



Confidence for Life!

We Are  
DGS



[www.durhamqatar.com](http://www.durhamqatar.com)

**Prospectus | Primary**









Confidence for Life!





# Table Of Contents

About Us.....	2 - 3
Mission & Vision.....	4
Prayer.....	5
National Identity.....	6 - 7
Durham Mark.....	8 - 9
Message from the Founding Principal....	11
The Heritage.....	12 - 13
The Timeline.....	14 - 15
Teaching & Learning.....	16 - 17
DSGD School Houses.....	18 - 19
Welcome to Durham Family.....	20 - 21
Expectations of Durham Girl.....	22 - 23
Primary Curriculum.....	24 - 33
Arabic Islamic & Qatari History.....	34 - 35
Admission Information.....	36 - 37
Give It A Go.....	38 - 39
Primary Uniform.....	40 - 41
School Meals Programme .....	42 - 43



about  
dsd



**WHO WE ARE:** Durham School for Girls is **the first British all-girls school in Qatar with an all female campus.** Linked with the 2030 vision of female empowerment, we aim to ensure an environment where girls can flourish and develop to reach their full potential. Our all-female campus provides the security for girls to develop individually, respect Qatari cultures and values, and embrace the British system and methodology.

Being part of the Durham family, our students and **staff are part of the 600-year-old traditions** and reputation of Durham UK. Although Durham School for Girls Doha has a different client base, a different country and modern building, the school creates a culture that is Durham. A strong pastoral House system will link to Durham UK and many synergies that unite the two schools, forming the ethos of one school, two sites.

Our school offers fantastic facilities that empower the girls to take ownership of the school and their learning. Durham School for Girls Doha embraces creative learning and encourages our girls to be well rounded and embedding a confidence for life. Our values of Moral Integrity, Ambition, Responsibility and Kindness flow through all aspects of school life to create a Durham Girl.







## MISSION, VISION: Durham

School for Girls Doha aims to provide a supportive environment that is tailored to meet the individual needs of girls as well as providing them with a safe learning environment to fulfill their true potential. This is achieved in line with Qatar's National Vision to empower young women while preserving their national and Islamic identity, preparing them for the opportunities and challenges posed by the 21st Century.







# Prayer

*Girls in Primary are taken to the prayer rooms to celebrate prayer and are accompanied by an Arabic member of Staff*

*Daily prayer in Secondary is held 1pm daily, we firmly believe that the girls should see prayer as an integral part of their day, at school and at home. Both academic and support staff are invited to join the girls in prayer.*

Being at Durham School for Girls means that we celebrate being in Qatar and we celebrate the culture and religion of our students. There is no compromise regarding who they are even in a British School. We expect the girls to uphold their customs and beliefs and this includes such things as the Qatari National Anthem played every morning before school and of course, prayer.

Girls in Primary are taken to the prayer rooms to celebrate prayer and are accompanied by an Arabic member of Staff. Daily prayer in Secondary is held 1pm daily, we firmly believe that the girls should see prayer as an integral part of their day, at school and at home. Both academic and support staff are invited to join the girls in prayer.





**MARK VALUES  
AND QATARI  
VALUES ARE  
AT THE HEART  
OF A DURHAM  
GIRL**

# National

- Mark values and Qatari values are at the heart of a Durham girl
- Self-respect and being proud of your identity



**MY VALUES DEFINED**

**2022**

# Identity

- Relationship with others, respecting them and taking care of them
- Respecting the culture and heritage of Qatar (past and present)



**INE MY IDENTITY**

**2023**



“Durham MARK values blend seamlessly with Qatari Values and underpin both the Durham girl and Qatari national identities.”

**VALUES:** Durham School for Girls Doha will prepare the young of today to be the leaders of tomorrow in the lessons we teach both in and outside the classroom, but, more importantly, in the values we encourage in every aspect of our daily lives.

Within a community shaped by moral integrity and kindness, we cultivate responsibility and ensure that all girls can thrive, be happy, and make a positive ‘MARK’ in the world. In doing this, our girls learn to pass their assessments today while receiving an education that will last a lifetime.

## AMBITION

We achieve our goals by constantly working towards them.  
We embrace opportunities and challenges.  
We take pride in what we do.  
We know we will achieve our goals (HPL).  
We try new things.  
We aim to be the best we can be.

## MORAL INTEGRITY

We are honest.  
We have courage to do the right thing.  
We are true to our values and our culture.  
We are proud of who we are.  
We follow our moral compass.  
We are accountable for the choices we make.  
We aim to be the best versions of ourselves.  
We support and respect others.  
We are proud to be Durham Girls.





# KINDNESS

We are kind.  
We respect each other's differences, feelings, and beliefs.  
We support each other within the Durham Family.  
We are a friend.  
We aim to be the best version of ourselves.  
We listen and are empathetic.  
We embrace our values and who we are.

# RESPONSIBILITY

We take responsibility for our actions and behaviour.  
We are prepared and ready to learn.  
We support and encourage others.  
We are responsible for ourselves and others in the Durham Family.  
We are responsible learners.  
We are responsible with technology.  
We take pride in the school building and our environment.



**We support our pupils in becoming young adults with dreams, aspirations and a focus on the future...**





# Message from the Founding Principal

## Dear Parents,

Welcome to Durham School for Girls.

Since opening our doors in September 2019, we have already achieved so many milestones, but our greatest achievement is definitely the growth and consolidation of our Durham Family to over 1,200 girls who demonstrate on a daily basis our values, our desire to be the best that we can be, and the development of Confidence for Life.

Coming to DSGD means that girls are receiving a first-class British education, but without compromising who they are, their culture and their religious beliefs and customs. Respecting the National Anthem and most importantly daily prayers are important to us as a community, and we actively promote this alongside the Qatar Ministry of Education's syllabus for Arabic, Qatari History, and Islamic Studies. These blend in naturally with the British curriculum offering the girls a well-rounded education that combines both cultures.

