



GEMS
American Academy
QATAR



School Prospectus

GEMS
EDUCATION

We see **genius**
in every child



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We see **genius**
in every child

GEMS Education

Committed to quality education, GEMS Education is a pioneering education company that owns and operates a global network of award-winning international schools. For more than 60 years, we have been a trusted choice for families in the Middle East. With the privilege of educating more than 250,000 students globally, our 20,000+ teachers dream big, push boundaries and make a difference to families every day.

Our students excel across multiple dimensions, garnering global recognition with more than 1,550 international, regional and national awards. What truly matters to us is the confidence our students feel when they walk out of our doors and into the world to build a better future. In the

last four years, GEMS has enjoyed some of the best university acceptance rates of any international school. Our students have been accepted into 1,050 universities in 53 countries. We're proud to say that includes 66 of the world's top 100 universities, including, but not limited to, Harvard University, Stanford University, Yale University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the University of California Berkeley. Today, more than 20,000 GEMS alumni are changing the world.

A Warm Welcome to Our School

GEMS American Academy Qatar (GAAQ) is part of the GEMS Education family, a network of international schools worldwide that offers students the highest standard of education. As a GEMS Education school, we embody

the GEMS core concepts of leading through innovation, pursuing excellence, growing by learning and global citizenship.

Our academy, located in Al Wakra, offers our multi-cultural student body a rigorous American curriculum from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. In addition to U.S. Common Core standards-based academics that culminate with the Advanced Placement (AP) program, we also provide a robust set of extra-curricular activities (e.g., afterschool clubs and sports teams) to support the development of the whole child.

Our balanced educational program places a strong emphasis on academics while incorporating the arts, athletics, community service and a wide range of learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom. Our curriculum is deepened through child-centered learning and our teachers strive to foster the development of each student's unique talents and abilities.

At GAAQ, we firmly believe that education is about overall student development (academic, social, emotional, physical and cognitive learning).

We are proud of our school's journey since its inception in 2014. In this time, we have become a NEASC-accredited school, earned one of the highest parent satisfaction ratings in the GEMS Education network, named one of the Ten Best International Schools in Qatar, approved to offer CollegeBoard's Advanced Placement (AP) courses, granted permission to offer the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh Award, won QGBC's School Sustainability Award, built a thriving, diverse school community with nearly 80 nationalities and obtained a 100% university acceptance rate thus far. All of these great achievements, and more, would not be possible without the tireless commitment of our large, tight-knit school community.

GEMS American Academy believes that:

- All people have unconditional worth and should act with self-confidence
- Compassion and fairness promote trust and respect
- An environment of a zero-tolerance, anti-bullying approach as well as keeping the Internet safe to use is paramount for student comfort and growth
- The school should cultivate imagination and instill an appreciation for learning as a joyful, lifelong pursuit
- An atmosphere of trust enables children to question, take risks, collaborate and cultivate leadership skills
- Significant accomplishments can be achieved through perseverance and hard work
- Quality education empowers the individual and expands options throughout life; our staff emphasizes the benefits of holistic learning and character development
- Our commitment to advocating teaching and respecting a diverse student body from many cultures throughout the world fosters peace, justice and global understanding

#WeAreGAAQ



Our Values

We have developed our core values and learning principles to empower students to attain their goals and to become successful citizens of our global community.

Our Core Values are:

RESPECT
INNOVATION
LEADERSHIP
PURPOSE
TENACITY

Our Learning Principles are:

1. Developing healthy connections
2. Goals first
3. Authentic assessment and constructive feedback
4. Effective use of time
5. Nurturing independence and inquiry

