



The Story of the Early Years Foundation Stage 2 at Safa British School



Zara Harrington
Principal

Meet the Leadership Team



Louise McGeever
Head Teacher of Primary



Fiona McDermott
Assistant Headteacher



Dara Davey
Assistant Headteacher



Noreen McGuckin
Assistant Headteacher

Welcome to Foundation Stage at Safa British

Foundation Stage at Safa British School is a vibrant, happy part of the school which really plants the seeds for lifelong learning. As the Head of Foundation Stage, I would like to welcome you all to our Safa Family. Should you wish to contact me please do not hesitate to do so. You will find me each morning at the main gate ready to say "Good Morning".

Learning is a journey and our passionate, caring teachers endeavor to ensure that your children develop in a caring, friendly, exciting, and stimulating environment.

Miss Fiona McDermott
Assistant Headteacher of Primary
Head of Foundation Stage

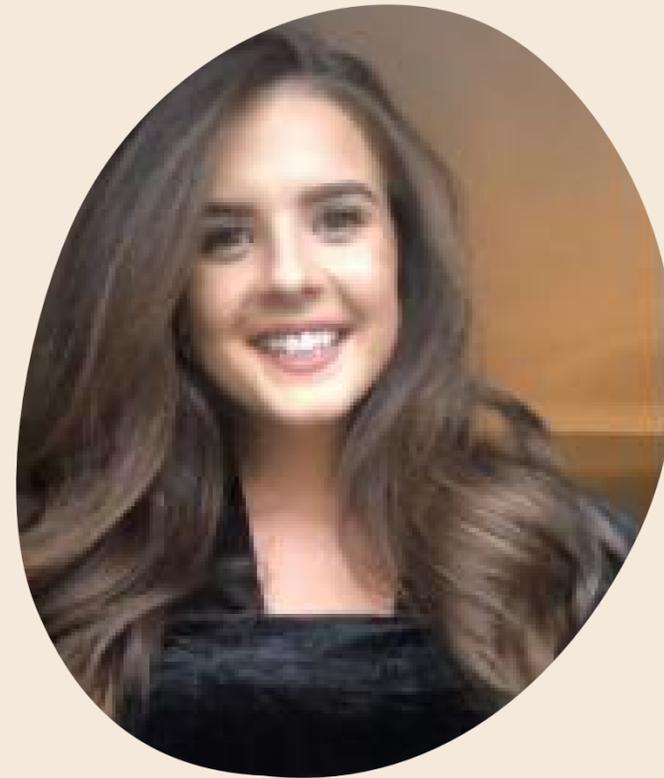




Miss Daisy King



Miss Gabriella Lo Conte



Miss Muireann Conaty



Miss Emma Devine



Miss Lucy Phillips

✧

Meet the FS2 Teachers



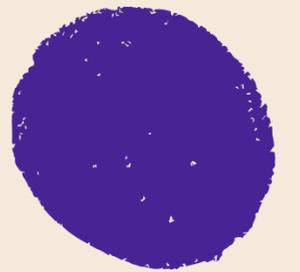


What is the Early Years Foundation Stage?

The EYFS is a very important stage in a child's life as it lays the foundations for future learning.

A child's experience in the Early Years should be happy, active, exciting, fun, and secure, an environment where children are happy to explore and take risks. The early years experience should support their development, care and learning needs.

Each aspect of learning in this stage of children's development and development has been considered in the light of our understanding of how young children learn and develop. Alongside our core vision to unlock the potential of every child we provide our children with access to the widest range of opportunities by fostering self-belief, intellectual curiosity, empathy and responsibility towards each other and others in society.



Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing and Exploring

Active Learning

Creating and Thinking Critically



Characteristics of Effective Learning



Playing and Exploring
Engagement

Why do the children need to learn through playing and exploring?

To enable children to:

- Develop learning that is memorable.
- Engage in imaginative play in order to make sense of the world around them.
- Experience multi-sensory learning.
- Build their confidence in a nurturing, yet exciting environment.
- Practice new skills by trying over and over again.



Characteristics of Effective Learning



Why do the children need to learn through Active Learning

To enable children to:

- Remain focused on activity and build levels of concentration.
- Enjoy what they set out to do.
- Persevere when tasks become challenging or tricky.
- Take risks and make mistakes as well as making their own choices.



Characteristics of Effective Learning



Why do the children need to be Creative and Think Critically?