As a school grows and develops it is extremely important to receive independent feedback and guidance on progress being made. This is often done through outside agencies equipped with experts who carry out internationally recognised inspections and help the school move forward. This allows the school to celebrate all that has been achieved and gives a clear roadmap for future development.

Durham School for Girls has achieved the following recognition in its first 3 years:

- First ever all-girls International High Performance Learning World Class School
- British Schools Overseas Inspection – Good with outstanding features – DSGD is recognized and registered with the UK Government.
- Qatari National Accreditation
- Microsoft Showcase School -2 years running
- Approved Centre for Pearson iGCSE and A/S and A Levels
- Approved Centre for Cambridge iGCSE and A/S and A Levels
- 2021-22 we saw our first graduates take places in great universities such as Carnegie Mellon,
- Virginia Commonwealth, St Andrews, and Qatar University.

These are all amazing achievements for such a young school, but we are not resting on our laurels. The school, the staff, the parents, and students all strive to be the best that we can be, and this means that we need to work together to focus on attendance, attainment, and attitude.

We have laid excellent foundations over these last few years, despite the disruption of covid and now as we settle into our "new normal" we are excited about seeing all of our girls develop and grow.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to being allowed to involve parents more in daily school life, with workshops and face to face activities and meetings.

Let's ensure we are all working together to make Durham School for Girls Doha be the best that we can be.

**Confidence for Life**



**Vanessa Jane Whay**  
BE.d Hons CANTAB







**DURHAM UK:** Steeped in history, Durham School's mission is to provide its students with a complete education; one which instills in them an aspiration for achievement, a respect for others and a confidence for life.

The pillars of Durham School which support this mission and so provide an environment where pupils can explore, make mistakes, learn and grow include:

- Academic challenge which gives students a lifelong appetite for learning.
- Pastoral care to provide our students with emotional, moral and spiritual strength.
- Co-curricular opportunities which enrich and develop the individual, and foster leadership, collaboration and teamwork.

They do this by nurturing and supporting their students to become thinkers who can understand, research, evaluate and create, both collaboratively and independently. They implement this to ensure Durham Individuals are morally sound, emotionally resilient, reflective and effective communicators. This will result in adults who act with responsibility, humility and kindness and are ready to make a positive contribution to society.

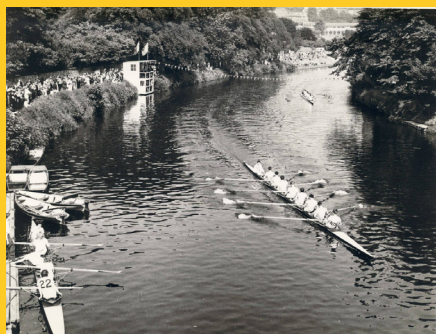
# THE HERITAGE







Photo taken by William Pattullo (OD 1919 - 1925), supplied by Robert Pattullo (OD 1960 - 1965)



Durham School VIII Durham Regatta 1964 passing Browns Boathouse. by Chris Thorpe (1958-64)



Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Durham School 1958 -



Preliminary Bridge Durham 1922 - Robert Pattullo (OD 1960 - 1965)



Left to right: Michael Vallance (Headmaster); Michael Bell; Geoffrey Gilbertson; Gordon Hopkins; John Brett; Jack Marsden.

The Luce Music and Drama Centre will be created by remodelling the present Music School and the old Gymnasium.

Planning the Luce Theatre - 1978



Miss 'Fanny' Lodge 1922. Miss Mildred Mary Lodge BA in 1922, affectionately known as Fanny. First female member of staff at Durham School 1918 - 1932, teacher of English and history, Housemistress of Caffinites, Headmistress of Bow School between 1932 - 1961



**2019:** DSGD open its doors for the first academic year in August 2019 as the first all-girls British School in Qatar.

- The first phase opens as a primary school accommodating students from EYFS up to Year 7.
- The first year the school opened with 576 girls ready to start their DSGD journey.



**2020:**

- The second Academic year starts off with 972 students.
- Covid 19 pandemic hit and the school went completely digital.

**2021:**

- The Third academic year opened with 1185 students.
- 100% students were allowed back to school for various periods throughout the year.
- Despite the pandemic DSGD still achieved HPL showcase school status.

**2022:**

- School went back to being 100% on campus.
- DSGD won a Microsoft showcase school award.
- Upgraded to HPL World Class School
- First Cohort of IGCSE Students
- First Cohort of Graduates and BSO Accredited,
- QNSA Accredited

# the timeline



The Journey continues...





**British Curriculum:** The British Curriculum is a highly structured curriculum designed to meet all students' needs—challenging brighter children and providing support to those who need additional help through differentiated teaching and learning activities. It focuses on a breadth of knowledge across various subjects, guiding children towards globally-recognised GCSE & A Level examinations. Throughout the British Curriculum, there is a focus on core subjects, such as maths, English, and science. As children progress through their education, they are able to narrow subject areas, which allows them to excel in areas in which they have higher interest and ability.

The British curriculum will be right for your child if you value education as a journey, not a destination. British curricula schools seek to inspire young people to want to develop their skills, and assessment is often based on what students 'can do' as opposed to what they 'know.' Pupils are encouraged to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills as well as think creatively and develop socially rather than merely memorise and recall facts. This approach supports Qatar Vision 2030 by equipping our girls to develop enquiring minds and participate fully in political and economic spheres, especially in decision making roles.

**Arabic:** Arabic forms part of a strong foundation the school is built upon. We focus on Arabic language, Qatari History and Islamic studies.

We teach students Arabic in the most efficient yet thorough way possible. We cover different linguistic skills: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. All classrooms are equipped with the latest electronic devices to help facilitate the teaching process. Using technology and multimedia not only motivates learners, but it also enhances their performance in the classroom.

The Islamic teaching Curriculum intends that students will be able to understand and receive the teachings and life example of the Prophet Muhammad SAW and his Companions and to practice and appreciate Islam as a total way of life. We aim to convey the message of Islam through innovative methods, strategies and techniques in accordance with current needs.