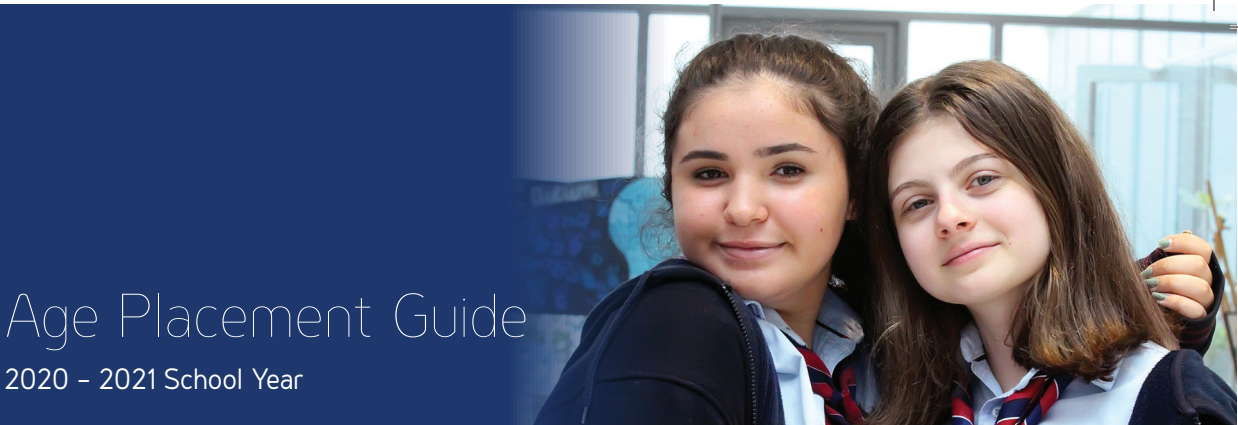




Class Size and Adult-to-Student Ratio

At minimum, the current class sizes and adult-to-student ratio are as follows. However, they are subject to review depending on the requirements of the school and may vary slightly depending on enrollment and subject choice:

Pre-K	Maximum of 22 students per class	1 Teacher	1 Teacher Assistant
KG1	Maximum of 25 students per class	1 Teacher	1 Teacher Assistant
KG2	Maximum of 25 students per class	1 Teacher	1 Teacher Assistant
Grade 1	Maximum of 25 students per class	1 Teacher	1 Teacher Assistant
Grades 2 – 12	Maximum of 25 students per class	1 Teacher	-



Age Placement Guide

2020 – 2021 School Year

AMERICAN	UK EQUIVALENT	TYPICAL AGE
PK	Nursery/FS1	3 – 4
KG1	Reception/FS2	4 – 5
KG2	Year 1	5 – 6
Grade 1	Year 2	6 – 7
Grade 2	Year 3	7 – 8
Grade 3	Year 4	8 – 9
Grade 4	Year 5	9 – 10
Grade 5	Year 6	10 – 11
Grade 6	Year 7	11 – 12
Grade 7	Year 8	12 – 13
Grade 8	Year 9	13 – 14
Grade 9	Year 10	14 – 15
Grade 10	Year 11	15 – 16
Grade 11	Year 12	16 – 17
Grade 12	Year 13	17 – 18

**Please note that your child must be at least 3 years old by December 31st to be considered for Pre-K in the current academic year*

Our Curriculum

LOWER SCHOOL

Early Years Program (Pre-K – KG1)

GAAQ's youngest learners are educated through a play-based approach grounded in the Creative Curriculum. This means that our teachers are dedicated to every child learning at their own pace and individual needs are addressed to promote overall student growth. The teachers create learning experiences with constructive purposeful play, interactions with the physical environment and partnering with families are the utmost importance. As a result, we believe the best will be developed and demonstrated in our students.

Our teachers know that social-emotional competence is a significant factor in children's future academic success; therefore, they foster positive relationships and the prosocial behavior of cooperating, consoling, helping and sharing. Also, we know that through play, we can develop self-regulation skills, support memory development and foster positive approaches to learning. Teachers in the early years' stage lay the critical foundation for language and literacy, numeracy, science, social studies, technology and the arts through setting up centers and interest areas to match the topics of study. Some topics of study our early years' children experience include, but are not limited to:

- **Pre-K (3 year olds):** Welcome to School, Buildings, Sand, Music Making and Baking
- **KG1 (4 year olds):** Pets, Boxes, Simple Machines, Tubes and Tunnels and Signs

Children explore these areas while the teachers generate student curiosity through asking questions and developing skills on a continuum of development.



