

Kuwait National English School

The Foundation Stage. What you need to know about the Early Years



Every Child Matters

National Curriculum of England,
Wales and Northern Ireland.

All children are entitled to the best education our community can provide. We believe that the "Foundation Stage" creates an environment where every child can create the building blocks for a successful future.

The United Kingdom Early Years program is based on research entitled "Every Child Matters." The research concludes that children learn best through stimulating, fun, and playful activities. The fundamental idea

behind this concept is, if a child can connect personal relevance they will actively seek to learn.

The program at KNES attempts to integrate all the best of the British Early Years Curriculum with the needs of children living in Kuwait.

The Early Years program encompasses children ages 1.5 to 5yrs. beginning in Pre-School continuing through Kindergarten and then to the end of the Reception Year. At the end of the Reception year, children will be assessed using the **Early Years Foundation Stage Profile**. This U.K. assessment tool ensures that our students are being assessed in the same way as their counterparts in the British school system.

The Foundation Stage Profile expects students to reach a variety of milestones in their development throughout the course of the Early Years Program. Teachers will record their progress according to the prescribed attainment goals.

What does your Child do in Early Years?



Teachers, together with the school provide a stimulating environment in which your child can develop the skills outlined in 6

areas of development.

- **Personal, social and emotional development.** This is your child's journey to becoming a confident, well adjusted person who is able to take on personal responsibility, distinguish between right and wrong and begin to establish a personal sense of critical inquiry.
- **Problem Solving..** This is the area of development which builds on mathematical skills as well as the ability to analyze data. Your child will become comfortable with numbers. Shapes, sizes and the categorization of data.
- **Knowledge and understanding of the world.** Children will begin to understand the world around them through the use of technology, books and other material. They will begin to gain an awareness and respect for diversity and alternative belief systems. They will also build relevance to history within their culture family and community.

- **Creative Development.** Your child will gain insight into their own creative abilities through various forms of activities involving art, music, dance and even writing.

- **Physical Development.** As a child grows they need a variety of physical activities in order for them to learn simple to complex abilities. It is important that they acquire a



confident ability to control and manipulate their own body. It is also important to instill a healthy respect for their own body from a

very early age.

Communication and literacy. It is critical for any young child to develop communication skills in all forms, speaking, reading and writing. In the Early Years they will develop awareness and confidence to communicate effectively. This is traditionally accomplished through a variety of activities such as story telling, music, repetition and visual and verbal connection activities. As your child develops alphabet and sound recognition they will increase their ability to communicate. In Pre-School, we begin to build your child's vocabulary, so that they have an ever increasing bank of words to communicate with.

English as a Foreign Language

At KNES it is also of critical importance that children have as much opportunity to develop their communication skills as possible. As students of English as a Foreign Language, children need the opportunity to extend and practice their new skills outside the school in areas that can create a relevance to them. This allows them to take pride in their efforts and build confidence. A great idea is for children to teach what they learn to their parents.

Practice is the key to success and learning is a 24 hour activity. This task is not an easy one. We should always strive to build confidence in our children in order for them to take an interest.

There is no better time in a person's life to learn a Foreign language. Children in the Early Years can develop second language skills much easier than adults. This does not mean however that it's a snap. Parents and teachers need to find that balance that is unique to every child between fun and interesting vs. work and uninteresting. At KNES our primary goal is to assist you in the development of your child into an Independent, Confident, Creative, Socially responsible, critically thinking person. **With these achievements your child will be able to surmount all challenges in front of them.**

KNES

Guiding Statement

All students at KNES are members of an International community. We look to help them to get to know each other then learn respect for each other.

We Aim to

- Broaden their minds to increase their knowledge in all academic subjects
- Prepare them, while they develop their knowledge to be ready to tackle different issues; human, social, cultural and scientific.
- Develop the intellectual and cognitive skills as well as the physical, social and artistic skills.
- Prepare our students to be responsible citizens, conscious not only of their rights but also of their duties as being part of our "Human Family" and to take care of our "Earth Home"

Your Child is our Future, we all must invest in them to ensure it is a successful one.

