



مدرسة جيمس متروبول الواحة
GEMS Metropole School
AL WAHA

Parent
NEWSLETTER

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**WELCOME TO THE FIRST
GEMS METROPOLE AL WAHA (MTW) PARENT NEWSLETTER**

Over the coming months, between now and August, we will be sharing this newsletter every fortnight to keep you updated on all the developments on the exciting opening journey of MTW.

Dear Parents,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our school community. As the founding principal, I am excited to introduce you to our school and the wonderful learning opportunities we offer.

GEMS Metropole School Al Waha is committed to providing a high-quality education to all our students, and we strive to create a safe and welcoming environment that promotes academic and personal growth. Our dedicated staff members work hard every day to support our students' academic and social-emotional development.

We have several outstanding features and facilities that make our school an exceptional place for students to learn and grow. Our classrooms are equipped with the latest technology to support student learning, and our library is filled with an extensive collection of books and other resources to encourage a love of reading and research.

In addition to our academic programs, we offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities to help students explore their interests and develop their talents. From sports teams to music ensembles and academic clubs, there is something for everyone.

As we look to the future, we have several exciting developments planned for our school. We are in the process of expanding our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) program to provide even more opportunities for students to engage in hands-on learning and innovation. We are also exploring partnerships with local organizations to provide our students with real-world experiences that will prepare them for success in the 21st century.

I am thrilled to be a part of such a vibrant and dynamic school community, and I look forward to getting to know each of you and working together to support our students' success. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our staff.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Hallum
School Principal & CEO

MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MTW's mission and vision have been agreed upon by KHDA and reinforce the unique selling points of our school:

MISSION

Lead, nurture and succeed.

VISION

A sustainable and inclusive community hub, nurturing future leaders.

VALUES

Curiosity, Confidence,
Creativity, Respect and
Kindness.



JEREMY HALLUM

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL/CEO

STAFF

BIO



Hello, I am Jeremy, an education leader with over two decades of successful experience. I was born and raised in England and earned my degree in Education from Oxford University in 1996.

For ten years, I taught before obtaining my National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH) in 2006. This led to my appointment as headteacher of a school in Essex, England, where I served for 12 years, consistently achieving outstanding academic results above the national standard.

My reputation for success led me to become a sought-after mentor for new headteachers, guiding 10 new leaders. I also worked as an advisory headteacher, supporting failing schools and helping to improve academic standards.

In 2018, I joined GEMS Education as the Founding Whole School Vice Principal of GEMS Founders School – Al Mizhar, responsible for managing the academic and pastoral success of all students. Under my leadership, the school achieved its highest rating of

‘Good’ by the DSIB, with ‘Very Good’ features, and a BSO inspection rating of ‘Good’ with five ‘Outstanding’ aspects, including leadership.

Additionally, I formed and led the British Schools in the Middle East (BSME) teaching and learning network, promoting best practice in over 150 schools across the Middle East. I also completed my school inspection accreditation, qualifying me to serve as a British Schools Overseas (BSO) inspector.

Currently, I am excited to take on my new role as Founding Principal and CEO of GEMS Metropole School – Al Waha. Our vision is to become ‘a sustainable and inclusive community hub, nurturing future leaders’, built on a foundation of curiosity, confidence, creativity, kindness, and respect. With my wealth of experience and the support of an accomplished team of UK-trained teachers,

I look forward to opening GEMS Metropole School – Al Waha in September 2023 and delivering the highest quality education for its community.



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HEAD OF HAZEL PRIMARY SCHOOL HALLIGAN

My name is Hazel Halligan and I am originally from Perth, Scotland. After obtaining my Bachelor's Degree in Education and Educational Studies from the University of Glasgow, I taught for a number of years in Scotland before having the opportunity to teach young learners in various countries across the world including Qatar, India, Australia, and China. Throughout my career, I have taken on multiple leadership positions such as Head of EYFS, Assistant Head Teacher and Head of Primary.

In 2019, I joined GEMS Education as Deputy Head of Primary at GEMS Winchester School, Fujairah and was appointed as the Head of Primary in the following year. In this role, I was responsible for leading a very large team teachers and staff members, and I prioritized fostering a collaborative and supportive work environment to ensure the best possible learning experience for our students. Looking ahead, I am thrilled to be joining the team at GEMS Metropole school, Al Waha and I am eager to begin this new journey.

As the founding Head of Primary, it is my pleasure to

welcome you to our school community - a vibrant and nurturing environment where we strive to foster a love of learning in each of our students. I believe that every child has the potential to achieve greatness, and it is our responsibility to help them discover and develop their unique talents and abilities through learning opportunities that foster discovery, creativity, critical thinking, independence and an appreciation for the world around us.

I believe that strong partnerships between school, family, and the wider community are essential in supporting student learning and well-being and look forward to working together with you to help your child achieve their full potential and make a positive impact in the world.

"The goal of education is not to increase the amount of knowledge but to create the possibilities for a child to invent and discover, to inspire children to think for themselves and to create men and women who are capable of doing new things "
- Jean Piaget



Nurturing CURIOSITY

FOREST

SCHOOLS



In the early years of education, it is essential to nurture curiosity and encourage students to explore the world around them. At GEMS Metropole School - Al Waha, we focus on nurturing curiosity in FS1 to Year 2 through play-based learning via our forest school and sustainability programmes.

Our forest school, complete with biodomes and a farm, provides students with opportunities to engage in hands-on, experiential learning, while our sustainability programmes help them to understand the importance of caring for the environment and the impact they can have on the world.

Recently I joined the team at Which Schools to explain in a little more detail the importance of the unique facilities and fantastic opportunities that we will offer our students.

To support us with the delivery of our curiosity curriculum we have appointed the highly qualified, experienced and talented Mr. Price. He will work in partnership with all our teaching staff to ensure that our students really do have an incredible and unique learning experience.

MTW have recently featured in WhichSchoolAdvisor the leading education publication in the UAE. Click below to read the article.

<https://whichschooladvisor.com/uae/school-news/new-school-opening-with-its-own-forest>

ANY

QUESTIONS

Please click on the link below to share your question with us or scan the QR code below



<https://forms.office.com/r/2S07fzs4LV>

Inevitably there will be questions that you as parents have when joining a new school. To support in this matter each newsletter we will endeavour to clarify anything you need to know. Please populate the link with any questions that you have and we will do our best to reach out to you & address your questions.





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Nurturing
LEADERSHIP