“ I never expected my son to love coming to school every morning. The teachers and administrators are exceptional but even better was the character development program. We love GAAQ! ”

Sima Hamadneh
Parent of a KG1 student

Afterschool Activities (ASAs) and Student Enrichment

Even though there are no ASAs for Pre-K and KG1 students, our teachers work to enrich the learning environment in the classrooms as well as outside our school walls. The classroom environments are well-resourced to match child interest and desire to explore through a rich diversity of materials such as blocks, paints, books, snap cubes, musical instruments, dancing space and visually stimulating and ever-changing classrooms to match units of study. In addition, we have safe and secure nap rooms and dedicated play areas for Pre-K and KG1 students. Once the littlest Raptors are comfortable in their classrooms, the teacher will introduce them to the greater school building with outings to the school library to explore books and atrium to view and participate in school performances. Additionally, our early years' students are invited and encouraged to attend field trips off-campus to explore Doha's beautiful parks in connection to their units of study. Our little Raptors are nurtured well as they continuously spread their wings throughout the year.

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

(KG2 – Grade 5)

At GAAQ, we know that every child has a flame that needs to be ignited for continued learning. We foster this light through our academic, social/emotional and extracurricular programs. Our approach, which is centered on developing the whole child, includes a rich diversity of academics, counseling, physical education, fine arts and music education. The GAAQ community developed the core values which focus on competencies that students will use their entire lives (leadership, respect, innovation, purpose, and tenacity). These values are woven seamlessly into daily learning. We strive to use a cross-curricular approach called Problem Based Learning (PBL); this allows students to learn concepts, content, and skills while applying them to real-world situations.

GAAQ's elementary students experience the American Common Core standards-based curriculum which is full of choice and opportunities for students to explore while developing academic skills. We count on teachers to provide highly-engaging cross-curricular lessons that promote the love for learning and challenge students to take risks and learn from mistakes.



Everyday Math is a program that is well-researched and encompasses the best teaching methods that help children build a strong mathematical foundation in their elementary education years.

Reader's and Writer's Workshop is designed for teachers to give a mini-lesson to the whole group focused on one skill, strategy or reading behavior. Additionally, the teacher can host small group instruction and conferencing during work time when children are working on their own or in partnerships. This approach is rich in student choice within the genre of the teacher's instruction. This choice allows for students to build a love for reading and writing to last a lifetime.

Science instruction is based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in which teachers have written essential questions that spark student inquiry and development of deep thinking skills.

Social Studies, including Qatar History (which is taught in the homeroom classes), often offers students strong connections to the reading and writing curriculum. Students learn content while practicing their literacy skills.

"Specials" classes are offered daily to students providing music, art, physical education, technology, guidance classes by the counselor and library. Students enjoy varied experiences to round out the rigorous academic program ensuring the development of a balanced lifestyle.

Our **Arabic** curriculum follows along with Qatar's Ministry of Education (MOE) guidelines and students have classes daily where they learn literacy skills. The Arabic team of teachers also offers Islamic studies to native and non-native students while non-Islamic students have enriching activities in the classroom.



English as a Second Language Support

At GAAQ, we celebrate our cultural diversity. We have students from over 80 different countries which contributes to the multitude of mother tongues in our student body. In many ways, our diversity enriches the classroom linguistically. Our teachers are excellent in working with students who are acquiring English as their second, third or, in some cases, fourth language! The teachers use various strategies including word walls, vocabulary instruction, sentence frames, visuals and reality for daily instruction. Also, we have several teachers on staff that are language acquisition experts who work as part of the Student Support Team (SST) that help assist students in small group instruction. These experts also assist classroom teachers in using effective strategies and resources. At GAAQ, our team of teachers provide a wide-ranging, skill-based approach to language acquisition.

