **Innovation Freedom:** Flexibility in curriculum delivery within national standards
- **Expansion Target:** 50 charter schools nationwide by 2030

## SECTION VII: HIGHER EDUCATION ALIGNMENT

### 7.1 University Readiness Standards

- **Admission Requirements:** EmSAT scores aligned with university entry criteria
- **Advanced Placement Programs:** Credit transfer agreements with universities
- **Research Projects:** Mandatory capstone projects for Grade 12 students
- **Career Guidance:** Professional counseling and pathway planning services

### 7.2 Technical and Vocational Education (TVET)

- **Skills-Based Tracks:** Alternative pathways from Grade 9
- **Industry Certifications:** Recognized professional qualifications
- **Apprenticeship Programs:** Workplace learning partnerships
- **Higher Colleges of Technology Integration:** Seamless transition pathways

## SECTION VIII: FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

### 8.1 Budget Allocation

- **Federal Investment:** AED 15.5 billion annually (15.5% of federal budget)
- **Infrastructure Development:** AED 2 billion for technology and facility upgrades
- **Teacher Development:** AED 500 million for professional development programs
- **Innovation Fund:** AED 300 million for educational research and development

### 8.2 Scholarship Programs

- **Emirati Students:** Full funding for high-performing students in international universities
- **Merit-Based Awards:** Academic excellence recognition and support
- **STEM Emphasis:** Additional funding for science and technology studies
- **Research Scholarships:** PhD funding for educational innovation research

## SECTION IX: IMPLEMENTATION AND GOVERNANCE

### 9.1 Institutional Responsibilities

- **Ministry of Education (MoE):** Federal policy oversight and coordination
- **Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK):** Abu Dhabi implementation

- **Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA):** Dubai regulation and oversight
- **Local Education Councils:** Emirate-specific program delivery

## 9.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Annual Progress Reports:** Comprehensive assessment of policy implementation
- **Key Performance Indicators:** Student achievement, teacher quality, innovation metrics
- **International Benchmarking:** Comparison with global best practices
- **Stakeholder Feedback:** Regular consultation with parents, teachers, and community

## SECTION X: LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ENFORCEMENT

### 10.1 Regulatory Compliance

- **Mandatory Implementation:** All educational institutions must comply by September 2025
- **Inspection Authority:** Ministry empowered to conduct compliance audits
- **Sanctions:** License suspension for non-compliance with national standards
- **Appeals Process:** Administrative review procedures for regulatory decisions

### 10.2 Quality Assurance

- **Professional Standards:** Teacher and administrator certification requirements
- **Student Rights:** Protection of learner rights and academic freedom
- **Data Protection:** Secure handling of student information and privacy
- **Equal Opportunity:** Non-discrimination in educational access and delivery

## EFFECTIVE DATE AND REVIEW

This Policy shall take effect from the date of publication in the Official Gazette and shall be reviewed every five years or as deemed necessary by the Federal Cabinet.

**APPROVED BY:** H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE Ruler of Dubai

**COUNTERSIGNED:** H.E. Ahmad Belhouel Al Falasi Minister of Education

**DATE:** January 15, 2025 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 1, 2025