



The Amman Bacculaureate School

Candidate Information

A bilingual, IB school located in Amman, Jordan
Ages 4 - 18, K - 12, Co-educational



مدرسة البكالوريا - عمان
Amman Bacculaureate School

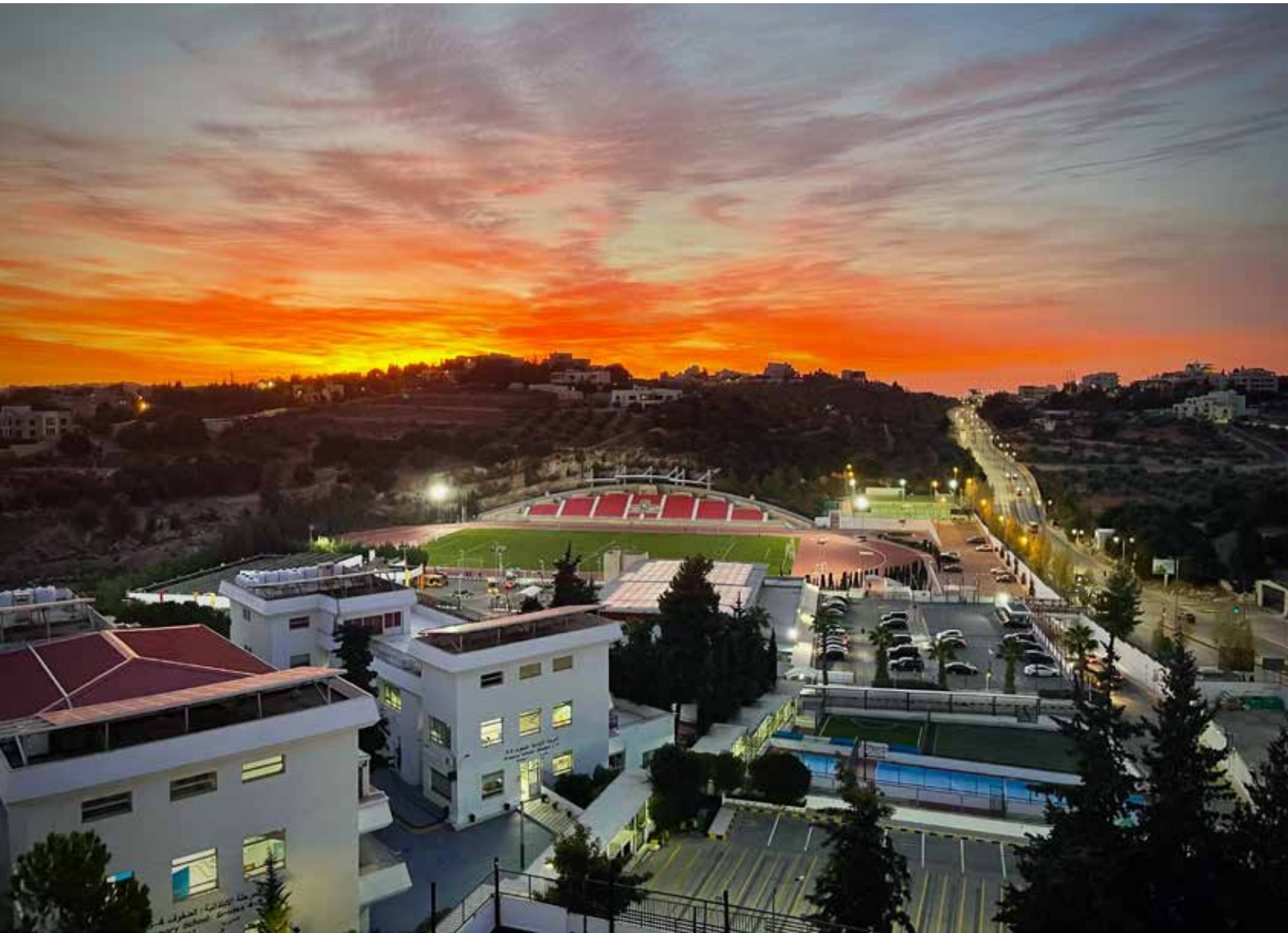


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AN INTRODUCTION TO ABS

The Amman Bacculaureate School (ABS) was founded by **Their Royal Highnesses Prince El Hassan bin Talal and Princess Sarvath El Hassan of Jordan** in 1981.

