



NATIONAL IDENTITY POLICY

1. Introduction

Universal Private School is committed to strengthening students' understanding of UAE National Identity through daily school life, curriculum, celebrations, values, community engagement and meaningful learning experiences.

The school serves a diverse student population of 1,208 students, including approximately 20 Emirati students. For this reason, the policy aims to ensure that all students, regardless of nationality or curriculum pathway, develop respect for the UAE, its leadership, culture, heritage, Arabic language and national values.

2. Purpose

This policy aims to:

1. strengthen students' sense of belonging and connection to the UAE;
2. promote respect for Emirati culture, heritage, traditions and national symbols;
3. embed National Identity across teaching and learning;
4. encourage positive values, responsibility and community service;
5. support Arabic language appreciation;
6. involve parents and community partners; and
7. ensure compliance with applicable ADEK requirements.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all students from KG1 to Grade 12 across the British and MoE curriculum sections.

It covers:

- assemblies and the National Anthem;
- the UAE flag and official portraits;
- curriculum integration;
- daily values based habits;
- national celebrations;
- Arabic language;
- school displays;
- educational visits;
- volunteering;
- student leadership;
- parent engagement; and
- monitoring and evaluation.

4. Governance and School Strategy

UPS will maintain a school wide National Identity Strategy that links National Identity to:



- the school vision and values;
- curriculum planning;
- assemblies and routines;
- school events;
- student participation;
- parent engagement;
- community partnerships; and
- the School Development Plan.

Although UPS appears to meet the exemption conditions for some formal requirements that apply to higher fee bands or schools with larger Emirati enrolment, the school will still assign a senior leader and relevant staff to coordinate National Identity provision.

5. UAE Flag, National Anthem and Assemblies

UPS will ensure that:

1. the UAE flag is displayed prominently and respectfully;
2. the UAE flag is the only national flag raised on school premises;
3. official portraits are displayed in appropriate locations;
4. all students participate in a daily orderly assembly;
5. the assembly includes the UAE National Anthem and flag raising; and
6. students demonstrate respectful behaviour during assemblies.

This requirement must be in place by 31 August 2026.

Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with medical, mobility or additional learning needs.

6. Values Based Daily Habits

UPS will promote daily habits that reflect responsibility, respect and positive citizenship.

The school will introduce the daily habit of maintaining clean learning spaces by 28 September 2026.

Other habits may include:

- caring for shared spaces;
- organizing learning materials;
- completing assigned responsibilities;
- showing respect and punctuality;
- supporting others;
- conserving resources; and
- reflecting on personal behaviour.

Positive reinforcement will be used to encourage participation.



7. Curriculum Integration

National Identity will be embedded across MoE and non MoE subjects.

Relevant links may include:

- UAE history and geography;
- Emirati culture and heritage;
- Arabic language;
- Islamic values;
- sustainability;
- innovation;
- citizenship;
- national achievements;
- community responsibility; and
- UAE society.

Subject leaders will ensure that National Identity links are meaningful, age appropriate, culturally accurate and visible in curriculum plans, lesson activities and student work.

The ADEK draft policy requires National Identity to be integrated across all subjects, regardless of curriculum.

8. Celebrations, School Environment and Resources

UPS will celebrate key national occasions, including:

- Eid Al Etihad;
- UAE Flag Day;
- Martyrs' Day where applicable; and
- other government endorsed National Identity initiatives.

Parents may be invited to major school events.

The school environment will include appropriate displays related to:

- UAE leadership;
- national symbols;
- heritage;
- Arabic language;
- UAE history;
- sustainability;
- innovation; and
- student work.

The school library and digital resources will include suitable materials that support understanding of UAE National Identity.

9. Experiential Learning



UPS will provide students with meaningful experiences beyond the classroom.

The school will work toward providing at least one immersive educational visit per cycle, subject to ADEK approval and operational arrangements.

Possible visits may include:

- museums;
- heritage sites;
- cultural centres;
- environmental locations;
- government institutions;
- universities; and
- community organizations.

Each visit must include clear learning outcomes, risk assessment, appropriate supervision, parental consent where required and suitable accommodations for students with additional learning needs.

UPS will also maintain a process to support the requirement that students visit the Zayed National Museum at least once before graduation when this becomes operational.

10. Arabic Language and Literacy

UPS will promote Arabic language learning and appreciation across the school.

The school will:

- encourage Arabic reading and speaking;
- integrate age appropriate Arabic and Emirati texts;
- conduct periodic Arabic literacy evaluations for Arab National students;
- identify students requiring additional support; and
- provide targeted intervention where necessary.

Parents will be encouraged to support Arabic reading and language development at home.

11. Volunteering and Community Engagement

UPS will provide age appropriate volunteering opportunities linked to UAE values and community responsibility.

The draft National Identity Policy identifies the following annual commitments:

Student Group	Minimum Annual Volunteering
KG and Cycle 1	5 hours
Cycles 2 and 3	10 hours

The school will also organize at least one annual community service initiative connected to UAE National Identity, subject to applicable ADEK requirements.



All activities must include suitable supervision, risk assessment, safeguarding arrangements and parental consent where required.

12. Student and Parent Participation

UPS may appoint student representatives from different cycles and both curriculum sections to support:

- assemblies;
- celebrations;
- volunteering;
- school displays;
- cultural activities;
- student voice; and
- community initiatives.

The school will also seek the views of Emirati students when planning National Identity activities.

Parents may contribute through:

- national celebrations;
- cultural activities;
- volunteering;
- heritage presentations;
- Arabic reading support; and
- community partnerships.

13. Inclusion

All National Identity activities must be accessible to students with additional learning needs.

The school will provide suitable accommodations, which may include:

- adapted roles;
- visual support;
- assistive technology;
- accessible venues;
- simplified instructions;
- modified activities; and
- alternative forms of participation.

14. Monitoring and Evaluation

UPS will monitor implementation through:

- curriculum reviews;
- lesson observations;



- student work;
- assembly records;
- celebration and event evidence;
- volunteering records;
- educational visit records;
- student and parent feedback;
- Arabic literacy information;
- school displays; and
- School Development Plan monitoring.

Leaders will evaluate the impact of the policy on:

- student knowledge;
- sense of belonging;
- respect for UAE culture;
- Arabic language engagement;
- values based behaviour;
- volunteering; and
- community participation.

15. AY 2026/27 Priority Actions and Approval

Priority Action	Deadline
Daily National Anthem, student line up and UAE flag raising	31 August 2026
Daily habit of maintaining clean learning spaces	28 September 2026
Full policy implementation if UPS is selected as an ADEK pilot school	15 December 2026

Policy	Universal Private School National Identity Policy
Academic Year	2026/27
Approved by	Board of Trustees
Approval Date	07 July 2026
Effective Date	31 August 2026
Next Review	End of AY 2026/27 or following publication of the final ADEK policy
Version	1.0