Park House English School

iSP International Schools Partnership

Parent Handbook

Park House English School

Welcome to Park House English School

Dear Parents and Families,

A very warm welcome to Park House English School! Whether you are new to our community, having just embraced an exciting move to Doha, or have moved within our city, or are already a cherished part of the Park House family, it is an absolute privilege to welcome you as your new Head of Primary.

Throughout my career in education, my leadership has always been rooted in a simple belief: that exceptional schools are built on strong, genuine relationships and a shared commitment to every child. When I first visited Park House, I was immediately struck by the warmth, kindness, and deep sense of belonging that flows through the school. These qualities mirror my own core philosophy that happy, confident children thrive, both academically and personally, when they feel truly valued and supported.

In our Primary phase, we have the wonderful opportunity to shape the foundational years of a child's education. My goal is to foster an environment where children are encouraged to be curious, bold, and inclusive learners. Our PRiDE values: Perseverance, Responsibility, Independence, Dedication, and Engagement are woven into the fabric of daily life here. These principles underpin our learning culture and empower our children to grow into compassionate, brave individuals who achieve success both in and beyond the classroom.

We are deeply proud of our strong, inclusive community, where wellbeing is placed at the very heart of everything we do. As a parent, you are an essential partner in our school family. I firmly believe in working closely together to ensure your child feels understood, inspired, and equipped to achieve their very best.

Thank you for trusting Park House English School with your child's education. I am thrilled to embark on this journey with you and look forward to a wonderfully happy and fulfilling year ahead.

Warm regards,



Cheska Tyler

Head of Primary

Vision, Mission, and Core Values



Our Vision

To develop confidence, independence, resilience and a love for learning.

Our Mission

Tochallenge our pupilsto be proud, be hardworking, be enthusiastic and achieve success in a happy, caring and respectful environment.

Our Core Values

AtPark House English School,we take PRiDE in all aspects of our learning and development: PRiDEin our studies, PRiDEin our behaviour, PRiDE in our uniform, PRiDE in our environment, PRiDE in our relationships with others and PRiDE in our school.

PRiDE	
	Being resilient, even when faced with difficult or challenging circumstances.
	Taking responsibility for my learning, my attitude, my progress and my behaviour. Becoming a global citizen and being kind, caring and respectful in all I do.
	Becoming a confident and independent learner. Always giving my best and taking ownership for overcoming my own difficulties and challenges.
	Knowing that developing knowledge, skills and understanding requires determination, effort and commitment to be truly successful.
	Having enthusiasm, passion and a love for learning, both inside and outside of the classroom.

Meet Our Senior Leadership Team



Cheska Tyler

Head of Primary

Encourages active engagement and joyful learning.
Builds foundational skills in literacy, numeracy, and social

cheska.tyler@parkhouseschool.com

Teaches children how to express emotions and communicate effectively.
Promotes empathy

Creates a warm, inclusive classroom environment.



Anna Stuart

Deputy Head of Primary

anna.stuart@parkhouseschool.com

Provides sensory-rich experiences through arts, music,

projects.
Develops fine and gross motor



AnnaGrant

AssistantHead ofPrimary - whole school inclusion

anna.grant@parkhouseschool.com

Global Citizenship

Promoting PRIDE to Empower, Unite & Thrive:
Global citizens at Park House embrace cultural diversity, foster equality, and prepare for future challenges with open-mindedness and respect.



Cultural Diversity



Open Mindedness



Respect



Justice



Belonging



Equity

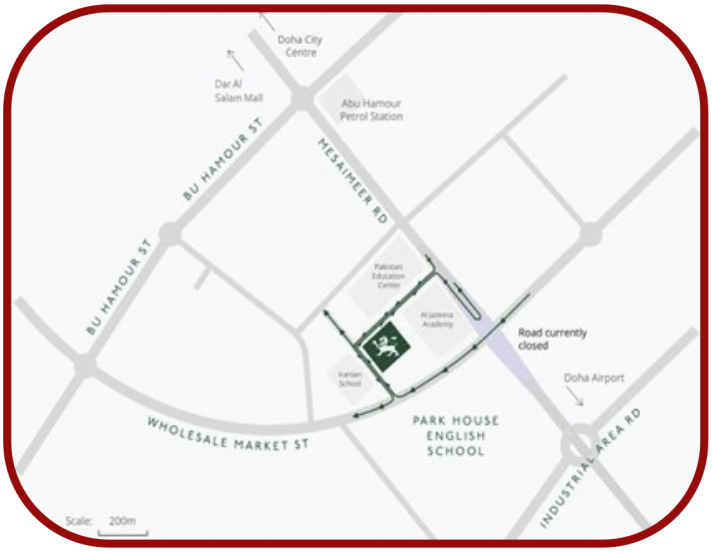
Our PRIDE values guide us beyond academics to develop skills that enable students to thrive in an interconnected world. As well-rounded individuals, we strive for our students to understand their impact, promote justice, and take responsibility for a sustainable future and shared environment.