To enable children to:

- Be open-minded and think creatively.
- Express themselves and use their imagination
- Become independent
- Make connections



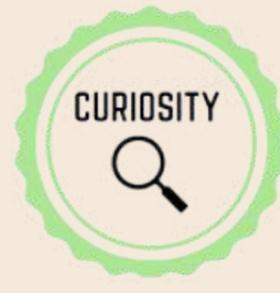


Safa Super Heroes



What are the Safa Super Heroes?
The Safa Super Heroes have been implemented in the Foundation Stage. These are directly correlated to Safa Learning Gears in Phase 1 as well as the EYFS Characteristics of Effective Learning

- Agent Ideas
- Captain Keet it Up
- Super Explorer
- Helping Heroes
- Safa Hero
- Wow Hero



The 7 Areas of Learning and Development



Prime Areas:

- personal social and emotional development
- communication and language
- physical development

Specific Areas:

- literacy
- maths
- understanding the world
- expressive arts and design



Personal Social Emotional Development PSED



The personal, social and emotional development is at the core of everything we do here at Safa British School. The PSED skills that children learn enable them to be successful learners interacting positively with their friends and establishing strong relationships with both adults and children. Strong, warm and supportive relationships with adults help children to understand their own feelings and feelings of others.

How you can help at home;

- Help your child to express their emotions verbally acknowledging when they feel happy when they feel sad.
- Encourage your child to play with other children
- Ensure that boundaries are clear for your child
- Encourage your child to try new activities.





Physical Development PD



Physical Development is vital to a child's holistic development.

In Foundation Stage 2, we focus on developing the children's confidence to move in a variety of ways. Children need to negotiate space and obstacles safely. Developing fine motor skills is integral for early literacy development, where children will learn to hold a pencil effectively and use a range of small tools.

How you can help at home;

- Give your child opportunities to practice and develop physical life skills which will empower them.

Encourage your child to;

- Chop or peel vegetables and fruit
- Open and closing containers
- Carry their own bag to the pool or beach
- Get dressed themselves
- Have fun with the dough disco
- Talk about healthy food choices



Communication and Language



Speaking and Listening are essential skills for children to be able to access in order to achieve their potential in all seven areas of learning and development.

Through conversations, story timing and role play, children will share their ideas with their peers and develop their active listening skills. Children will learn the importance of expressing their opinions.

The adults in school will help your child develop and widen their vocabulary and provide them with many opportunities to practise the new words in context.

How you can help at home;

- Ask your child about their day. Think of interesting ways you can ask the questions for example - What was the silliest story from school today?
- Model full sentences
- Talk about new words
- Encourage opportunities for active listening
- Encourage questioning



Literacy



At Safa British School, we are passionate about developing a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. The children choose library books each week.

The children's pre-writing skills are encouraged daily and opportunities to mark make are available throughout the day

Phonics: At Safa, our teachers focus on teaching the pure phonemes (pure sound) of each letter.

How you can help at home;

- Model being a reader and a writer
- Practise writing your child's name
- Provide simple real life writing opportunities
- Read your child's reading book with them every day
- Make flashcards or bingo cards for key words and play games
- Talk about the sounds of letters
- Play with letters and make simple consonant vowel consonant words using magnetic letters or letters in the bath



Mathematics



Developing a strong sense of number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. Mathematics is taught through a practical and hands-on approach. Play activities are planned to enable children to develop a secure base of knowledge and vocabulary of mathematics. The children will also have daily whole class maths sessions led by their teacher to develop number and calculating skills through fun, enriching and engaging strategies.

How you can help at home;

- Play maths games
- Look for and talk about numbers and shapes in the environment
- Encourage problem solving skills in real life context
- Sing number songs
- Play maths games



Understanding the World



Understanding the World involves getting the children to make sense of their physical world and their community. Children have opportunities to explore and investigate in order to discover more about the world around them, how things work and why they happen. Hands on activities encourage the children to speak about their observations and enable them to develop their questioning skills.

How you can help at home:

- Share nonfiction and factbooks
- Encourage your child to ask questions and be curious
- Celebrate and talk about special occasions
- Talk about your immediate environment



Expressive Arts and Design



At Safa, we take great pride in supporting the children's imagination and creativity. The Safa children have opportunities to engage with the arts through the continuous provision where the children explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. As well as this, our bespoke Creative Arts teacher enables our children to further their development for self expression, communication, and performing.