HRH Princess Sarvath, the founding Chairwoman of the Board, led the school tirelessly for 40 years, as a pioneering international school with an impressive reputation for excellence in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Middle East, and globally. ABS was the first truly bilingual IB school in Jordan, and the region.

Last summer, HRH Princess Sarvath passed the responsibility of leading the school into the next 40 years to her daughter, **HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan**. Princess Sumaya is now the Chair of the Board of Trustees and is totally committed to ensuring ABS stays true to its founding values.

The Amman Bacculaureate School's Guiding Statements 2022

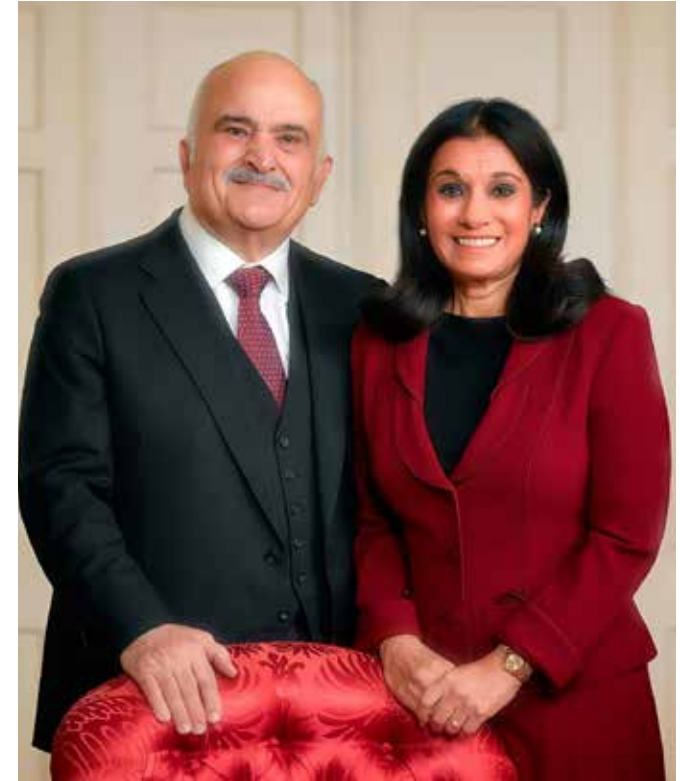
التربية والتعليم

Our Mission

To prepare rooted, connected, respectful and impactful new generations in a happy, caring, disciplined and mindful environment

Our Vision

A quality education and principled upbringing



Our Founders:

Their Royal Highnesses Prince El Hassan bin Talal
Chairman of the Hashemite Society for Education

and Princess Sarvath El Hassan
Chairwoman Emeritus

WHO WE ARE

The Amman Bacculaureate School (ABS) was formed in 1981 upon a foundation of academic excellence, and a commitment to the holistic development of our students. Deeply rooted in our proud Jordanian heritage ABS seeks to educate global citizens who are simultaneously firmly grounded in and proud of their rich and varied Jordanian culture and heritage. This is an ethos that remains today.

Students are encouraged to be intellectually curious and spiritually conscious, respecting difference without prejudice to one's own principles; to give the very best of themselves in all things; to be kind and compassionate to others; and to contribute to the community at school, at home and beyond.

The ABS nurtures and encourages students to be resilient, adaptable, and passionate global citizens, ready to go out into the world as grounded, confident, upstanding men and women.

These values are at the very core of our shared life, shaping a community of ethical learners with agency, who are an influence for good in a challenging and changing world.

The ABS has always been an innovative coeducational day school operating at the forefront of the changing world of international education.

There are currently 1179 students aged 4 to 18, as well 28 preschool children in the crèche.