Afterschool Activities (ASAs) and Student Enrichment

On Campus: During the year, we have allocated days to celebrate various aspects of learning to enrich classroom experiences. Some of these events include, but are not limited to, Qatar National Day, United Nations Day, International Mother Language Day and World Read Aloud Day! Starting with KG2, we also offer choice activities after school where students can interact in multi-age groups to do chosen activities ranging from multi-sports, cultural dance, arts and crafts, sketching and cartooning, reader's theater, singing, eco-club, STEM activities, calligraphy and more! These offerings change per academic term based on our teachers sharing their extracurricular passions with the students.

Off Campus: Our students enjoy regular, off-campus field trips to various locations as an extension of the learning in the classroom. Some locations our students have visited include Al Bidda Park, Baladna Park, Purple Island Mangroves, Qatar National Library, Qatar National Museum, Museum of Islamic Art, Carrefour, Msheireb Museum, Bin Jelmood House, KidZania and more! In addition, our students have the opportunity to attend a sports trip twice a year. Also, students can sign-up to compete with other schools in tournaments by grade level.

UPPER SCHOOL

GEMS American Academy Qatar (GAAQ) follows the American Common Core standards where students will be exposed to the College Board's Springboard curriculum for all Math and English courses, beginning in Grade 6, which directly aligns to the rigorous standards of Common Core and challenges students to develop independent thought and to think critically and creatively. This comprehensive curriculum prepares students for Advanced Placement (AP) courses they are eligible to take in Grades 9 – 12 which potentially earns them college credit. Also, students are eligible to earn an AP Capstone Diploma which culminates in their Grade 11 and Grade 12 year; this diploma includes a Seminar and Research course along with other AP requirements. At a time when adolescents are undergoing rapid and far-reaching physical, emotional and intellectual development, the curriculum, teaching methods and learning provided from the American curriculum are all designed to meet the needs of students' developmental stages.

Middle School: Grades 6 – 8

Middle School represents an important transition to adolescence as young people are exploring the essential questions of identity, purpose and meaning more deeply than before. At GAAQ, we complement the core curriculum by including a variety of exploratory classes that make the middle school experience special. For the first time, students have a choice of which classes to take. Also, they begin to exercise autonomy while exploring personal interests and possible career choices.

The classes offered at this level have been specifically designed by teachers to engage students in learning opportunities that focus on creating, connecting and collaborating. The core 21st century learning skills are grouped into three strands: Literacies, Competencies and Character Qualities.

High School: Grades 9 – 12

We believe that the recipe for excellence in high school classrooms consist of knowledgeable adults, a focus on classroom culture and a passion for the development of self and others. Within this framework, GAAQ is moving forward in our pursuit to get every student to and through college.

High school offers a dynamic college preparatory education and support systems that encourage student achievement, maturity and independence. On average, GAAQ classes have fewer than 25 students and team and discussion-based learning methods are the norm. All teachers utilize technology to support and enhance their lessons and each classroom is equipped with CTouch technology.

Top 3 GAAQ Upper School FAQs

Q: What are the advantages of an American education?

A: The "American" Common Core Standards are designed to stretch student thinking and truly empower next-level intellect. Students will be prepared to enter a university with all the tools of self-awareness, self-advocacy and critical and creative thinking. Because students will have had multiple opportunities to take Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school, they will be exposed to college-level learning and rigor, which statistically increases their chances of successfully completing a college degree in four years. Furthermore, because students have flexibility in choosing which AP courses they want to pursue, there is no pressure to take higher-level courses in certain subjects. Our students can choose from over 9 different AP courses and specialize in the courses they prefer.

Q: Will GAAQ provide my students with college and career readiness?