How you can help at home;

- Provide lots of opportunities to be creative
- Role play with your child
- Enjoy listening to music and singing songs



At Safa British School, we use the Sustainable Development Goals to help us plan explorative, engaging and meaningful learning.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





The Beginning of FS2

2021 - 2022



Date	Event
August 24 th 2021	Parent Information Class Zoom with the Class Teacher
August 25 th 2021	New Class Zoom
August 25 th 2021	Playdates for the New Safa Children
August 30 th 2021	FS2 Staggered Start Group 1: 8am to 10am Group 2: 10.30am to 12.30 pm
September 5 th 2021	FS2 children will come to school for the full school day

The School Day

Foundation Stage 2

School Day	Time
School Gates Open	7.20am
Drop off at the classroom door	7.30am (30 minutes staggered drop off)
Pick Up Time	2.30pm
ECAs	To be confirmed depending on the KHDA regulations.

The register will be taken at 8 am. If your child arrives after this time they will be marked as late.

An adult must collect your child from the classroom door each day. The drop off and pick up route will be communicated with parents through Mrs Harrington.

If your child travels on the bus, please inform the teacher.



Specialist Lessons

- Arabic – 2 sessions per week in FS2
- Islamic in Foundation Stage - Storytime
- Creative Arts and Music – 1 session per week, alternate creative arts and music lessons each term
- DPA - Dubai Performing Arts Academy
- PE – FS2 45 Minutes
- Swimming – 1 session per week for both FS1 and FS2 – You will be notified at the beginning of the year when these sessions will start. (COVID19 restrictions depending)



LINK at Safa



Challenge

Boost

Support



Challenge: Identification of more able students ensures provision of level appropriate work to stretch and challenge.

Boost: We recognise when students are not performing to their full potential and providing strategies and booster groups to ensure they are well equipped to succeed.

Support: Quick and effective assessment procedures aim to identify Special Educational Needs (SEN) early on. Carefully considered Individualised Educational Plans are then tailored to target personalised goals.



LINK at Safa



Challenge

Boost

Support



Our dedicated inclusion team ensures that each student's individual needs are met throughout their educational journey.

Here at Safa British School we celebrate diversity. This means embracing and adapting for all individual differences and skills.

Our purpose designed rooms help us to 'boost, challenge and support' our young learners.



Partnership with Parents

At Safa British School we aim to build strong and respectful partnerships between parents, our school community, and students.



Parental Engagement

- Parent's role
- Communication
- Parent Workshops
- Support with learning sounds, key words, reading books
- Parental engagement sessions in school
- Parents evenings and reports



Assessment in EYFS



- Assessment in EYFS takes place on a daily basis.
- Seesaw is used by teachers to create an online Learning Journey for your child. This tracks their attainment and progress throughout their time in EYFS.
- Snapshots of attainment and progress are taken each term and reported to parents, in the form of a parents meeting or report.



School Readiness



Principal Lisa shared some of her top tips on Zoom. Please click the photo to watch the webinar with Safa.





KEEP
CALM
AND
LABEL
EVERYTHING

What should my child wear?

We are very proud of our Safa British Uniform.

- Purple and white striped short -sleeved dress.
- Purple and white striped short sleeved shirt.
- Navy shorts with a purple stripe.
- White socks and navy/black shoes, navy sweatshirt or cardigan.
- Swim suit, swim hat and swim bag.
- Navy blue PE uniform, mainly white trainers.
- Sun Hat



Stitches - Uniform Shop, Al Quoz

<https://www.stitches.ae/safa-british-school>

Snack and Lunch Time

- Snack is eaten in the classroom or outdoor area
- We learn about polite conversation, table manners and healthy eating.
- We practise mindful eating
- Lunch boxes should be clearly marked.
- Pack a separate snack and lunch box.



Healthy Eating

- At Safa British School we encourage healthy eating and varied diet. Ensuring children have enough energy and nutrients essential for growth and development is imperative. It is important for us to work with families to ensure that children develop a positive attitude towards food.



School Bus



Communication

- The Seesaw Family App is the main point of communication between families and the teacher.
- School announcements are made through the Seesaw Application
- The school's weekly newsletter (SWAY) is sent from the Principal each Thursday.
- reception@safabritishschool.com



Thank!
You!