**HPL:** High Performance Learning provides conditions and attributes to steer and drive all children to be able to reach their full potential. This raises levels of attainment within the school and gives the school a clear framework for their approach to Teaching and Learning. As a relatively new school, Ms Whay explained how HPL was adding structure, consistency, and value in the school's approach to teaching and learning. Children as young as three years old are beginning to understand how and why they are learning. Challenging themselves cognitively and believing in their own ability to succeed.

**Pastoral:** DSGD is a community where the individual matters.' This is the overriding principle of our Code of Conduct and summarizes our approach to the welfare of our pupils. The welfare of pupils is our highest priority and involves the following:

- Physical safety
- Health
- Emotional well-being
- Spiritual, moral and social well-being

The school has an integrated and effective pastoral system that consistently scrutinizes the quality of care provided for our pupils and the welfare of each individual. All staff share responsibility for this and aim to work, not only independently but together, in order that the highest level of pupil care and support is delivered.

# teaching and learning





**DSGD SCHOOL HOUSES:** These houses are vertically streamed, meaning children in Year 1 will have a 'big sister' in higher year groups. This not only fosters a family and community feel within the school but also provides additional responsible members of the school to discuss feelings and events with. All the girls will enter a house when arriving at the school and will remain in their house until leaving.

The student leadership structure is built through the house system and allows the girls to follow the school aims and values. Throughout the 3 terms in each academic year there will be 'House' competitions for arts, sports, cooking, drama etc.

Girls can receive House Points for following MARK. Certificates will be given to the 'MARK Girl of the Week' celebrating their achievements for one of the areas of MARK. House points build a family feeling and sense of belonging to their houses.



CAMEL



FALCON



GAZELLE

ARABIAN  
HORSE

ORYX









## WELCOME TO THE DURHAM FAMILY

At Durham School for Girls Doha, we aim to provide a broad and balanced, vocabulary rich curriculum, which strives for academic excellence and instils a love of learning. We create positive, engaging and stimulating learning opportunities for our students which inspire them to succeed. Growing in this age is challenging and we want our girls to be prepared and ready for the future, whilst celebrating and enjoying being a child.

In our all-female campus girls have the security to uncover and become themselves. They can grow and develop in a British school without having to compromise their culture, values or religion as they move through the school.

Our British curriculum is underpinned by the National Curriculum for England (2014) and adapted to align with Qatari values and culture, whilst incorporating our Durham School MARK values (Moral Integrity, Ambition, Responsibility and Kindness.) We believe that each one supports our aim to develop the student. Our aim is not only to improve our students' academic performance, but to contribute to their overall development, including their social and emotional development and physical health.

In DSGD, girls are responsible for their learning and the choices that effect their progress and future careers. As a school we will support and guide the girls to be the best versions of themselves and the best they can be academically.

Positive achievement, comes with hard work and self-responsibility. Each and every girl will be expected to come to school ready to learn. Girls need to ensure that this is a key aim for each and every day. Ensuring punctuality, coming fully prepared with the correct resources, and a positive work ethos are essential characteristics of success and what we expect in a Durham Girl.

## PRIMARY BUZZ WORDS

**VALUES:** Values are at the heart of the Durham Girl. MARK values and Qatari National Values

**CHOICES:** In Primary girls begin to make choice. Every choice has a consequence, some are positive and some are negative. We learn from our mistakes and the choices we make.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** In Primary we begin our learning Journey and begin to become independent learners.

**LEADERSHIP:** Our girls are the future and in DSGD girls are given opportunity to grow into leaders.

**REPUTATION:** Reputation is key for determining a girl's future.



# HIGH PERFORMANCE LEARNING



## EMPATHETIC:

- Collaborative
- Concerned for society
- Confident



## CREATING:

- Intellectual playfulness
- Flexible thinking
- Fluent thinking
- Originality
- Evolutionary or revolutionary thinking



## ANALYSING:

- Critical or logical thinking
- Precision
- Complex and multi-step problem solving



## AGILE:

- Enquiring
- Creative and enterprising
- Open-minded
- Risk-taking



## META THINKING:

- Meta-cognition
- Self-regulation
- Strategy planning
- Intellectual confidence



## REALISING:

- Automaticity
- Speed and accuracy



## HARDWORKING:

- Practice
- Perseverance
- Resilience



## LINKING:

- Connection finding
- Generalisation
- Imagination
- 'Big picture' thinking
- Seeing alternative perspectives
- Abstraction





# Expectations of Expectations of Expectations of

- We attend school ready to learn. Attendance is the key to success
- We respect and follow the Qatari Culture and values.
- We follow the Mark Values both in school and at home.
- We are responsible for our learning. Ready and prepared.
- Full school uniform is worn in line with the Uniform Policy.
- We respect our teachers and other students learning. Everyone has a right to learn and is equal.
- We know we can succeed and be the best that we can be. HPL Learners.
- We are responsible with technology and social media.





# a Durham Girl a Durham Girl a Durham Girl

- We respect the school property and the property of others.
- We know and understand there is always someone to help and support us and we will help and support others.
- We are honest and kind and a sister to each other.
- We are Ambassadors and Role Models for other girls.
- We are proud of our school and the Durham Family.

Learning should be exciting, engaging, and relevant. At DSGS we want our girls to learn how to learn, not just what to learn. Understanding what and why we are learning ensures a deeper understanding. Girls in DSGD are independent learners and take responsibility for learning.

The British system is organised into well-defined blocks known as 'Key Stages'. The first stage is the Early Years Stage for students from 2 years old through to 5 years old. Once the student enters primary level, they start with Key Stage 1 (KS1), from ages 5 to 7, before moving on to KS2, which lasts from age 7 to 11. The British Curriculum is a highly structured curriculum designed to meet all students' needs. It challenges brighter children and provides support to those who need additional help through differentiated teaching and learning activities.

In Durham School for Girls, we are a High Performance Learning School. We understand that ALL girls develop and mature differently. Some will be naturally artistic or linguistic, however, we believed that ALL girls can do well in ALL subjects. We aim for the girls to be the best they can be. Bespoke programmes are introduced to support and challenge where necessary, and we teach in a multi-sensory way to address all learning styles.

