



Mandatory Subjects Guide in Private Kindergartens

Arabic Language – Islamic Studies – Social Studies



Objectives

- Define regulatory and pedagogical guidelines for teaching mandatory subjects in kindergarten in alignment with children's developmental stages.
- Specify the approved instructional time per subject dedicated for each subject to be embedded within private schools' weekly timetables.
- Standardize learning outcomes across all private institutions through national learning frameworks.
- Ensure private schools' compliance with national educational policies related to these subjects.
- Provide schools with clear implementation procedures to promote transparency and consistency.



Scope of Application

This guide applies to :

- All private educational institutions (including private schools and Early Childhood Education centers) across the UAE.
- All children in kindergarten and equivalent age group in different curricula.
- Teaching the three subjects outlined in this guide (Arabic Language, Islamic Studies, and Social Studies) is mandatory for all schools.

Target Population

This Decree applies to all children enrolled in **kindergarten and equivalent age groups in other curricula at private schools** in the United Arab Emirates.



Implementation Timeline

Mandatory implementation of this guide begins with the 2025-2026 academic year. All private schools must teach Arabic Language, Islamic Studies, and Social Studies in kindergarten according to the timeline outlined below:

2025-2026

Private schools must comply with the following requirements:

- Develop academic plans for teaching the three subjects and incorporate them into approved weekly schedules
- Implement learning outcomes according to Ministry-approved learning frameworks
- Appoint qualified teachers for the specified subjects
- Begin actual instruction according to this guide
- The Ministry and local Educational Authorities will conduct advisory monitoring visits through school compliance teams to support implementation and allow for an adjustment period

2026–2027

- Private schools must ensure full implementation of all guide requirements and achieve complete compliance
- The Ministry and local Educational Authorities will begin formal compliance visits through school compliance teams to verify schools' adherence

2027–2028

- Private schools must increase Arabic Language instruction time to 60 minutes daily (300 minutes weekly) for all children

Instructional Time Allocation Per Subject

Arabic Language

	Target Group	- Arab children (Arabic Language) - Non-Arab children (Arabic for Non-Arabs)
	Weekly Duration	200 minutes weekly
	Details	40 minutes daily (5 days per week), increasing to 300 minutes weekly (60 minutes daily) by 2027-2028

Islamic Studies

	Target Group	- Arab Muslim children (in Arabic) - Non-Arab Muslim children (in school's approved language of instruction)
	Weekly Duration	90 minutes weekly
	Details	Distributed through one of two options: 1- Three weekly sessions of 30 minutes each 2- Two weekly sessions of 45 minutes each

Social Studies

	Target Group	All children
	Weekly Duration	Integrated approach
	Details	Embedded across other subjects within daily educational activities and daily classroom routines, both inside and outside the classroom

Curriculum & Learning Resources Requirements

- The Ministry of Education adopts learning frameworks that include clear standards and learning outcomes for Arabic Language, Islamic Education, and Social Studies. The Ministry will provide these frameworks to private schools to ensure consistent implementation quality.
- Schools must incorporate these outcomes into their official academic plans and document them within weekly schedules. Social Studies content is delivered through an integrated approach within other subjects and educational activities using "integration" methodology, incorporating its concepts into children's daily routines inside and outside the classroom, while considering cultural contexts and children's cognitive development stage.



Teachers and Qualifications

Private schools must appoint qualified, specialized teachers for mandatory subjects in kindergarten. Teachers assigned to these subjects must hold educational qualifications accredited by the Ministry of Education that are appropriate for the age group.

Schools are required to distribute teachers effectively and systematically across classrooms according to school needs, with proper documentation within academic plans and approved weekly schedules.

Instructional Requirements per Subject

All private schools must teach Arabic Language, Islamic Education, and Social Studies beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year, according to the following requirements:

Arabic Language

Arab children:

Instruction follows Ministry-approved learning frameworks

Non-Arab children:

Instruction follows specialized learning frameworks approved by the Ministry for this group of students

Parental choice:

Parents of non-Arab children may choose to enroll their children in the Arabic curriculum designed for Arab native speakers

Islamic Studies

Arab Muslim children:

Subject taught in Arabic according to learning outcomes included in Ministry-approved learning frameworks

Non-Arab Muslim children:

Subject taught in the school's approved language of instruction according to Ministry-approved learning outcomes

Social Studies

Integration:

Social Studies concepts are integrated within classroom and extracurricular activities using an integrated approach

Language:

Content is delivered in the school's approved language of instruction, following the integration model

Private School Obligations

Private schools are required to ensure the following:

1. Employ sufficient qualified teachers while maintaining required child-to-teacher ratios according to licensing and accreditation requirements
2. Document teacher distribution within weekly schedules and maintain regular updates according to school needs, ensuring continuity of educational coverage for mandatory subjects
3. Provide documented evidence of approved pedagogical methods and approaches for measuring children's progress in language and cognitive skills, aligned with Ministry learning outcomes and using developmentally appropriate assessment methods
4. Include mandatory subjects within academic plans, clearly documenting instruction time and target groups in approved weekly schedules
5. Ensure teaching methods align with children's developmental characteristics through interactive and integrated activities delivered through play-based learning and hands-on experiences
6. Implement regular professional training programs for teachers covering approved learning frameworks and early childhood education strategies related to mandatory content
7. Provide stimulating learning environments and appropriate educational resources that support achievement of learning outcomes and align with the integrated curriculum approach adopted in early childhood education
8. Maintain ongoing communication with parents, providing updates on guide implementation and reports on their children's learning progress in mandatory subjects
9. Fully cooperate with MoE monitoring, evaluation, and school compliance teams, provide required documentation, and respond to developmental observations and recommendations issued by the Ministry or relevant educational authorities



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Mandatory Subjects Guide in Private Kindergarten for?

It is the guide approved by the Ministry of Education that requires all private schools nationwide, regardless of their educational curriculum, to teach Arabic Language, Islamic Education, and Social Studies to all kindergarten children according to specific time and organizational requirements beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

What are the objectives of the mandate for teaching the three subjects?

1. Establish language skills, religious values, and social awareness at an early stage through structured educational practices that respect children's developmental characteristics.
 2. Strengthen national identity and belonging among children from an early age.
 3. Ensure equal opportunities for children from all backgrounds to learn the UAE’s official language.
 4. Enhance cultural integration and cross-cultural understanding within UAE society.
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When will this decree be implemented?

Mandatory implementation begins with the 2025/2026 academic year. Schools whose academic year begins in April must implement the decree starting from the 2026-2027 academic year.

Does the decree apply to all private schools?

Yes, the decree applies to all private schools nationwide regardless of the type of educational curriculum implemented at the school.

What are the required qualifications for teachers to teach Arabic Language, Islamic Studies, and Social Studies?

Private schools must appoint qualified, specialized teachers for kindergarten instruction. Teachers assigned to these subjects must hold educational qualifications accredited by the Ministry of Education that are appropriate for the age group.

What support does the Ministry provide to these schools?

The Ministry of Education will provide schools with learning frameworks that include clear standards and learning outcomes for Arabic Language, Islamic Studies, and Social Studies before the start of the 2025-2026 academic year to ensure consistent implementation quality.

How will these subjects be taught and assessed by schools?

Age-appropriate teaching models and methods for early childhood will be adopted, with documented evidence aligned with Ministry learning outcomes and assessment methods suitable for children's developmental stage.

Does the guide include children of determination?

Yes, with consideration for adapting instruction to suit their needs and abilities.