Background

ParkHouse English Schoolis an independent co-educational, private dayschool situated in Doha, the capital of the State of Qatar. The school was founded in 1994 by Mrs Heather Brennan. With a current enrollment of over 1400 pupils spanning 60+ nationalities, the school provides an education in English which broadly follows the National Curriculum for England.
The school is divided into Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception), Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2), Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) and Secondary (Years 7 - 13).



Location



The school is in the Abu Hamour area of Doha where several other schools are also located. It is near to the wholesale markets.

Contact Details

Telephone: +974 4468 3800
Facsimile: +974 4458 3785
Website: www.parkhouseschool.com
Email: info@parkhouseschool.com

Staff

AtPark House English School, we are proud to have a dedicated team of qualified, experienced, and caring teaching staff. All our teachers hold university degrees, with the majority having trained in the United Kingdom. They are committed professionals who work collaboratively to provide a high-quality English education in a supportive and nurturing environment.

We believe that education is a shared journey—a partnership between the child, parent, and teacher. Together, we can achieve the very best outcomes. Your support and involvement are greatly valued, and we encourage open communication. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Safeguarding

Park House English School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We fully recognise our responsibility to safeguard, promote and protect the safety of all children. The guiding principle is the belief that it is always unacceptable for a child to experience abuse of any kind.

Park House aims to ensure that none of its staff or volunteers engages in behaviour that could allow abuse to occur or actions that could be misinterpreted by children, their families or other adults as constituting or leading to abuse. Child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, neglect or negligent treatment resulting in the actual or potential harm to a child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility of trust or power, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

It is our aim to:

•Raise awareness of child protection, safeguarding roles and responsibilities with school staff and volunteers regularly, including all admin support and auxiliary staff.

•Develop, implement and review procedures in our school that enable all staff and volunteers to identify and report cases or suspected cases of abuse.

•Ensure the practice of safe recruitment in checking and recording the suitability of staff and volunteers who work with children.

•Establish a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

If you have any serious concerns about your child or any other student at Park House English School please do not hesitate to contact us: safeguarding@parkhouseschool.com

We have clear, consistent procedures in place to support, children, families and staff at the school. Follow the QR code for our schools Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Scan for Safeguarding Team

EYFS - Cubs Corner



OurEarly Years Foundation Stage; Cubs Corner, comprises two year groups: Nursery (ages 3-4) and Reception (ages 4-5). Our nurturing staff members, all qualified to UK standards, strive to provide a neutral and calm environment, where everyone feels valued, secure and well cared for.

All children engage in phonics activities, with more formal phonics lessons starting in Term 3 of Nursery. The UK approved programme Read Write Inc. (RWI) is used for all phonics learning, providing a familiar and structured strategy for our young readers.

Built upon current child development research and best practice strategies, our Early Years curriculum fosters independence and curiosity, supporting every child to thrive in all areas of development. Our curriculum draws inspiration from:

The Early Years Foundation Stage

Learning through play to build strong foundations for life.

Curiosity Approach

Encouraging independence and self-directed learning.

Reggio Emilia Approach

Promoting creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking.

Our curriculum focuses on the following key developmental areas:

- Personal, Social & Emotional Development
- Communication, Language & Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Physical Development
- Expressive Arts & Design

KS1 & KS2 - Years 1-6

PHES is a 4-form entry school. Usingstrategies such as flexible seating and independent learning opportunities, our aim is to make every child feel at ease in their surroundings, so that they can make progress and develop their skills thoroughly in all areas of their school life. Our curriculum is based on the National Curriculum for England, adapted for an international setting and Qatari culture.