Starting in the early years, students focus on the fundamentals of their subjects, and as students' progress, the curriculum dives deeper into these subjects, exploring not only the more nuanced and complex aspects of the subjects, but also how they relate to other areas of study. Throughout the British Curriculum, there is a focus on core subjects, such as Maths, English, and Science, and then foundation subjects, such as Art and Design, Humanities, Computing and Physical Education. Arabic, Islamic and Qatari History form a fundamental part of the curriculum and the MOE curriculum and levels are followed. Girls in EYFS have both Arabic and Islamic, to prepare them for the formal curriculum of KS1. The curriculum remains as broad and balanced as possible, with a strong focus on child-centered learning.

In Key stages 1 and 2 many experiences are practical as well as cross curricular. Unlike other systems, the British curriculum planning is not fixed. Teachers adjust their plans to meet student needs, understanding what must be covered by the end of each key stage. At Durham School for Girls Doha, we follow a thematic curriculum based around a particular subject theme that is then integrated throughout the rest of the curriculum content. This ensures objectives can be covered several times which will enable the pupils to demonstrate mastery. Our curriculum gives the girls the opportunity to develop new skills and knowledge essential for later life. We also nurture pupils social and emotional development enabling them to develop strong and trusting relationships with each other by providing opportunities for pupils to work collaboratively.







Theme days, Role play, Investigations, questioning and challenging all play important roles in our girls learning. Ensuring our girls have a strong foundation of Islamic, Arabic and Qatari History, allows these subjects to be valued in the school and for our girls to be confident in these areas.

# Primary Curriculum





### The Primary Curriculum is broken down into three Phases of Learning

<b>EYFS</b>	<b>EYFS 1 EYFS 2</b>	<b>(Ages 3-5)</b>
<b>Key Stage 1</b>	<b>Year 1 Year 2</b>	<b>(Ages 5-7)</b>
<b>Key Stage 2</b>	<b>Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6</b>	<b>(Ages 7-11)</b>

### Assessment in the Curriculum

In Durham School for Girls, we do not believe in over-testing, this is a belief that stems throughout the whole school. Research suggests this does not benefit a child, can cause stress and distract from learning and teaching.

We use a mixture of assessment, moderation, and quizzes to ensure that the girls are continuing to make progress. Assessments can be done in class





and often the girls are unaware that this is happening. We continually assess and benchmark against the National Curriculum and age related expectations.

Parents receive formal reports at the end of each term. In reporting there should be no surprises and parents and teachers have continuous communication to ensure we get the best learning from each individual child.

In every year group there are 3 times in the year where teachers will invite

parents to 'meet the teacher' and discuss your daughter's progression against the National Curriculum Standards and the Ministry of Education, Qatar.

Alongside a discussion regarding your daughter's progression and attitude towards learning there will be a written report. All parents have made a commitment to their daughter's education, therefore, meeting the teacher events are compulsory to receive your daughter's report for that term.

CAT4 Tests (September) and Progress Tests (Summer Term) produce a separate parent report which will be sent home via PDF when they are made available after your daughter has sat her test.

Every 3 years, the girls will do a PASS test. This measures attitude, self-esteem, and is a self-evaluation. All this evidence helps us to really challenge or support your daughter to be the best that she can be.





## EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE IN DURHAM SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Children entering Durham School for Girls in EYFS start Foundation One in the September after their third birthday. The Early Years Foundation Stage is a two-year phase. There are 4 classes of Foundation Stage One (Nursery) and 4 classes of Foundation Stage Two (Reception). Where possible, class sizes do not exceed 24. Teaching assistants support the class teachers in the delivery of the curriculum and specialist teachers deliver carousel activities in Art, Music and Computing, as well as an informal approach to Arabic. The girls in Foundation Stage will love visiting the library each week.

The pupils have a dedicated play area featuring a range of activities, including wheeled vehicles, keeping them fully occupied at break times! Our wonderful staff provide a range of challenging outdoor play activities such as water, sand, mark making and small world. The learning environments are a hive of activity providing the pupils with a range of multi-sensory activities. Display areas celebrate the children's work across all curriculum areas. All classrooms have interactive whiteboards to support the children's learning; these offer ways to support and consolidate day to day skills and allow access to the world outside through interactiv



websites.

The children get the opportunity to play outdoors for most of the year and eat their lunch indoors in our fantastic canteen. Foundation Stage children will spend an increased amount of curriculum time outdoors during the cooler months with art, physical, creative, mathematical and language tasks and resources available outside.

## CURRICULUM

Early Years in Durham School for Girls will be a wonderful experience filled with exciting learning opportunities and lots of fun! We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum which is broken down into 7 areas.

The three prime areas are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

Staff will also support children in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

We record each girl's level of development against the 7 areas of learning as Emerging, Expected or Exceeding. Observations and assessment of each individual pupil is ongoing, with the information gained being used to ensure that future planning reflects identified needs. Further information can be found in the EYFS policy.

Arabic and Islamic Studies are introduced in EYFS with EYFS having 2 Arabic lessons and 1 Islamic weekly, and EYFS 2 having 3 Arabic Lessons and 1 Islamic. Introducing Arabic and Islamic at this early age, allows us as a school to create a culture of Qatari values and ensure our girls are ready and prepared for the MOE curriculum.

Read, Write Inc. will be used as a basis for the teaching of phonics but other schemes may be used to ensure an individual approach for our girls. Talk for Writing will also be introduced to aid English. Arabic singing classes will occur to ensure a great transition from Early Years to Key Stage One and swimming

classes will also be part of the curriculum when the girls are ready.

Our classrooms and continuous provision areas are organised to allow children to explore and learn securely and safely. At Durham School for Girls, we believe that children learn through play and this is part of the continuous work in the Foundation Stage. It is the natural way for children to learn and it is a vehicle that provides access to the curriculum and a useful approach to learning.

