

## School Policy for Non-Arabic Speaking Students

### Introduction

*At Al Rawabi School, we are committed to providing an inclusive and supportive learning environment for all students, including those who do not speak Arabic as their first language. This policy outlines the teaching strategies, assessment methods, and additional resources designed to ensure that non-Arabic speaking students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. By addressing their unique needs, we aim to promote equitable access to education and facilitate their successful integration into the school community.*

### Teaching Approach

- **Simplified Curriculum:** Focus on essential Arabic language skills, including basic vocabulary, grammar, and everyday communication.
- **Visual and Bilingual Aids:** Utilize visual aids, gestures, and bilingual materials to bridge language gaps.
- **Slower Instructional Pace:** Conduct lessons at a slower pace, ensuring frequent comprehension checks and opportunities for questions. (Support Classes)
- **Technology Integration:** Leverage interactive technology, such as language learning apps and multimedia resources, to engage students effectively.
- **Cultural Contexts:** Integrate cultural relevance into lessons to enhance engagement and understanding.

### Progress Tracking

- **Regular Proficiency Assessments:** Conduct language proficiency assessments every 2-4 weeks to monitor progress.
- **Individual Learning Plans (ILPs):** Develop tailored plans with clear, achievable short-term and long-term goals for each student.
- **Portfolio-Based Assessment:** Maintain a portfolio for each student to document and showcase their progress over time.
- **Teacher Observations:** Record anecdotal observations and insights to complement quantitative assessments.

### Assessment Modifications

- **Simplified Language:** Adjust exam questions to use simpler, more accessible language.
- **Extended Time:** Allow extra time for assessments, typically 1.5 times the standard duration.
- **Bilingual Dictionaries:** Permit the use of bilingual dictionaries during tests.
- **Oral Assessments:** Offer oral assessments as an alternative where appropriate, allowing students to demonstrate their knowledge verbally.

### Additional Considerations

- **Peer Mentoring:** Pair non-Arabic speaking students with Arabic-speaking peers for support and guidance.
- **After-School Support:** Provide additional language support sessions outside regular school hours.
- **Parent Communication:** Engage parents in their native language to ensure clear communication and support.

### Implementation

- **Dedicated Coordinator:** Appoint a coordinator responsible for overseeing the program and supporting non-Arabic speaking students.
- **Annual Policy Review:** Conduct regular reviews of the policy and adjust as needed based on feedback and outcomes.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Establish channels for students, parents, and teachers to provide input and share concerns about the program.

### Support for Social Integration

- **Cultural Exchange Activities:** Organize events and activities that promote cultural exchange between non-Arabic speaking students and their peers.
- **Extracurricular Opportunities:** Encourage participation in clubs, sports, and other extracurricular activities to foster a sense of belonging.
- **Language Buddies:** Create a buddy system where students can practice Arabic in informal settings with supportive peers.

### Monitoring and Reporting

- **Comprehensive Records:** Maintain detailed records of each student's progress, including test scores, teacher notes, and anecdotal feedback.
- **Regular Updates to Parents:** Provide parents with progress reports and suggestions for supporting their children at home.
- **Program Evaluation:** Periodically evaluate the effectiveness of teaching strategies and support mechanisms, using feedback from stakeholders.

### Resources and Materials

- **Customized Resources:** Develop or source teaching materials specifically designed for non-Arabic speaking learners.
- **Library Support:** Stock the school library with bilingual books, language learning tools, and multimedia resources.
- **Technology Access:** Ensure students have access to language learning software and online resources both at school and at home.

This policy aims to foster an inclusive and supportive environment, enabling non-Arabic speaking students to achieve academic success while integrating effectively into the school community.