English

- Follows National Curriculum for England
- Daily Read Write Inc. phonics in Early Years & KS1
- Talk for Writing and Tales Toolkit build vocabulary & stor y telling
- Focus on reading for pleasure, grammar, and effective writing

Mathematics

- Teaching for Mastery approach
- Secure understanding of key concepts
- Problem-solving, reasoning & real-life application
- Mistakes valued as learning opportunities

PE & Swimming

- Weekly PE lessons (all year groups)
- Swimming from Reception
- Both compulsory unless excused with doctor's note

PSHE

- Jigsaw PSHE framework (emotional literacy, resilience, life skills)
- Happy Confident Me (wellbeing)
- KS2: Squirrel Finance for budgeting & money management

Computing

- Access to desktops, laptops & iPads
- Technology integrated across subjects
- Coding, programming, and digital creativity
- Online safety and responsible digital citizenship

Topic (History, Geography, Art, DT)

- Thematic, cross-curricular approach
- Engaging entry and exit points
- Literacy woven throughout

Music

- Practical music from Early Years
- Choir for Years 3–6
- Exploring rhythm, pitch, and composition
- Opportunities to perform and celebrate music

Languages

- Years 1–6: French & Spanish (if not Arabic)
- Arabic: Conversational in Nursery & Reception, full programme for native speakers from KS1
- Languages also offered as ECAs

Islamic Studies

- Islamic Studies in Arabic or English (for Muslim students)
- Learning about values, beliefs, and Islamic history
- Extended Project for others, developing creativity & teamwork
- Opportunities to research, present, and share learning

Qatar History

- Taught in English & Arabic
- Focus on chronology, events, personalities & investigation
- Links to Qatari heritage and culture
- Encourages pride in identity and understanding of local histor y

We follow a system of internal assessment and reporting to support teachers in identifying next steps for each child. Parents receive a report at the end of each term, and these are followed by parents meetings the following week. This allows for an opportunity to speak to the teacher about your child's progress. Teachers are happy to speak to parents at other times to discuss children's progress, if needed. If you would like to speak to your child's teacher, please contact them directly via email.

Extra Curricular Activities (ECAs)

Park HouseEnglish School views extra-curricularactivitiesas an integral part of the holistic education of our students.
We are dedicated to offering our students a variety of ECAs that appeal to their varying needs and interests. We aim to introduce children to potential hobbies, develop sport interests, provide language learning, and inspire an interest in areas that perhaps they would not be exposed to through the normal curriculum. We are therefore pleased to have established partnerships with external organisations.
From Reception to year 6, students are offered a wide range of both complementary and paid activities covering both indoor and outdoor activities in the afternoon, normally between 2:10 pm – 3pm.

Library Books

Children are encouraged to take library books home weekly during their library lesson. The library is also open before and after school as well as during breaktimes. All books must be treated with respect and carried to and from school in a library bag. Please note that damaged books will incur a charge.

School Planners

All children from Year 1 – year 6 are given a school planner from the first day. In Reception these are given in Term 2 to support students with transition into KS1. The planners are used for parents/guardians to write notes to teachers and for children to record their reading daily. Parents/guardians should also sign planners weekly.

Inclusion & SEND

While our school has a selective admissions process, we welcome students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who meet our criteria and can be supported within our facilities and expertise.
We have a referral process to identify specific learning difficulties and may involve external specialists such as Speech and Language or Occupational Therapists.

Parents should inform us of any SEND requirements in advance, particularly before assessments, so we can make appropriate arrangements. In some cases, parents may be asked to contribute towards special resources. Students with SEND are expected to participate fully in the curriculum and school life, with any exceptional circumstances addressed individually by the Senior Leadership Team.

Please note that failure to disclose SEND, or needs beyond our capacity, may affect a child's place. Open communication and collaboration are essential to provide the best educational experience for all students.

General Information

First day

On the first day of school, all children will be allowed to go straight to their classroom where they will be greeted by their teacher. For their first day, children should have their lunch with them or have made arrangements previously with the canteen.

For children starting school mid-year, they must report to reception where they will be met by the admissions team. Their class teacher, or learning assistant, will come to collect them and take the children to their new classroom. A buddy will be provided for all children starting during the year, ensuring they are supported in settling in.

Lanyards

There is a colour coded lanyard system at Park House English School, which is in place to ensure the safeguarding of the students.