WHO WE ARE

The Amman BaccaLaureate School is recognised as a leading pioneer school in the region for fostering a stimulating learning environment based upon the International BaccaLaureate philosophy and enhanced by appropriate educational technologies and a rigorous differentiated curriculum, and it was the first International BaccaLaureate School in the Middle East to be authorised to offer IB. The ABS now offers the four IB programmes.

The ABS is a member of Round Square and the Round Square Discovery Programme is fully integrated into the curricular and cocurricular life of the School.

The ABS is a mission and vision-led school and the Al Tarbiyeh acronym has been developed to encapsulate the key attributes of an ABS education. This is fully understood and embedded across the school community and is used to evaluate all aspects of school life.



Interpreting our motto: ALTARBIYEH

تفسير شعارنا: التَّربِيَّة

Arab Heritage

التراث العربي

Lifelong Learners

التعلّم مدى الحياة

Teamwork

العمل بروح الفريق

Achievement

الإنجاز

Responsibility

المسؤولية

Bilingualism to Biliteracy

التمكّن اللغوي

International Mindedness

الأفق الدولي

Youth Agency

تمكين الشباب

Excellence

التفوّق

Holistic Education

التعلّم الشمولي



Our Essential Agreements

اتفاقيتنا الأساسية

الاحترام
Respect

التسامح
Tolerance

الصدق
Honesty

النزاهة
Integrity

التعاون
Cooperation

الالتزام
Commitment

التعاطف
Empathy

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Governance

The ABS benefits from the support and strategic guidance of a distinguished Board of Trustees. The Chair of the Board is Her Royal Highness Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan and there are 9 members who are appointed at the invitation of the Chair after nomination and voting by the Board. The Principal is an ex officio member.

The Board sets broad Key Performance Indicators for the Principal and then exercises its duties to oversee that the Principal and the Leadership Team achieve these goals.

This year HRH Princess Sumaya has taken on the additional role of School Director ad interim until the new Principal is appointed.

The Board of Trustees delegate the running of the ABS to the Principal who is responsible for chairing the Senior Leadership Team.

Leadership

The ABS has a dedicated SLT that is comprised of:

- Vice Principal (Learning and Development)
- Vice Principal (Student Development)
- Head of IB Diploma College
- Head of Middle Years School
- Head of Primary Years School

This team oversees the three distinct sections which make up the ABS:

- Primary School (KG1 to Grade 5)
- Middle Years School (Grade 6 to Grade 10)
- The IB College (Grade 11 and Grade 12)

In addition there is an Extended Leadership Team which includes: Senior Director of Studies for Arab Culture and Heritage, Head of Student Affairs, Campus Life and Inclusive Access, Head of Student Engagement, Executive Director of the AEN Centre, Executive Director for Finance, Human Resources and Development, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Director of University Counselling, Director of Operations as well as other senior Leaders..



HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan
Chairman of the Board of Trustees
School Director ad interim 2022/2023

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Staff

The ABS attracts high-calibre staff who bring considerable experience of other leading international schools and other high-performing education systems from around the world.

The school employs nearly 192 teaching staff and 21 academic support staff, as well as 39 administrators. There are also 78 employees who work as service staff. The school also has a robust volunteer programme and outsources around 40 members of staff who assist in a variety of after school activities and initiatives.

