

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

Al Barsha

STUDENT WELLBEING INITIATIVES



Dream. Inspire. Achieve. Belong



School Counsellor:

The introduction of a dedicated school counsellor has provided students with a confidential and supportive space to discuss personal challenges, significantly reducing emotional barriers to wellbeing.

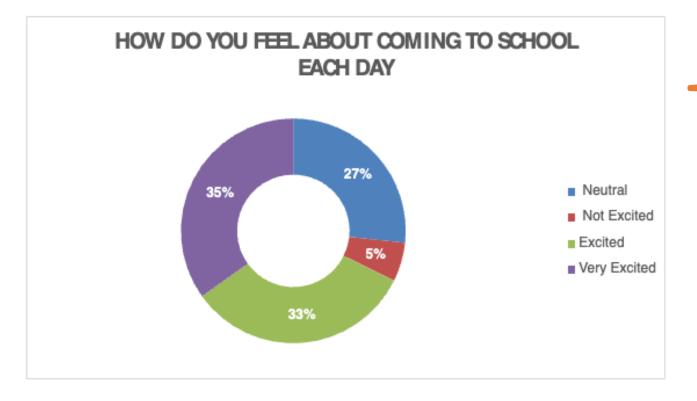
Canteen Provider:

A healthier and diverse canteen menu, following feedback from students, has positively impacted students' physical wellbeing, contributing to improved energy levels and concentration in class.

Eco Garden and Greenhouse:

Cultivating the eco garden and greenhouse not only connects students with nature but also serves as an educational hub for sustainability practices. Students actively participate in growing organic fruits and vegetables, promoting healthy eating habits while integrating sustainability lessons into the curriculum. This holistic approach ensures that students not only appreciate the environment but also understand the direct link between sustainable living, nutritious foods and their overall wellbeing.





Outside Seating during Lunch:

Creating outdoor lunch spaces based on student feedback has increased social interactions, providing a positive atmosphere and fostering a sense of community among primary school students.

Regular Student Surveys:

Implementing regular surveys has given students a voice in shaping wellbeing initiatives, ensuring that interventions are tailored to their specific needs and preferences.

Wellbeing Wednesdays:

In the secondary school we have dedicated Wednesdays to celebrate student wellbeing. An example of this was the pyjama day, as part of our drive to promote the importance of sleep. The student leadership group also make and sell popcorn to students at lunchtime on these Wednesdays.



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Wellbeing Initiatives for Students...

Wellbeing Student Ambassador:

Appointing a Wellbeing Student Ambassador reinforces the idea that wellbeing is a student-driven initiative. This ambassador not only champions mental health awareness but also ensures that student voices play a central role in shaping and refining wellbeing programs, fostering a culture where students actively contribute to and influence the initiatives that impact their own mental health and overall well-being.

Rewards for Students:

Recognising and rewarding students for achievements has boosted selfesteem and motivation, creating a positive school environment that supports overall wellbeing.

Wellbeing Displays in Classrooms:

Creating vibrant wellbeing displays, walls and corners within classrooms has transformed these spaces into visual reminders of positive mental health practices. These displays showcase affirmations, coping strategies and mental health resources, contributing to a supportive learning environment that encourages open discussions about wellbeing among students.

Wellbeing Days:

Dedicated wellbeing days provide a break from routine, offering students activities and resources focused on mental health, relaxation and stress management.



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Increase in After School Clubs:

Expanding after-school club options not only provides students with opportunities to pursue diverse interests but also focuses on promoting physical wellbeing. Students engage in activities that not only spark their interests but also contribute to a holistic approach to wellness, recognising the interconnectedness of physical and mental health.

Entering DASSA Sports Competitive League:

Participation in sports leagues has not only improved physical health but also boosted teamwork, sportsmanship and self-confidence, positively impacting overall student wellbeing.



Inquiry Room in Primary School:

Establishing an inquiry room provides a designated space for students to engage in self-directed learning and exploration, fostering curiosity and a sense of autonomy.

Celebrating Events (e.g. World Cultures):

Celebrating diverse cultures and awareness days fosters a sense of inclusivity, promoting understanding and tolerance among students, contributing to their emotional wellbeing.

International Trips:

In the past twelve months we have carried out trips to Nepal, Borneo and Kenya. Students carry out a variety of activities that support their wellbeing such as caring for the environment, water sports and learning about new cultures.



Curriculum Initiatives (e.g. Digital Detox):

Incorporating initiatives like digital detox in the curriculum encourages healthy technology habits, reducing screen timerelated stressors and promoting a balanced approach to life.



Focussed Curriculum Advice and Guidance:

We have increased our careers advice and guidance to ensure that students are well-informed about the choices they make and how these choices will impact their future.





Termly Reward Vouchers:

The student leadership team has generated funds through wellbeing Wednesday activities for us to be able to purchase mall shopping vouchers for our best performing students. A raffle is conducted at the end of each term, allowing two lucky students to win 150AED vouchers each!