2026-2027

AL ZUHOUR PRIVATE SCHOOL

Innovation Policy

Approved by: SLT
Last reviewed: 30th June 2026
Next review due by: June 2027

School Innovation Policy and Implementation Plan 2026–2027

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a clear and sustainable approach to innovation across the school. The policy aims to ensure that innovation becomes part of everyday teaching, learning, leadership, and school improvement practices while supporting the UAE Vision 2031 and the national direction toward future-focused, innovative, and knowledge-based education systems.

The policy supports the UAE Vision 2031 priorities through:

- Preparing students with future-ready skills, including creativity, innovation, problem-solving, collaboration, and digital literacy.
- Promoting artificial intelligence, technology integration, and sustainable educational practices.
- Developing globally competitive learners while preserving UAE values, identity, and culture.
- Building a culture of lifelong learning, innovation, and continuous improvement.
- Supporting high-quality education outcomes aligned with national priorities and global competitiveness.

Policy Objectives: The school aims to:

- Promote a culture of innovation and continuous improvement aligned with UAE Vision 2031.
- Develop students' critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills.
- Encourage innovative teaching and learning practices.
- Build staff capacity in innovation and educational technology.
- Improve student outcomes through engaging and future-focused learning experiences.
- Integrate innovation into curriculum planning, assessment, and classroom practice.
- Ensure all innovation practices align with UAE values and cultural expectations.

Scope: This policy applies to:

- Senior Leadership Team (SLT)
- Heads of Sections (HOSs)
- Subject Coordinators
- Teachers
- Students
- Support staff

Roles and Responsibilities

School Principal

- Monitor implementation of the policy.
- Ensure innovation is included in the School Improvement Plan.
- Provide resources, professional development, and support.
- Review implementations impact each term.

Senior Leadership Team

- Lead and monitor innovation initiatives in each phase.
- Conduct learning walks focused on innovation.

- Support teachers with implementation.
- Review evidence and student outcomes.

Subject Coordinators

- Ensure innovation strategies are included in lesson planning.
- Monitor implementation through observations and book reviews.
- Share best practices during meetings.
- Support staff through coaching.

Teachers

- Implement innovative teaching strategies regularly.
- Use technology and AI tools responsibly.
- Encourage student voice, collaboration, and problem-solving.
- Share innovative practices with colleagues.

Students

- Participate actively in innovation activities.
- Demonstrate creativity, collaboration, and independent learning.
- Use technology safely and responsibly.

Innovation Expectations in Classrooms

Teachers are expected to:

- Include at least one innovation strategy weekly.
- Use questioning techniques that promote higher-order thinking.
- Include opportunities for collaboration and student discussion.
- Integrate technology meaningfully.
- Promote problem-solving and real-life applications.
- Encourage reflection and student feedback.
- Provide opportunities for student leadership.

Examples of innovation strategies:

- Project-based learning
- Inquiry-based learning
- AI-supported learning activities
- Debate and discussion
- Research tasks
- Peer teaching
- Digital presentations
- STEAM activities
- Real-life problem-solving activities

Professional Development Requirements

The school will:

- Conduct at least one innovation-focused professional development session each month.
- Provide training on AI and digital learning tools.
- Organize peer observations focused on innovative teaching.
- Share best practices during staff meetings.
- Support teachers in action research projects.

Each teacher must:

- Attend innovation-related training sessions.
- Implement at least one new strategy each term.
- Reflect on innovation practices during appraisal meetings.

Student Innovation Opportunities

The school will provide:

- Innovation competitions
- Student leadership opportunities
- Innovation clubs
- STEAM and coding activities
- Research and presentation opportunities
- Community projects and entrepreneurship activities

Use of Technology and AI

Teachers and students must:

- Use approved digital platforms only.
- Ensure all shared content aligns with UAE values.
- Follow school safeguarding and cyber security expectations.
- Use AI ethically and responsibly.
- Protect student privacy and confidentiality.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Implementation will be monitored through:

- Learning walks
- Lesson observations
- Planning reviews
- Student voice surveys
- Teacher reflections
- Student outcomes data
- Innovation portfolios

Success indicators include:

- Increased student engagement
- Improved student outcomes
- Evidence of innovative classroom practice
- Increased student participation
- Positive feedback from stakeholders

Alignment with UAE Vision 2031

The implementation of this policy contributes to UAE Vision 2031 by:

- Supporting future-focused and innovation-driven education.
- Developing students' leadership, entrepreneurship, and problem-solving skills.
- Enhancing digital transformation and responsible AI integration.
- Promoting sustainable practices and global competitiveness.
- Preparing students to contribute positively to the UAE's future economy and society.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- 100% of teachers trained innovation strategies.
- At least one innovation strategy is observed weekly in classrooms.
- Increased student engagement during observations.
- Improvement in student outcomes across core subjects.
- Increased participation in innovation-related activities.
- Positive feedback from students, staff, and parents.

Review Cycle

This policy will be reviewed annually by the School Principal and Senior Leadership Team.

Review Date: June 2027