There are specific areas where the children can be active and creative. The philosophy in the Foundation Stage classes is based upon a child-centered approach. All teaching is to be developmentally appropriate with a range of teaching styles used alongside our Durham School Learning Theory and M.A.R.K. More information regarding this can be found in our Teaching and Learning Policy.

## DEVELOPMENT & ASSESSMENT

- The outside area is seen as an extension of the classroom and opportunities will be available outside as well as inside.

- Through all of our strands, we aim to develop the children as they Play and Explore, be an Active Learner and to have Creative and Critical Thinking.

- The staff are constantly assessing the children in their everyday activities and play, whilst also assessing their more focused work. We use observations of the children, photos, the work that they do, feedback from parents and comments made by the children, as well as a system called Tapestry to decide where we believe the children are working in the 17 areas of learning.

- This is based on the Development Matters document which gives statements for the ages of the children. We share this with parents and base the next steps for the children on this.

- The planning each term and each week is taken from the previous week's findings, the interests of the children and the next steps.







A smooth transition takes place between Foundation and Key Stage One. Girls in KS1 follow the English National Curriculum. We have adapted this slightly to ensure our curriculum is culturally engaging and teaches skills for our girls to become global citizens.

The structure of the curriculum is as follows:

- English – (Phonics) Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening
- Math's
- Thematic Topic (History, Geography, Science)
- Music
- Physical Education including Swimming.
- Art and Technology
- Computing and Design
- Arabic, Islamic and Qatari History. ( Ministry of Education Qatar)

Links across the curriculum are made wherever possible and all activities are planned and delivered to maximise first-hand experience and respond to differing learning styles. Role play continues to be used as a way of developing expressive language skills; role play areas change regularly in classrooms and central areas.

Wherever possible, children are taken out of school for activities that support and enrich the curriculum, for example, the Y1 pupils may visit a local science museum where they get the opportunity to engage in many 'hands on' practical activities. Y2 pupils may visit a local desert wildlife park as part of their study of animals in the local environment. Parents are invited into school to see an annual assembly. The children have great fun preparing for this through songs, actions, dancing and some speaking parts. Similarly, visitors with special skills and experience are invited into class to further enrich the curriculum.

KS1 students receive 25 lessons and additional form time. During this time, teachers run booster sessions for Phonics, Mental Maths and PSHE. Our girls will always be encouraged to be independent learners. Technology will be incorporated throughout the curriculum, including computing and programming. We will follow the Ministry of Education Curriculum for Arabic and Islamic Studies. This will be supported with additional Arabic Reading Schemes and songs. Read, Write Inc. will be used as a basis for the teaching of phonics but other schemes may be used to

ensure an individual approach for our girls. The 'Oxford Reading Scheme' has been purchased for reading, 'Talk for Writing' will be used alongside some elements of 'The Write Stuff' for Writing and 'Maths - No Problem' has been purchased for the teaching of Maths. We do, however, give full autonomy to our teachers when planning engaging lessons for our girls.

The Curriculum is 'thematic,' meaning each term or half term the girls will begin a new adventure through a question which will be posed. For example, Term 2 in Year 1 will think about 'Where could my fish have gone?' as they explore Oceans and Seas around the world.

Their learning will be tailored to fully immerse them into the world of animals, oceans, Qatari boating history etc. Term 2 in Year 2 the girls will find out if they can 'Party with a Platypus' as they research and learn scientific vocabulary surrounding animals and their habitats- art, geography, PE and many other subjects will be taught through this theme. Our curriculum is designed to cap-

# Key Stage 1





# Key Stage 2



## OVERVIEW

Key Stage Two, is a four-year phase from Y3-6, (7-11 years old). Where possible, class sizes do not exceed 23. Girls receive 30 structured lessons a week in Key Stage 2. In some curriculum areas the Key Stage 2 timetable runs parallel to the KS3 Secondary school timetable, this allows more specialist teaching in Upper KS2. The learning environments are well resourced and maintained providing the pupils with a range of multi-sensory activities.

The pupils have a dedicated play area featuring a range of facilities, as well as a playing field providing opportunities to participate in team games. All classrooms have interactive whiteboards to support the girls' learning. There are two breaks during the school day. The girls get the opportunity to play outdoors (in cooler weather) and eating a school dinner in the canteen

## KEY STAGE TWO CURRICULUM

*The structure of the curriculum is as follows:*

- English – (Phonics) Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening
- Math's
- Thematic Topic (History, Geography, Science)
- Music
- Physical Education including Swimming.
- Art and Technology
- Computing and Design
- Arabic, Islamic and Qatari History. ( Ministry of Education Qatar)

KS2 children will continue to follow the Oxford Reading Tree for reading, however, during KS2, they will become free readers. They will also continue with Talk for Writing and will start to Debate. For Maths, we will be using 'Maths - No Problem'.

We continue our exciting thematic curriculum throughout Years 3-6. All subjects, including Science, History and Geography, are taught through themes, however, the themes become more in depth and more subject focused.

We will be following the Curriculum by the Ministry of Education Qatar for Arabic, Islamic Studies and Qatari History. This will be supported with additional Arabic Reading Schemes and songs. Wherever possible, the pupils are taken out of school for activities that support and enrich the curriculum. Specialist teachers will be leading in Art & Design, Music, Swimming and Computing.



# Arabic, Islamic & Qatari His

## ARABIC LANGUAGE

The Arabic language is one of the most important languages, not only today, but throughout human history, due its position among Arabs and Muslims in general.

This importance is reflected in its extraordinary ability to preserve the originality and complexity that characterizes Arabic as a language that has existed for tens of centuries, in addition to the richness of its lexicon, which allows speakers to express everything with extreme accuracy.

The Arabic language is key to understanding the Holy Qur'an and the sayings of Prophet Mohammed, peace be upon Him. Understanding the Qur'an and the Prophetic Sunnah requires an accurate proficiency in the Arabic language.