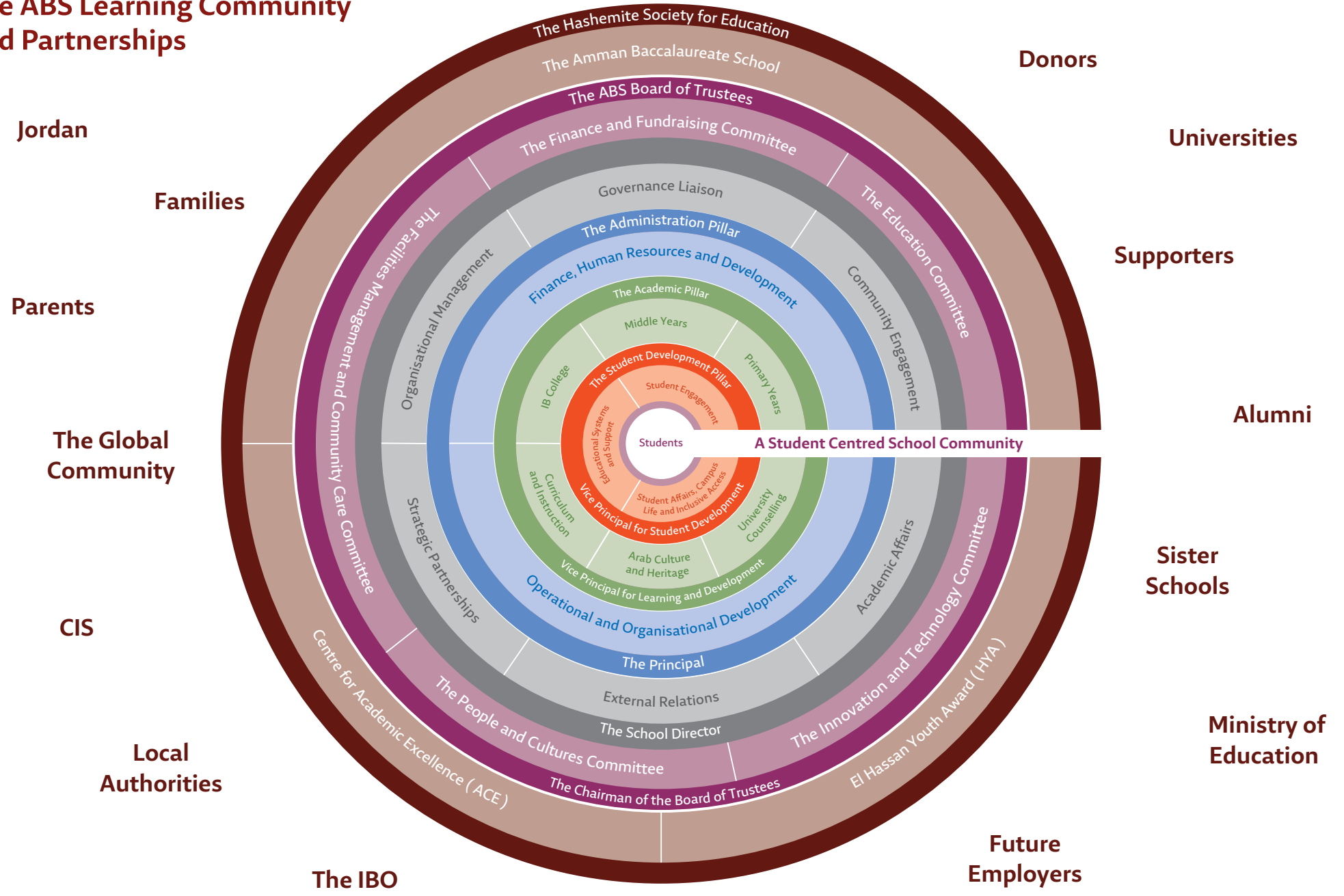
A strong emphasis on continuing professional development for all staff is a key strength of the ABS and this is reflected in both the popularity of the School and in the low levels of staff turnover.

Many of the teaching staff belong to the IB Educator Network (IBEN) and support IB schools worldwide as Programme Evaluators, Programme Leaders, Consultants, Workshop Leaders and Examiners.

The School also has a partnership with the University of Bath through which staff can participate in the IB Educator Certificate Programme to further enhance their qualifications, and extend their development, leading to a Master's Degree in International Education or Educational Management.



The ABS Learning Community and Partnerships



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The ABS prides itself on delivering an international, bilingual education of the highest quality. The School is a vibrant learning community in which expert teachers support each individual to achieve his or her potential in the classroom.



Teaching Objectives

The Teaching Objectives of the Amman Baccalaureate School are adapted from the IB Learner Profile. As a Jordanian IB World School, the ABS aims to provide an educational environment where students aspire to become:

Inquirers - developing skills of inquiry and research, nurturing curiosity and building a lifelong love of learning.

Knowledgeable - developing and using conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines and engaging with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

Thinkers - using critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems, exercising initiative in making reasonable and ethical decisions.

Communicators - confident and creative expression in more than one language with effective collaboration and careful listening to the perspectives of others.