A: Yes, our distinct focus on Advanced Placement (AP) gives students a distinct advantage over other programs. We ensure that students are prepared for the rigor and expectations of colleges and universities worldwide by developing their independent thought as well as creative and critical thinking skills. In addition, we offer exposure to different careers starting in middle school which culminate in a Grade 12 internship where students will report to an internship off-site once per week and engage in their career-of-choice for 12 – 16 weeks.

Q: In what ways will GAAQ help my student develop holistically?

A: We believe in educating the "whole" child. In addition to the rigorous and high academic expectations that we have for students, we also want our scholars to thrive in multiple learning facets. Our students are exposed to a variety of performing arts including concert band, choir, visual and studio art, drama and IT. Furthermore, our Upper School students are required to take a second language throughout their Grade 6 – 12 experience either in Arabic, French or Spanish. Moreover, our students have a plethora of afterschool activities (ASAs) to choose from including, but not limited to, photography, ukulele, eco/environmental awareness, cooking, math support and sports/athletic clubs. If students are more geared toward athletics, we offer sports teams and opportunities including, but not limited to, football, basketball, badminton, volleyball and track and field events; these activities give students multiple opportunities to stay involved. Our students also participate in field trips throughout Qatar and experiences that safely expose them to other cultures (like our 2020 trip to Tbilisi, Georgia where students were able to learn to ski over a period of five days). Students in grades 6 – 12 must also earn a minimum of 25 service hours each year to ensure that they remain actively engaged in their community and within the school. In fact, GAAQ is planning a service learning trip to the African country of Zambia that allows students to build schools and classrooms for underprivileged students. Lastly, programs like MUN (Model United Nations) and Eco-Committee all provide forums for students to participate in a worthwhile cause beyond GAAQ.

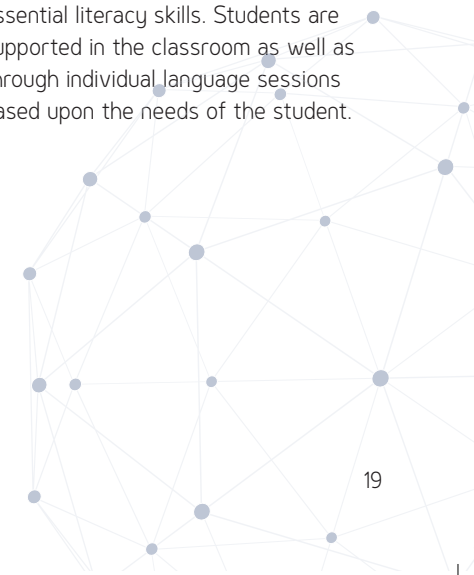


“There are many good reasons to enroll in this school. Some of those reasons include great, responsive support from staff, sound use of research in classroom activities and support from leadership to maintain high standards and live by example such as their no bullying approach.”

Boris Woytowich
Parent of a Grade 10 student

English as a Second Language Support

GAAQ's Upper School English Language Learner (ELL) department uses the Steps to English Proficiency (STEP) framework as a guide to support the development of foundational skills required for academic achievement. Students are immersed in a context-reduced environment to ensure academic language acquisition. As students learn the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum, they will also develop essential literacy skills. Students are supported in the classroom as well as through individual language sessions based upon the needs of the student.



Student Clubs and Organizations

At GAAQ, there are a plethora of afterschool activities (ASAs) and student organizations for students to engage in. From the Eco-Committee that incorporates Lower School and Upper School to our THIMUN delegates, student clubs and organizations are considered an important part of GAAQ’s programming.