Please ensure that you are wearing your parent lanyard every time you come into the school grounds.



Absence

- Please let the school know in advance of any planned absences by email or telephone.
- If your child is unwell for more than 3 days, a doctor's note is required.
- If the school hasn't been informed, please email absence@parkhouseschool.com on the day of return to explain the absence, otherwise it will be marked as unauthorised.
- Requests for leave of absence can be made to the Head of Primary.
- We will contact parents if attendance falls below 95%, and arrange a meeting if it drops below 90%.
- Full details are available in our Attendance and Punctuality Policy on the school website.

Medical

- A medical team is always onsite. Please inform them of any medical needs so a care plan can be arranged.
- Medicines can only be administered by the school nurse with a doctor's note.
- If your child has a broken bone, please inform us before their return so a risk assessment can be completed.
- Keep your contact details on iSAMS up to date to ensure we can reach you in an emergency. **If your details change, please let us know immediately.**
- Children must stay home for 48 hours after sickness or diarrhoea has cleared.
- Contact the school nurse at nurse@parkhouseschool.com.

Collection of Primary Students During the School Day

If your child needs to leave school early, please follow this procedure:

- On arrival, show your parent lanyard to security. If you do not have it, present your ID at the main gate to receive a red visitor lanyard.
- Report to school reception to collect your child, where you will be issued an Early Leavers Pass.
- Before leaving, hand the Early Leavers Pass and red lanyard back to security at the main gate, collect your ID, and exit with your child.

Transport to and from school

The School does not provide any transport to or from school. It is the sole responsibility of the parents to organise transport and to ensure that they are satisfied with the health and safety procedures of any provider. The school does not accept any liability for students before they enter, or once they have left, the school premises.

Dropping items at school during the school day

If a student has forgotten anything at home that they require at school, please bring this to the school office clearly labelled with the name and class of the student and it will be taken to their classroom.

Drinks and snacks

- Please ensure your child has a refillable water bottle to stay hydrated throughout the day. Glass bottles and cans are not allowed.
- Provide healthy food for snacks and lunch; chocolates and sweets are not permitted. Students should bring a snack for both first and second breaks, and all lunch boxes should be clearly labelled.
- We have a NO NUT policy. All food items must be nut-free, including products such as Nutella. Please refer to our policy on the school website for further information.
- The school canteen offers pre-ordered lunch and snacks delivered to classrooms. Students from Year 1 upwards may also access the canteen during break times. Orders and payments can be made online using your child's unique login: https://www.cliqueorder.com/sterling/STR/login



Start and End of Day procedures

Time	Year group	Description
Arrival 7:30am	Nursery & Reception	Side gate opens at 7.10am. Early Years (EY) children must be accompanied by an adult.
Arrival 7:30am	Year 1 - Year 6	Main gates open from 7am. During the hot months, children will go into the sports hall if they are on site before the bell goes at 7.30am.
End of Day 12pm	Nursery	Side gate will be open at 12pm. Please collect your child from outside your child's classroom door. A paid creche is available (siblings get priority). Please speak with the admissions team if you need to utilise the creche facility.
End of Day	Reception	Side gate will be open at 2.10pm. Please collect from outside your child's classroom door. Please be on time for collection.
End of day	Year 1, 2E, 3, 4	Side gate and main gate will be open at 2.10pm. Please collect your child from the Primary grass playground. Please be on time for collection.
End of Day	Year 2 (2P, 2H, 2S)	Side gate and main gate will be open at 2.10pm. Please collect your child from the classroom door (playground side). Please be on time for collection.
End of Day	Year 5 & 6	Side gate and main gate will be open at 2.10pm. Please collected from the Secondary playground. Please be on time for collection.

Breaks

Thechildren have two break times throughout the day. This consists of time to eat and play outside, when possible. In the hotter weather the children stay indoors. This is based on temperature and humidity and monitored daily.



Rewards

We believe that it is important to look for the strengths that each student brings to our school. We encourage everyone in our community to celebrate these strengths. Rewards may take a variety of forms including verbal praise, emails to parents, written comments, certificates, and trophies. Star of the week certificates are awarded weekly based on our PRIDE values.

We operate a House system, with each student assigned to one of four Houses. House points can be earned by individuals for displaying our PRIDE values. Totals are announced each week and children are rewarded accordingly.