Principled - acting with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice and with respect for the dignity and rights of all people.

Open-minded - critical appreciation of one's own culture and personal history as well as the values and traditions of others.

Caring - showing empathy, compassion and respect with a commitment to service and action to make a positive difference to the lives of others.

Risk-takers - approaching uncertainty with forethought and determination, and being resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

Balanced - understanding the importance of balancing the intellectual, physical and emotional aspects of life, recognising interdependence with other people and the wider world.

Reflective - understanding personal strengths and weaknesses in order to support learning and development.

CURRICULUM

Building on over 40 years of success, the ABS Primary Years School (K-5) is one of the few schools in Jordan and the Middle East authorised to offer a Bilingual IB Primary Years Programme in Arabic and English, providing a strong academic foundation through an inquiry-based approach to discovery and learning.

Students in Grades 6-10 follow the Middle Years Programme (MYP), where again, the ABS was the first school in Jordan and the Middle East to gain authorisation for the MYP in 2002.

ABS was also the first school in Jordan to offer both programmes for students in Grades 11 and 12: the IB Diploma and the IB Careers-Related Programme.

These were also the first two programmes offered in Jordan.

ABS is one of 51 of the 5,000+ IB Schools worldwide to be fully authorised to offer all four IB programmes, and the first IB world school in Jordan to be fully authorised to offer all four IB programmes.

Bilingual Education

Arabic and English share equal importance at the ABS and both languages are used throughout the School. Lessons in Arabic and English start in KGI and continue through to Grade 12. French and Spanish are also offered as electives. International students benefit from a flexible schedule.



Accreditations



International Section

The International Section at ABS was established in 2010 for students in Grades 6-12 who do not have the requisite Arabic language skills to access the bilingual programmes. These students follow the MYP which is taught in English and they are given intensive Arabic classes in small groups.

The curriculum is tailored to suit the needs and the levels of each individual student depending on his or her current understanding of Arabic. International Section students can then progress on to the IB College where the study of Arabic is encouraged but not mandatory.

The Additional Educational Needs Centre (AENC)

The AENC at the Amman Baccalaureate School offers a rigorous support programme designed to meet the needs of exceptional learners, enabling them to cope with the demands of the mainstream programmes offered. The AENC, supports learners with Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD), Language needs both in Arabic and/or English, as well as offering provisions for learners identified as Gifted and Talented (G&T). These provisions are determined on an individual basis, based upon a data driven analysis of student ability and achievement levels.



HOLISTIC EDUCATION

The ABS is committed to the value of a holistic education which supports the development of wellrounded, responsible world citizens.

ABS students benefit from a rich programme of sporting, cultural, artistic and intellectual activities providing numerous opportunities to develop talents, take risks and broaden horizons.

Student Engagement

The Amman Baccalaureate School is proud to offer our students a comprehensive Student Engagement Programme that aims to expand the student experience beyond the classroom in Arts, Design and Athletics, and to cater to the many interests and talents of our students.

The list of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities offered at the school, aims to expose students to multicultural, diverse, and inclusive educational experiences. The list includes courses and activities from general education, activities from campus-sponsored programmes, and activities from student organisations that can be used as part of curricular or extra-curricular engagement.

The activities we offer are also essential to our student services focus area of creating inclusive cultures. From recreation, to

performing music, to leadership and enrichment programmes, clubs, and service activities, we strive to ensure that all our students feel welcomed and valued. Within our classrooms, offices, hallways, student organisations and gathering places, the school adheres to standards of ethical and civil diversity as a place for learning and training.

The purpose of our extra-curricular, adventure and leadership programmes is to promote excellence, personalisation, and support for every aspect of a child's education.



HOLISTIC EDUCATION

Performing Arts

The ABS has an outstanding reputation in the region for the quality of its music, drama and dance.

The annual English and Arabic plays and wide range of concerts and talent shows provide a plethora of performance opportunities and the emphasis is on participation for all. Students have many opportunities to develop their skills as performers or in various backstage roles.

Sports

The ABS has a thriving sports programme with opportunities for students to participate across a range of pursuits and at all levels.