UPPER SCHOOL

In Upper School, students have diverse opportunities to participate in student organizations or initiatives that are local, regional or international. Participation is encouraged and membership is open to all Upper School students (*depending on the criteria of the program*):

- The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN)
- Qur’an Recitation Competition
- GAAQ Student Council
- Doha Medical Conference Review
- Qatar Green Building Council – School Environmental Sustainability
- Immerse Education Essay Competition | Cambridge Summer School
- The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award
- Visual Arts Creators Exhibition
- Inter-school Battle of the Bands Competition

Additionally, there are a number of afterschool activities (ASAs) that Upper School students can participate in throughout the year:

UPPER SCHOOL ASAs	
Middle School ASAs	High School ASAs
MS Student Council (Grade-Level Reps)	HS Student Council
Dance Club	Yearbook
French	Dance Club
Math Olympiad	Model United Nations (MUN)
Qur’an Reading	Math Help
Magic the Gathering	Robotics
Robotics	Coding Club
Film Club	Toastmasters
Gavel Club	Newspaper Club
College and Career Exploration	Guitar for Beginners
Newspaper Club	Eco Club
Arabic Writing Competition	Photography Club
Ukulele	Choir
Chess Club	Lunchtime Football League
Cooking Club	-
Photography Club	-

LOWER SCHOOL

Afterschool activities (ASAs) are also a norm that Lower School students can participate in throughout the year, as well. Please note that these ASAs start at KG2.

Lower School ASAs	
KG2 – Grade 2 Activities	Grade 3 – Grade 5 Activities
Multi-Sport Athletics: Frisbee	Singing Club
Multi-Sport Athletics: Basketball / Pickleball	Drama
Cosmic Yoga	STEM Activities
Arts and Crafts	Eco-Green Club
Winter Day Crafts	Math Support
Sketching and Cartooning	Multi-Sport Athletics: Frisbee
Reader’s Theater	Gymnastics
Playdoh	Arabic Support
Math Games	Fun and Games
Out of Eden	Retro Games
Kids Dance	Reading Club
Handwriting	Computer Programming
Reading Club	Recycling
Spirit Team	Percussion and Singing
Mindful Coloring	Dances Around the World
Step-by-Step Drawing	-



Grade 12 Career Internship Program

Grade 12 students have great opportunities to turn their career interests into real-life experiences as an intern with different organizations in Qatar.

GEMS American Academy Qatar offers a wonderful opportunity for students who are dedicated to their career planning and education. The internship program is designed for seniors who are interested in first-hand experience in a particular role or career field. Students who participate in the internship program work with a professional or group of professionals to gain experience and insight into their chosen career interest. This program offers students the opportunity to explore various careers from medicine, computer science, finance, accounting, administration, sales, journalism, music, engineering, technology and many more.

To date, our students have interned at various Qatar companies such as:

- Al Udeid Air Base
- St. Regis Hotel
- GEMS Wellington School Qatar
- Ashghal
- Ritz Carlton
- DOC Medical Center
- Commercial Bank
- Sensory Souk
- Armonia Interiors
- WOQOD Westbay
- Trinity Talent
- Hamad Health Centre
- Film House
- Hamad Medical Centre
- Fashion Studio (Al Wakra)



School Council

GEMS American Academy hosts a Student Council, introducing students to the concepts of responsibility, representation and accountability. The Council meets regularly with the school leadership team to discuss issues raised by the students with representatives elected every year.

Athletics Program

GEMS American Academy Qatar believes that a well-structured athletics program is crucial in our student’s physical and social development. There is also a strong emphasis on empowering a lifelong commitment to a healthy lifestyle and acquiring team skills to learn and compete cooperatively with others.

SPORTS CURRICULUM

GAAQ’s athletics program offers both interscholastic and afterschool sports for upper-elementary, middle and high school students. Alongside with the Physical Education Department, students from Pre-K to Grade 12 take physical education courses which prepare them to transform basic skills to complex abilities that can be applied later in sports. Apart from regular sport events and competitions, the celebration of GAAQ Sports Day (early February) constitutes as one of our major sporting events each year. Our Athletic Department and scholar-athletes continuously represent our core values of leadership, innovation, purpose, tenacity and respect.

