

DNS Assessment Policy

Version: 1.0

Effective Date: January 2026

Review Cycle: Annual

1. Purpose

This policy clarifies the assessment practices at Dubai National School (DNS), ensuring a clear understanding of processes and expectations for all members of the school community. It supports accurate monitoring of student learning, guides instructional planning, and aligns with KHDA, NEASC, and international standards.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all students from Pre-KG to Grade 12 and all teaching staff at DNS.

3. Assessment Principles

- Assessment is continuous, fair, and aligned with curriculum objectives.
 - Assessment informs teaching, supports student learning, and guides decision-making.
 - Multiple forms of assessment are used to capture students' knowledge, skills, and dispositions.
 - Students are encouraged to reflect on their learning through self- and peer-assessment.
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4. Assessment Practices

4.1 Pre-KG / KG1 & KG2

- Assessment gathers and analyzes student performance in cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development.
- Methods include observations, performance samples, and portfolios.
- Diagnostic assessments at the start of each term identify learning needs.
- Parents are informed at least once per term through meetings, forums, or individual conferences.

- Sample areas assessed: English, Arabic, Islamic Education, Mathematics, Science, Physical Development, Social & Emotional Development, Motor Skills.

4.2 Grades 1–12

Diagnostic Assessments: - Conducted at the start of the academic year in English, Arabic, Math, and Science (Grades 1–9). - Inform teaching strategies, remedial plans, and differentiation.

Formative Assessment (Assessment for Learning – AFL): - Includes quizzes, projects, presentations, essays, classwork, research, portfolios, homework, and participation. - Assessed using clear rubrics to guide student growth.

Summative Assessment (Assessment of Learning – AOL): - Includes term exams, problem-solving tasks, and analytical questions. - Aligned with Bloom’s Taxonomy and international benchmarks.

Peer and Self-Assessment: - Engage students in reflecting on their learning. - Integrated into grading using defined rubrics to foster independence.

5. Homework Guidelines

- Homework reinforces learning and is considered formative assessment.
 - KG: minimal homework; primary focus is classroom-based learning.
 - Grades 1–5: time-limited, subject-specific tasks.
 - Grades 6–12: homework aligns with assessment objectives and develops independent learning.
 - Late submissions penalized per grade level, with exceptions for valid excuses.
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6. Attendance, Make-Up Work, and Academic Integrity

- Students must complete all missed work and assessments with valid excuses.
 - Plagiarism and cheating are strictly prohibited; consequences include grade penalties and parental notification.
 - Drop quizzes may be given without prior notice; unexcused absences result in a zero mark.
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7. Recording and Reporting

- Teachers maintain accurate records using the School Management System.
- Records include assessments, homework, portfolios, and attendance.
- Parents access student progress via report cards (three times per year) and conferences (minimum three annually).
- Feedback is provided constructively to guide next steps in learning.

8. Standardized and External Assessments

- Aligns with US Common Core State Standards and Massachusetts State Standards.
 - NGSS standards used for Science.
 - High school internal assessments converted to letter grades and GPA as per KHDA requirements.
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9. Promotion and Retention

- Grades K–8: 50% passing in all subjects.
 - Grades 9–12: 60% passing in all subjects.
 - Promotion decisions consider academic performance, attendance, and behavioral standards.
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10. Graduation Requirements

- Completion of 12 years of schooling.
 - Minimum of 25 high school credits, including core and elective courses.
 - Compliance with attendance, assessment, and school policies.
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11. Policy Review

- The Assessment Policy is reviewed annually in May by the Academic Leadership Team.
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12. Policy Approval

Approved by:

Principal: _____

Date: _____

Vice Principal: _____

Date: _____