



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT **GRADES 6 TO 8** **AT OWIS RIYADH!**

Transitioning into Middle Grades is a crucial time for students, where they encounter new subjects, instructors, and social dynamics, while also taking up greater responsibility and independence.

As they prepare for the academic rigor of the American curriculum, including Common Core and NGSS standards, we've tailored a specialized curriculum for Grades 6 to 8. Rooted in the American education framework the curriculum is thoughtfully adapted to meet the needs of our diverse student body.

The American curriculum has undergone transformational changes to better equip students for 21st-century learning and career-focused education. Embracing innovation and adaptability, this curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, and interdisciplinary approaches to learning, reflecting the demands of today's rapidly evolving world.

Middle Grades Subjects

Subjects	
Core Learning	English
	Mathematics
	Science
Language Development	Arabic
Electives	French (Grade 6)
	Coding (Grade 7)
	Financial Literacy (Grade 8)
	Digital Literacy
	Art
	Music
Ministry of Education Subjects	Physical Education
	KSA Social Studies
	Islamic Studies

Assessments
Internal Assessments: Weekly quizzes, end-of-unit tests, mid-terms and final exams (aligned with Webb's Depth of Knowledge)
External Assessments: NWEA MAP Testing: Math, Science, Language Use, Reading CAT4 Second Term: PASS Survey
Key Focus Areas: • Transitioning to rigorous academic learning • Strengthening interdisciplinary problem-solving and inquiry • Expanding student leadership through National Junior Honor Society, Model UN and Shark Tank competitions

How do we ensure a holistic learning experience for your child in Middle Grades?



Internal and External Assessments

Internally, students undergo weekly quizzes, end-of-unit tests, mid-terms, and final exams, each meticulously designed to gauge their understanding and mastery of the curriculum. At OWIS Riyadh we firmly believe an important part of ensuring academic success is the monitoring and evaluation of student learning progress. To aid in preparation, students receive study guides well in advance of midterms and final exams, allowing ample time for review and consolidation of knowledge.

Externally, we utilize a comprehensive assessment approach, including NWEA Map Testing and CAT4 testing in the first term, followed by the PASS survey in the second term, providing valuable insights into students' academic progress and growth.



Collaborative Learning Experiences

Through initiatives like the National Junior Honor Society, OWIS Shark Tank Competition and weekly After School Activities students are encouraged to excel academically, demonstrate leadership qualities, and engage in community service, fostering a culture of excellence and altruism. Our Model United Nations program offers a platform for students to hone their research, public speaking, and diplomacy skills as they tackle global issues and simulate real-world diplomacy.



Innovative STEAM Programs

Our state-of-the-art, purpose-built laboratories serve as the hub for integrated sciences, where students take part in hands-on experiments and explorations, fostering a deep understanding of scientific concepts. Beyond traditional science education, our STEAM program extends to coding and robotics, equipping students with essential skills for the future.

FAQs

1

What are the school timings for Grade 6 - Grade 8?

Sunday - Thursday: 7:30 am - 3:00 pm (Morning assembly starts 7:15 am)

2

Are the classes co-ed?

Grade 6 is co-ed; Grade 7 and 8 will be gender segregated. However, they will have shared facilities, meaning they will use the same labs, library, etc. but at different times of the day.

3

Are the teachers co-ed?

Yes, we will have both male and female teachers teaching all students.

4

What curriculum do you teach in Grades 6-8?

Our curriculum is covered across the American Common Core from the state of California for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Art, Music, PE, etc., the NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) for Science classes, and MOE curriculum for Arabic and Islamic Studies.

5

Why the American curriculum?

The American curriculum is known for being academically rigorous in Grades 6 - 8 to set a strong foundation for students that will help them step into the high school levels of G9 - G12. Our teaching philosophy in the middle school focuses heavily on the 21st-century skills of critical thinking, citizenship, growth mindset, communication, creativity, and collaboration. Academically we place a significant emphasis on academic rigorous content being taught based on Webb's Depth of Knowledge content levels DOK1 (Recall), DOK 2 (Skills/Concepts), DOK 3 (Strategic Thinking), DOK 4 (Extended Thinking).

6

What classes will my child take?

In Grades 6 - Grade 8, all students will take English, Math, Science, Arabic A or B (native and non-native speakers), Islamic Studies (Muslim students) or Global Perspectives (non-Muslim students), Social Studies for Saudis and Non-Saudis, Digital Literacy, Art, Music, PE. In addition to these classes, Grade 6 will take French (in-person), Grade 7 will take S.T.E.A.M. coding, and Grade 8 will take Financial Literacy.

7

Will you provide extra-curricular activities?

Yes, our activities and clubs will be built into our school timetable and take place twice a week on Thursday afternoons.

8

Will my child earn marks for their classes?

Yes, we work with a grading scale system (see below)

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	4.0 Scale
A+	97 -100	4.0
A	93 - 96	4.0
A-	90 - 92	3.7
B+	87 - 89	3.3
B	83 - 86	3.0
B-	80 - 82	2.7
C+	77 - 79	2.3
C	73 - 76	2.0
C-	70 - 72	1.7
D+	67 - 69	1.3
D	65 - 66	1.0
D-	Below 65	0.5
E/F	Below 60	0.0

9

Will my child take internal and external assessments?

Yes, we firmly believe an important part of ensuring academic success is the monitoring and evaluation of student learning progress. For this reason, students will have both internal and external assessments.

10

What type of internal assessments will my child have?

Weekly quizzes, projects, etc. (divided across subjects so there's little overlap), End of unit tests, Mid-terms, and final exams (students receive study guide 3-2 weeks in advance for midterms and final exams so they can be fully prepared).

11

What type of external assessments will my child have?

Students in G6 - G8 will sit the NWEA MAP testing three times a year for English reading, language arts, math, and science. They will also take the CAT4 test (cognitive aptitude test) that allows us to identify the ways in which each individual student learns best.

12

What kind of programs take place each year for G6 - G8 students?

There are a wide range of activities and programs that will take place throughout the year including Spelling Bee, Science Fair, Extracurricular activities, OWIS Movie Night, MS Sports team external competitions, field trips, opportunities for overseas trips within the GSG network, National Junior Honor Society, Model United Nations, Winter, Spring, and End of Year concerts, Art Exhibition etc. to just name a few.

ADMISSIONS OPEN