A DYNAMIC PROGRAM

The athletic year is structured into two seasons (September - December & January - June); each season provides a range of opportunities for our students. All sports and activities are provided with skilled, experienced and passionate coaches to help our students reach their personal best in whichever activity they choose. Our athletes compete locally against other international and local schools across Qatar.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

As part of QPPSSA (*Qatar Private Primary Schools Sports Association*), GAAQ competes with other schools along the year in a variety of sports such as:

- Track & Field
- Soccer
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Swimming

UPPER SCHOOL

As part of QUESS (*Qatar United English Speaking Schools*), GAAQ competes with other schools along the year in a variety of sports:

SEASON 1 (September - December)

- Volleyball
- Netball
- Soccer (*u16 & u19 years of age*)

SEASON 2 (January - June)

- Track & Field
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Soccer (*u12 & u14 years of age*)

SOP (School Olympic Program)

Supported by the Qatar School Sport Association and the Qatar Olympic Committee, GAAQ is proudly taking part in SOP for the current year. With competitions from Grades 2 - 12, athletes represent GAAQ in a variety of sports that are typically celebrated in the Olympics such as:

- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Taekwondo
- Fencing
- Track & Field
- Swimming

MASCOT AND COLORS

A red and navy flying raptor represents our GAAQ philosophy – flying high. Raptors are birds of prey (like eagles, hawks, falcons and ravens) that are notable and historically valued in Qatar, especially the falcon. We are proud to belong to the GAAQ Raptor family. **GO RAPTORS!**



Our Parents, Our Partners

Through our communication system – written reports, website, SMS, email, flyers, social media, signage and apps – parents receive regular updates on the progress of their children and on activities in the school. Parents are welcome to discuss their children’s individual progress with their teacher at a mutually-convenient time.

The Principal and Parent Association (PA) members conduct monthly parent coffee mornings as well as weekly parent meetings. These periodic meetings provide an opportunity for our parents to voice concerns, make suggestions for improvement and organize school programs and events. In addition, all GEMS Education parents have direct access to their Parent Relations Executive (PRE) who is dedicated to serve as an active bridge between parents, the school community and the school’s leadership.

Parental Engagement

Parent engagement is all about taking learning out of the classroom and keeping it going at home. International research shows that parents who are actively engaged in their child’s learning can give them an extra two to three years’ worth of schooling on top of their classroom experience. In fact, a healthy relationship between the teacher, leadership and parents will only positively reinforce a student’s learning inside and outside the classroom.

Every parent, regardless of culture, language or experience, has something special to offer their child. Simply, engaged parents value education. They are strong role models of learning. All it takes is a 3-a-day approach:

1. TALK ABOUT LEARNING
2. SHARE LEARNING
3. ENCOURAGE LEARNING

Most importantly, parents can provide discipline, structure and a healthy support system to make children “school ready” while maximizing learning opportunities. Supervision from home and parent encouragement to follow-up and complete assignments is essential to producing an engaged family.

What Our Parents Are Saying

GEMS American Academy Qatar represents a wonderful, inclusive parent-teacher community that lives and breathes the ethos: Ad Vitam Paramus – ‘preparing for life.’ From the first day of the ‘Meet the Principal’ event through to admissions and enrollment, I could feel the proverbial ‘GEMS Difference.’ The professional staff at the school definitely ‘walk their talk.’ I am really proud to be a GEMS parent!

Marcia Maclons, Mother of a KG2 student

Our son Daaniel has always been shy with meeting new friends and other people. But since he has joined GAAQ, he has grown into a friendly and confident young boy. Also, I admire how they nurture young minds and allow every child to progress at their own pace. I feel comforted that we made a good decision in choosing GEMS American Academy as a great foundation for our son’s education; I am certain that he will blossom in many areas.

Ronald and Florites Llanes, Parents of a KG2 student

GEMS American Academy isn’t just a school; it has become a second home for my kids. They are eager to go to school in the morning and reluctant to return home in the afternoon. This response is due to the positive and nurturing environment the GAAQ staff has created. Their teachers, leadership teams, administration and the support staff have poured their heart and soul into providing an excellent curriculum and a healthy atmosphere for our kids to thrive.

