



VICTORIA
ENGLISH SCHOOL

Information for Candidates

Thank you for your interest in VES.

I am delighted to welcome you to Victoria English School in the heart of the UAE, I am proud to be the Headteacher of this fine school.

Once again in 2020 we have posted outstanding academic results with 98% of all our IGCSE grades at 4/C or higher (UK Average 78.8%), 65% of all our grades are 7/A or higher (UK Average 27.5%) and an enormous 24% of all grades were 9/A*+ (UK Average 6.6%). Some of our outstanding students achieved 7 grade 9s. This would place them well inside the top 1% of UK students. At A Level the success continued. We, once again, had a 100% pass rate with 66% of grades at B+ and another 41% at A*/A (UK Average 38%).

These results are a product of a school that places the students' needs at the centre. Victoria English School is a true community of students, teachers and support staff all pulling in the same direction with our parents. This means that we constantly strive to get the best out of each child whilst providing them with a holistic, nurturing environment that allows them to grow and develop as well rounded individuals. We want students to develop a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

Academic results are important, but it is equally important that we value our students in all ways. We believe that respect is the central value that binds us all together. We respect each other, our similarities and differences, our resources and environment and the many gifts and talents each of us possesses. We help each other and push each other in equal measure. This is the key to our success, continued motivation and determination, and our world class academic results. It is also the key to producing new generations of thoughtful, kind, balanced, resilient, culturally literate young leaders that will help to build a better future for us all.

Keith Sykes, Headteacher





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Life at VES



VES is a family school in every sense. We place the wellbeing of staff and students at the centre of our ethos. The teaching staff are supportive and friendly, the students hardworking and open, and the school has a vibrant social life. An international school of 1000 students from Foundation Stage to Year 13, with over 60 nationalities, we retain a relatively stable student body and a community feel. The school day finishes at 2.10pm Sunday to Wednesday, and at 1.20pm on a Thursday ensuring that our staff enjoy can complete all of their work and still have a healthy work-life balance.

Staff are accommodated together in the same area, close to school, to ensure there is a ready-made support network for staff. Teaching staff also benefit from a large support staff of technicians, tradesmen, drivers, cleaners, assistants and lots more to ensure they have all of the assistance they need to be happy and doing a good job. We pride ourselves on how well we look after our staff and our package is aimed at removing much of the stress and hidden costs that come with taking an international teaching post. We also work hard to develop our teachers and to provide them with exciting opportunities to further their career. All teachers get 100 hours of CPD each year and we have a vibrant middle leadership team, with all of them being internal appointments.

The school is entering an exciting new phase of its development as a brand new, state of the art, building is under construction for the academic year 2022-23. This will include expansive sports facilities, swimming pool, theatre and modern, high standard, teaching spaces. We are all very excited about the next chapter for our school.





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Life in Sharjah



Sharjah lies immediately to the north of Dubai and is only a short ride from both the bustle of Downtown Dubai to the south and the quieter, open spaces of the coast and mountains of Ras al Khaimah to the north. Sharjah offers a less hectic and much cheaper lifestyle than Dubai, but it is a rapidly growing and modernising emirate offering a full range of leisure and social activities - from sports to shopping.

Sharjah is the cultural and educational capital of the UAE and benefits from some amazing architecture and cultural events, including literature and arts festivals. Staff are given a full induction programme to help them learn about, and settle into their new home. The School also holds staff related celebrations such as the VES Staff Dinner and the Iftar Dinner during Ramadan.

In Sharjah many expat staff join the Sharjah Wanderers which has a variety of bars, a swimming pool, gym, squash and tennis courts along with rugby, football and GAA sports teams. The club also has regular social events such as Pool Parties, BBQs and Big Screen sports. Close to the staff accommodation in there are also numerous hotels and bars offering the traditional Friday Brunch in a relaxed, beach- front setting.

Dubai offers world class sports, nightlife and entertainment options and is easily and cheaply accessible by taxi or car. New staff will be part of an established team who can readily help them navigate all of the many options in the easiest and most cost effective way.





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Our package is aimed at providing full support and a stress-free process for new staff. Benefits include.....

- 2 year initial contract
- Competitive tax free salary
- Return flights each year
- Fully furnished, accommodation with utilities
- Accommodation with 24 hour assistance
- Accommodation options
- Full medical cover
- Visa process and costs
- 50% Attestation costs
- Discount for dependents
- Full salary gratuity
- Full induction programme and support
- "Buddy" to help settle in
- 100 hours of CPD per year



If you have any further questions, please contact admin@ves.ae , and we look forward to receiving your application.





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Victoria English School is situated in Sharjah, just North of Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates. The country benefits from year round sunshine.



VES is a school of around 800 students, we are co-ed with students from over 60 different countries. Our student turnover is low.



The school follows the English Education System throughout, with IGCSEs at the end of Year 11 and AS Levels at the end of year 12, and A Levels in year 13 – as in England. VES is a full member of British Schools of the Middle East.



Class sizes are small and allow for effective working with students. We have a teacher to student ratio of 1:10 alongside Learning Development and Classroom Assistants.



IGCSE: (2020)
98% of grades 4/C or higher
65% of grades 7/A or higher
A Level: (2020)
100% Pass rate
41% of grades A*/A



VES Graduates have been placed in excellent and prestigious Universities in the UAE and all over the world, including the UK and other European Countries.



Students have access to a full range of sporting and academic after school activities to suit all abilities and interests. VES Sports teams have been very successful and students represent the UAE in Swimming and Athletics.



Our International staff are dominated by native English Speakers from the UK, Ireland, South Africa and beyond. All Staff engage in 100 hours of Professional Development each year.



Most importantly, staff and students will come and join a real community. 70% of all of our students have siblings in the school and the fact that so many of our students stay with us for such a long time means we really get to know our families. Our friendly and sociable staff are helped with a full range of support including induction programmes, accommodation, medical insurance, flights and end of service gratuity bonus. Last year, teaching staff retention was 95%.