EYFS and KS1 collect Dojos for displaying the PRIDE values.

Both the individual House Points and Dojos are accumulated, and students are awarded on the total amounts collected.

50 HP/DJ	Email home
75 HP/DJ	School certificate
100 HP/DJ	Headteacher Award
200 HP/DJ	Principal Award
300 HP/DJ	Principal and Head Teacher Award and Special Lunch

Student Leader Opportunities

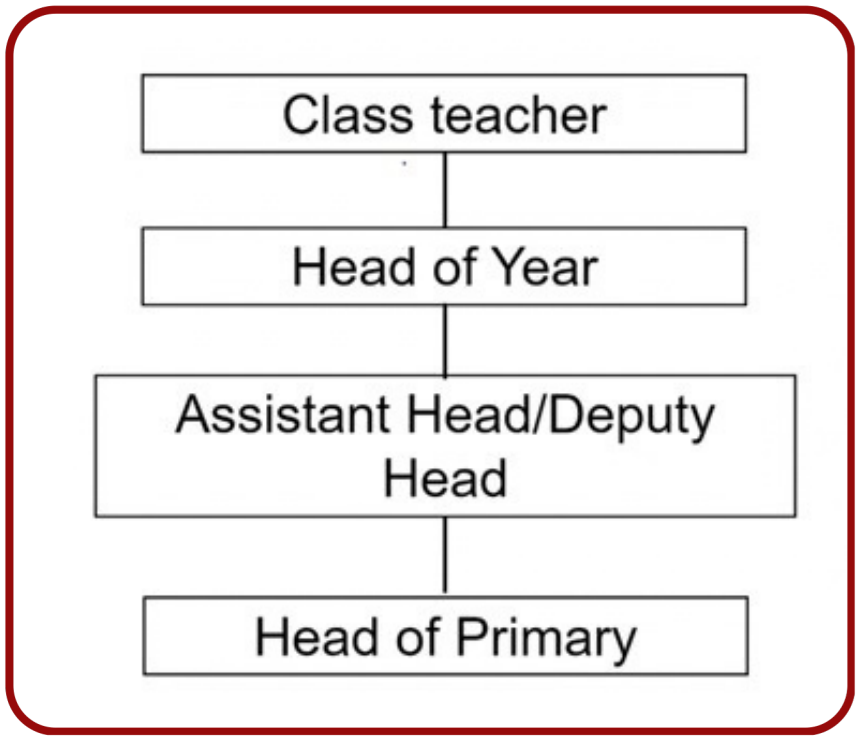
Thestudents across theschoolhave avarietyof opportunities to lead in areas of the school. We have an eco-club, Heads and Deputy Heads of school, House Captains, School council and press team.

Assemblies

Assemblies and other performances are held at regular intervals. Parents are invited to attend some Exit Points, where the children will showcase their learning. Parents will be advised as to when these events are scheduled to take place.

Communication

Parents are encouraged to contact the school should they have concerns or queries. Please follow the flow chart below.



Teachers can be contacted directly via their school email address, which follows the format: firstname.lastname@parkhouseschool.com. Example: fred.smith@parkhouseschool.com

For privacy reasons, personal emails and phone numbers are not shared, and the school discourages the use of social media for contacting staff.

Parents receive a weekly email update highlighting student learning and sharing important information.

We also invite parents to attend Welcome Mornings, Park House Connects, and Parent Workshops. Details of these opportunities are shared via email and on the school's social media platforms.

Parent School Association

Theschoolhasan activeParent SchoolAssociation. An enthusiastic group of parents meet regularly to arrange social and fund-raising events.
For any further information please contact psa@parkhouseschool.com

Class Link

Eachclass has aclass link. This is a parent from the class who acts as a positive link between the class teacher, PSA, and the parents. The class link also takes the lead on managing the class WhatsApp group. Please note this WhatsApp group is to provide parents with updates and information.
You will be given further information about this at the beginning of each school year, or once your child starts school if starting mid-year.

School Uniform

The uniform is compulsory for all students. All items of uniform should be clearly marked with the student's name. We encourage children to keep themselves clean and tidy. All uniform can be purchased from Noble House Trading through their website (www.trutexqatar.com) or by email on info@noblehouseqatar.com.
The school's uniform policy is also available on the school website.