## ISLAMIC STUDIES

Islamic Studies is characterized by the fact that its first and last goal is to create a righteous person, regardless of their gender, colour, language or ethnic background.

Islamic Studies aims to instill human values, equality, sincerity and honesty and also to spread knowledge and culture.

**Qatari History:**

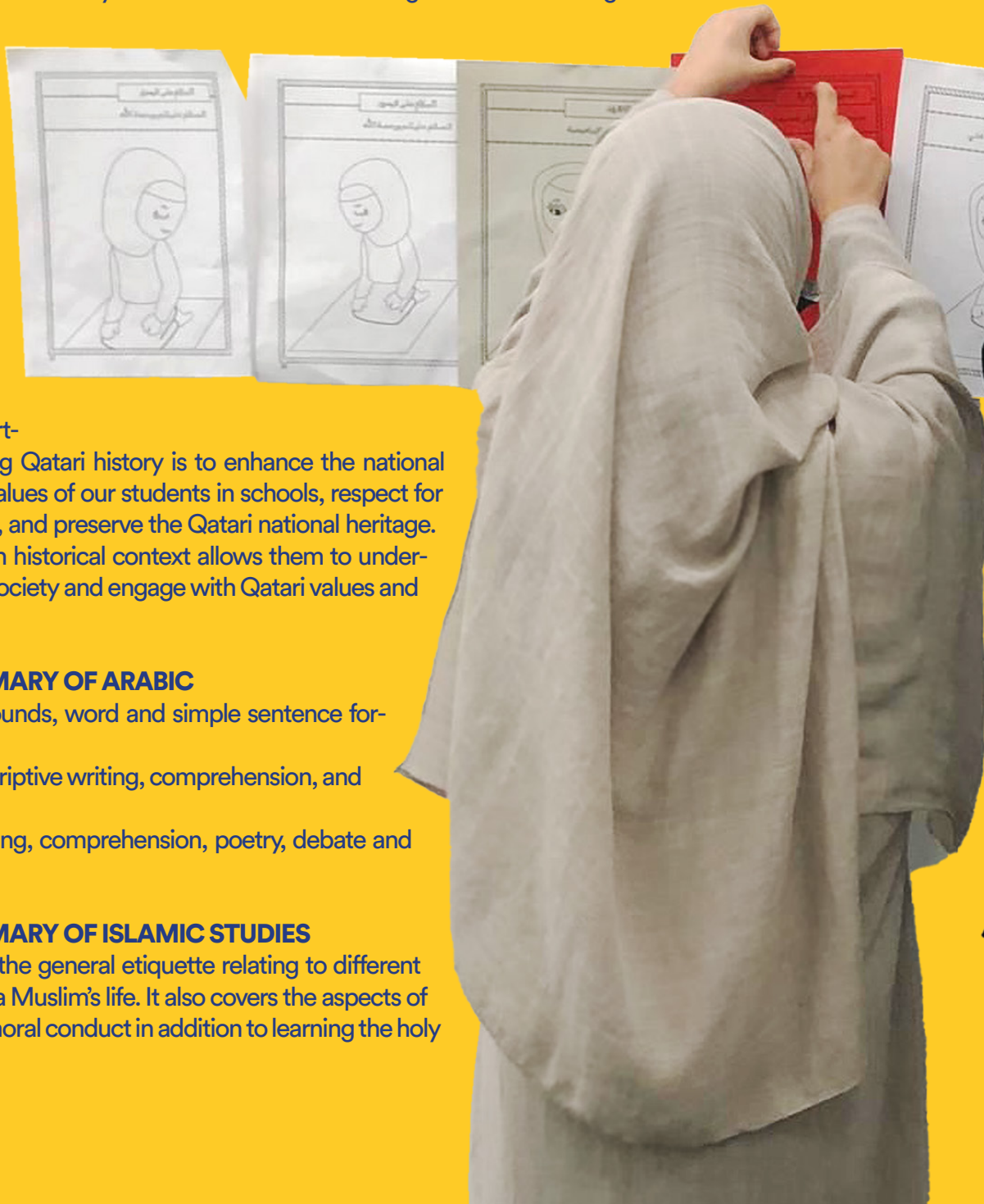
One of the most important features of studying Qatari history is to enhance the national identity and religious values of our students in schools, respect for customs and traditions, and preserve the Qatari national heritage. Providing students with historical context allows them to understand their position in society and engage with Qatari values and heritage.

## CURRICULUM SUMMARY OF ARABIC

- KS1 (Letters and sounds, word and simple sentence formation)
- KS2 (Reading, descriptive writing, comprehension, and grammar)
- KS3 (Reading, writing, comprehension, poetry, debate and grammar)

## CURRICULUM SUMMARY OF ISLAMIC STUDIES

Islamic Studies covers the general etiquette relating to different areas and situations in a Muslim's life. It also covers the aspects of beliefs, practices and moral conduct in addition to learning the holy





Quran the sayings of Prophet Mohammed peace be upon Him.

## CURRICULUM SUMMARY OF QH

- The concept of homeland
- The Characteristics of the Qatari society
- Role of Qatar in preserving the heritage.
- Colonial Forces in Qatar and the Arabian Gulf







## Durham School for Girls Doha

### SCHOOL:

E: [info@durhamqatar.com](mailto:info@durhamqatar.com)  
for general enquiries

E: [studentservices@durhamqatar.com](mailto:studentservices@durhamqatar.com)  
for daily issues relating to  
student admission and  
testing.

E: [reception@durhamqatar.com](mailto:reception@durhamqatar.com)  
for student attendance,  
collection and buses.

### GENERAL ENQUIRIES:

T: 40362938 / 40362941 /  
30087001

### ADMISSIONS:

Admission Enquiries:  
T: 40362944 / 40362946  
E: [studentservices@durhamqatar.com](mailto:studentservices@durhamqatar.com)

### FACILITIES:

E: [facilities@durhamqatar.com](mailto:facilities@durhamqatar.com)



Durham School for Girls is located on a purpose-built campus in the El Messila district of Doha. The school has been built to extremely high standards, creating an environment conducive to learning and to feeling happy and safe. There is a lot of natural light and clean open spaces for the children to enjoy.