Huma Khan, President of GAAQ PA 2018 / Parent of KG2, Grade 3 and Grade 7 students

What I love about GAAQ is the great leadership, their effective discipline model and the sense of community; the teacher, students and parents are all one big family. The caring teachers do an outstanding job teaching our kids to do the best of their abilities and enhancing a fun-loving environment with marvelous events and activities happening throughout the year. School sports teams and spirit are growing, giving our students a sense of sportsmanship, teamwork and inner-confidence.

Deanna Dacke, President of GAAQ PA 2020 / Parent of Grade 2, Grade 5, Grade 8 and a Grade 11 students

Our Teachers, Our Guides

Our highly-qualified and motivated teachers are carefully selected for their teaching excellence and ability to actively engage students in the learning process. We implement an ongoing program of workshops, specific skills trainings and professional development sessions, often conducted by noted education specialists, to ensure that our teachers are up-to-date with the latest development in educational techniques and methods.

The senior leadership team and a core majority team of North American teachers (United States and Canada) are complemented by highly-qualified and exceptional teachers from other parts of the world to meet the needs of our international student population. At GEMS American Academy, we know that teaching and learning are central to the life of a great school. Our teachers are caring, warm, welcoming, experienced, resourceful, dedicated and very professional.



Our Facilities

- Science labs
- ICT labs
- Specially-designed Early Years classrooms
- Art, ceramics and sculpture rooms
- Music rooms and recording studio
- Arabic, Spanish and French language rooms
- Elementary and secondary libraries
- Aquaponic greenhouse
- CrossFit space
- Dance studio
- Multipurpose sports hall
- Indoor dining areas
- Rooftop sports court
- Football (soccer) pitch
- Covered play areas
- Smart screens for interactive learning/projections



What Makes Us Different

- Fully-accredited school by the New England Association of Schools and College (NEASC)
- CollegeBoard-certified school offering 9+ Advanced Placement (AP) courses as of the 2020 – 2021 academic year
- Offers CollegeBoard Springboard and AP Capstone Diploma programs
- Named "The 10 Best International Schools in Qatar" by The Knowledge Review magazine
- Earned highest parent satisfaction rating among all K – 12 schools in the entire GEMS Education network (2019 – 2020)
- Nearly 80 student nationalities and 15 teacher nationalities (teachers primarily sourced from the United States and Canada)
- Recipient of the Qatar Sustainability Award in the category of "University/College School Sustainability"
- Grade 12 career internship program for students to gain first-hand career experience
- Provides numerous opportunities for students to pursue the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh International Award
- Dedicated Parent Relations Executive (PRE) that serves as the parent's point of contact for praise or suggestions to improve the school, counsel for parents on school-related matters and trusted source to advocate on parent's behalf
- Recipient of the prestigious Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. GAAQ is the 3rd school in Qatar to receive this honor and the 1st school with a NAAAS greenhouse in the country



Are You Ready to Experience "The GEMS Difference" at GEMS American Academy Qatar?

At GAAQ, our Raptors have Respect, Leadership, Innovation, Purpose and Tenacity.

- *Do you want your child to have the tenacity to succeed?*
- *Do you want your child to find their purpose?*
- *Do you want your child to have creativity and the will for innovation?*
- *Do you want your child to exhibit leadership inside and outside of the classroom?*
- *Do you want your child to be respectful and to be respected?*

If you have answered "yes" to any of these questions, then come join our GAAQ family and help us instill our core values of Respect, Leadership, Innovation, Purpose and Tenacity in your student! For more information on our school and to schedule a tour, please feel free to **contact us at 4032 9000 or email us at reception_aaq@gemsedu.com**
We look forward to hearing from you!

Follow Us on Social Media!

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#WeAreGAAQ



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GEMS
EDUCATION
We see **genius** in every child