The main sports are football, volleyball, basketball, rugby, gymnastics and track and field.

The ABS' membership of the Amman Athletic Conference (AAC), the Middle East Triangle Sports (METS) and the Oasis Activities Conference (OAC) provides many opportunities for students to compete against teams from other schools in the region. Pre Covid, ABS fielded over 38 teams across six different sports and more than 400 students participated.



HOLISTIC EDUCATION

Model United Nations

The Amman Model United Nations (AMMUN) was founded in 2002 by two former ABS students, and is one of the leading Model United Nations Conferences in the Middle East and North Africa. The next AMMUN in November will see over 400 students from six countries and 16 schools gather to discuss major global issues from cyber security to the militarisation of space.

MUN is a major part of the ABS co-curricular programme. All Grade 7 students participate in a mini MUN training conference and there are numerous opportunities for all students to be involved in local and international conferences.

Community Engagement

Our students are defined by a strong sense of service to the community.

At ABS, we've found that students benefit greatly -both academically and emotionally- from volunteering their time to make the community and the world a better place. That's why all ABS students start volunteering from 3rd Grade!



HOLISTIC EDUCATION

Awards

The ABS co-curricular programme is associated with three major awards: the El Hassan Youth Award, the Sarvath El Hassan Award and the Al Sawsanah Award. These are designed for different age groups within the School and provide exciting opportunities for students to challenge themselves, develop a sense of responsibility and awareness of the world around them.

El Hassan Award

The El Hassan Award (HYA) is derived from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and was established in Jordan in 1984. The award was piloted at the ABS. Targeted at young people aged 14 to 25, the HYA expeditions and service trips offer experiences which support the development of well-rounded global citizens. The ABS Middle Years Service as Action Programme and the

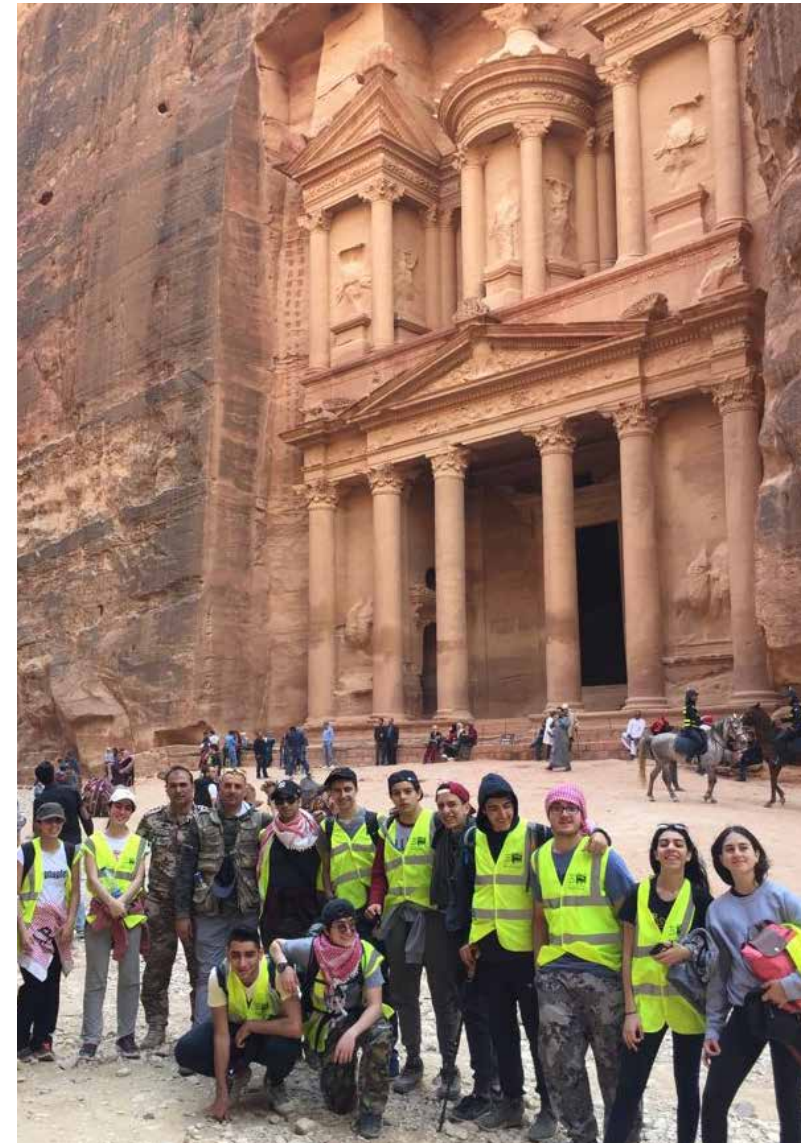
IB College Creativity, Action, Service Programmes are fully integrated with the El Hassan Award.