The installations include:

- Spacious classrooms with Electronic/Interactive teaching facilities
- 6 science labs for Biology, Physics and Chemistry
- Art rooms
- ICT Rooms
- Food and Nutrition classroom
- Textiles and Fashion classroom
- Music rooms and music practice rooms for individual lessons
- Black Box Drama Room
- Learning Support Center
- Primary and Secondary Library
- Purpose built EYFS center
- Gymnasium
- Large Sports Hall
- Outdoor Sports Court and play area
- Swimming pool
- Prayer rooms
- 2 large Dining halls





We are committed to the equal inclusion of all pupils in all areas of school life. We recognise the diverse and individual needs of all of our pupils and take into account the additional support required by those children with different learning needs. Our School is committed to anti-discriminatory practice to promote equality of opportunity, prevent disabled pupils from being treated less favourably and valuing diversity for all children and families.

## Admissions are carried out on a case by case basis





# give it a go!





**PERFORMING ARTS :** Art, Music and Drama are embedded throughout the primary curriculum. From singing as we walk to lunch, reacting out a story using Talk for Writing or illustrating our work. Girls' creative skill are developed daily through our thematic approach to learning, but also in specific specialized lessons. Art competitions, assemblies and performances for parents help develop girls' confidence and language. We nurture the girls' creative talents and find ways to celebrate this regularly.

# extra curricular

In Durham School for Girls, we want to ensure that we are offering a rich and balanced enrichment programme to support all the girl's needs. Clubs can alter termly, so that all girls can have the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities. Programmes are age related and specific for the needs of the girls.

Sport Programmes can include – Football, Netball, Wellbeing Movement, Rounders, Ballet, Swimming and Gymnastics.

Art Programmes include – Art club, Model building, Origami club, Photography, Choir, and Drama  
Arabic and Islamic Clubs include – Islamic Art, Arabic Story time, Quran and Arabic culture club.

Enrichment Clubs include – Chess Club, Jigsaw club, wellbeing, Robotics, Lego club, First responders First Aid, Cake decoration and cooking club.

Leadership Clubs – Student newspaper, Debate Club and School Council.

As a school we also offer both Homework and after school interventions. These are invite only and are used as booster groups to support individual learning throughout the curriculum. These are offered at both Primary and Secondary levels.





# Primary Uniform

## GUIDE

**Children should wear the correct uniform at all times.**

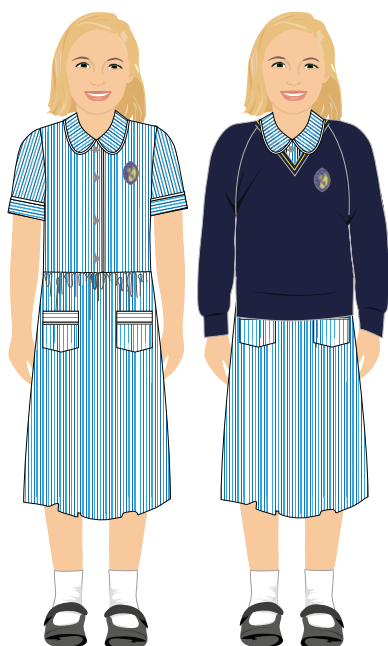
- Footwear should be black shoes.
- Trainers that are white or black can only be worn on P.E days.
- Trainers/football boots should be discouraged on non- P.E days.

**Children should not wear:**

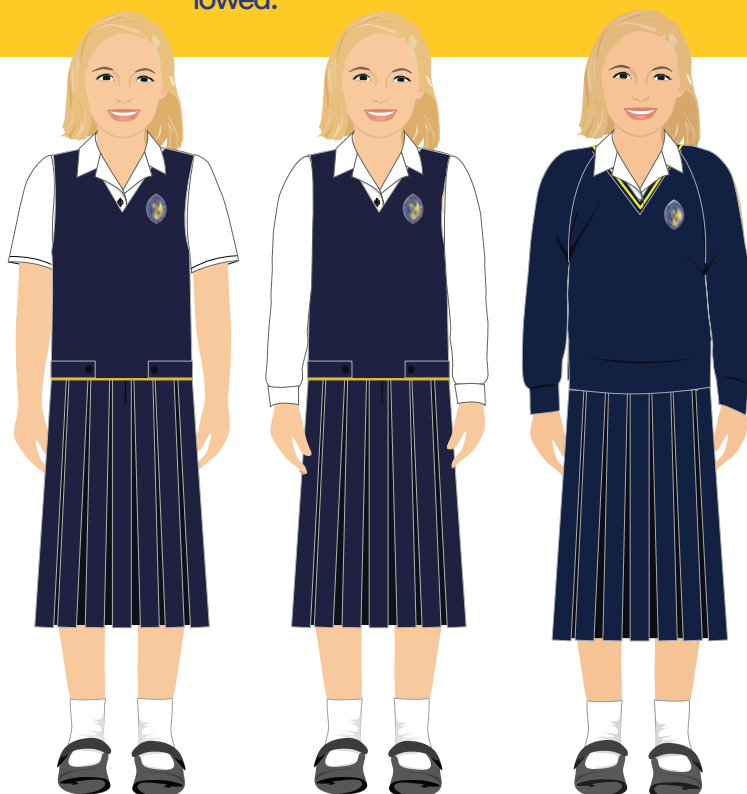
- Jewellery (exceptions are: one small pair of stud earrings, a wristwatch and a religious bracelet)
- Make up or nail polish

The School uniform supplier is 'Nobel House'. Our uniforms are similar to those at Durham School UK and provide a sense of belonging and pride to be part of the school.

- School bags must also be purchased from 'Nobel House'.
- Wheelie bags and bags which are not Durham School bags will not be accepted in school.
- Black school shoes should also be worn.
- Black or white trainers for sports should be purchased.
- Trainers are not acceptable as general school shoes.
- Jewellery in the form of small stud earrings are bracelets for religious purposes are allowed but, for health and safety, no other jewellery is allowed.



Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 Uniform



Key Stage 2 Uniform (Year 3- Year 6)





Swimwear



Accessories



## BACK



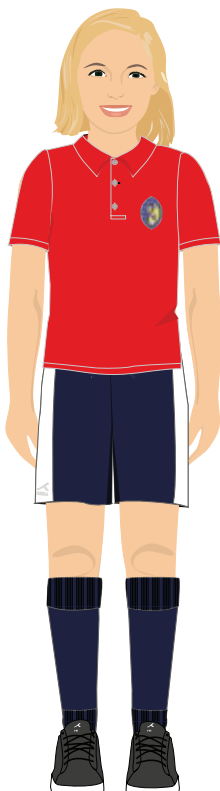
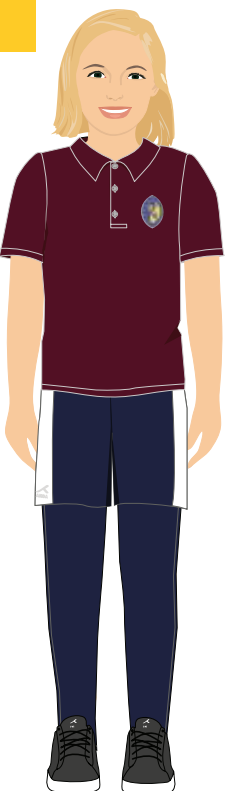
Arabian

Camel

Oryx

Gazelle

Falcon



Sportswear







# School Meals Programme

**Nutrition and Healthy eating are key elements of the school curriculum and programme.**

DSGD provides healthy lunch services on a daily basis to all DSGD girls.

## **LUNCH TIME**

Having a full lunch together underpins the values of Durham School for Girls Doha: making the right choices; trying new things; being sociable etc. All these skills are part of our curriculum and ensure we have well rounded and healthy girls. The food and quality will be closely monitored and assessed. Children with food allergies will be catered for and our dining room is a NUT free zone.

Primary girls can choose to either have a school meal or bring a healthy packed lunch from home.

In EYFS, the girls eat lunch with the EYFS staff and are served directly to the table. EYFS parents will be informed by the teachers if there are any problems with food, or how well the girls ate.

We respect allergies and religious diets. It is parent's responsibility to inform the school of any allergies. It is very important that the students stay hydrated and so all girls are asked to bring to school a water bottle. This needs to be named clearly and will be returned home daily. Girls will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day and remain hydrated.

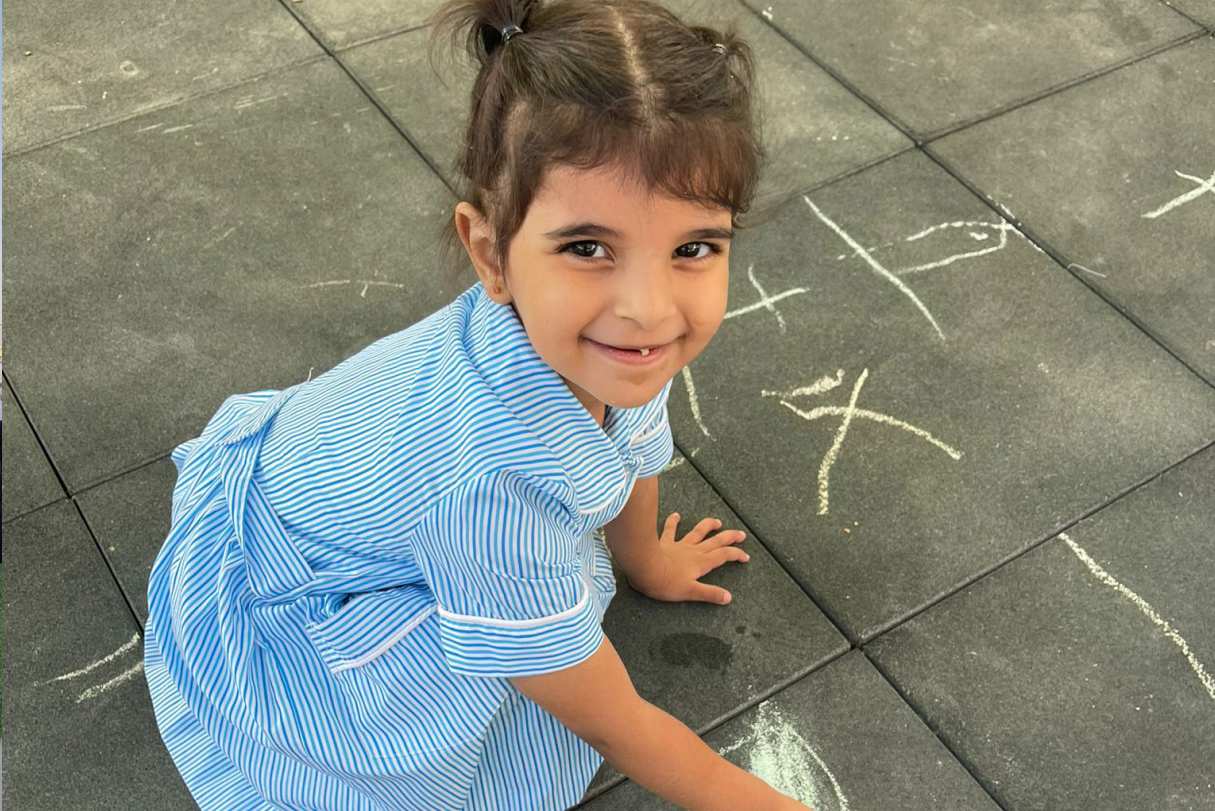
## **SNACK TIME**

A snack should be provided by parents and brought into school by the child. All snack bags or boxes need to be named clearly. Snack for EYFS is supervised by the EYFS team and children sit together to eat.





















**DURHAM SCHOOL FOR GIRLS DOHA**

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Doha, Qatar

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