Sarvath El Hassan Award

In 1996, the Sarvath El Hassan Award Scheme was established in the Middle Years School to recognise and further encourage involvement in co-curricular activities. Over the course of Grade 7 and Grade 8, students are required to complete four activities in the ABS co-curricular programme and two qualifying expeditions.

Al Sawsanah

The Al Sawsanah Award is for Grades 3, 4 and 5 students. The scheme is designed to encourage students to participate fully in the life of the School, to develop a sense of service to the local community and to develop an informed international perspective.



EXAM RESULTS AND UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS

The ABS is proud of the consistently excellent academic results achieved by its students. In 2022, the pass rate for the Diploma was 100%. Two students achieved full marks of 45/45, and three students achieved a brilliant 44/45.

Seventeen students achieved a score of 40 or above, and over 44% of students scored grades over 38 points.

ABS students go on to study at some of the most prestigious and competitive higher education institutions in the world, regularly securing places at Russell Group and Ivy League universities.

In 2022, university destinations included Cambridge University, King's College London, the University of Edinburgh, and the University of Bristol in the UK; Harvard, Columbia, the University of California - Berkeley, Purdue University, and the Georgia Institute of Technology, in the USA; the University of Toronto, McGill, and the University of British Columbia in Canada, among others.



FINANCES

The ABS is a not for profit institution established under the auspices of the Hashemite Society for Education, the ABS fully owns all its land and facilities and enjoys a strong financial position. There is no long-term debt and prudent fiduciary monitoring that has been integral to helping the ABS meet the challenge of balancing rising costs with the continued provision of first-class education.

The school has developed a ten-year facilities Master Plan, which has seen over US \$10 million invested over the past few years, including new buildings, such as a state of the art Kindergarten and LEED Platinum Accredited IB College (Post-16 centre). There has also been investment in the renovation of existing facilities, such as an upgraded Design and Innovation Centre, refurbished canteens and to a number of classrooms in both the MYS and PYS.

The ABS is well-placed to continue to invest in the coming few years subject to continued progress with the fundraising strategy. Planned capital projects include the construction of a new Visual and Performing Arts Centre.

Public Benefit

The school's founding Charter states that as a not for profit organisation, it remains mindful of its commitment to public benefit by working to fulfil three charitable aims:

1. To provide educational facilities to members of of the community, so far as is consistent with the school's aims.
2. To widen access by increasing bursary funding.

Bursary funding supports several students who would not otherwise be able to afford the School's fees. We continue to increase the funding available for bursaries, especially through income from school initiatives and through donations made via the endowment fund.

3. To provide an independent education of very high quality which maximises each student's potential and lifelong interests to the benefit of the wider community.

A number of ABS's former students have gone on to make significant contributions to society.



LIVING IN JORDAN

Jordan is a fascinating, friendly and safe place in which to live and work.

Amman offers a rich mix of the old and the new with spectacular Roman ruins, buzzing coffee shops and souqs, modern shopping malls, art galleries and an international-standard museum. The ABS enjoys a privileged position in the leafy, affluent district of Western Amman.

Culturally, Jordan offers many treasures and the Dead Sea, Baptismal Site, Petra and Jerash are all within easy reach.

For those interested to venture further afield, Jordan is also well-placed as a hub from which to travel more widely within the region to Beirut, Cairo, the UAE and numerous other interesting destinations.

More information can be found here:

<https://livinginjordanasexpat.com/moving-to-jordan/>





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