



DASMAN دسمن
BILINGUAL SCHOOL مدرسة ثنائية اللغة

Student-Parent Handbook

Dasman Bilingual School – Special Needs & Vocational Division

2026–2027 ACADEMIC YEAR



Our Framework & Values

21st Century Learning

Our students develop across six domains: **Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Collection of Information, Social and Civic** — building key skills and global awareness.

Division Values 2026–2027

- **Kindness** — being good and giving to others
- **Hard Work** — working tirelessly and well
- **Collaboration** — cooperating with others
- **Excellence** — achieving to an unusual degree
- **Citizenship** — exercising rights and responsibilities
- **Adventurousness, Patience & Efficiency**

SEN & Vocational Division Overview

The SEN program serves students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities (ages 5.6–17), providing individualized support to build independence and community participation. At 17, students may transition to the Vocational (VOC) program until age 21.

SEN Program

Modified American curriculum (Common Core). Max 10 students per class.
Cohorts 1/2 through 11/12, covering ages 5.6–17.6.

VOC Program

British ASDAN & BTEC curricula. Focuses on practical life and work skills. Includes two-week annual work experience in schools, banks, and local businesses.

Workshops

Hand Art & Craft, Home Economics, Gardening, Coffee Shop, and Photography — developing creativity, teamwork, and real-world skills.

Therapy, Support Services & Facilities

Therapeutic Services

- **Speech & Language Pathology (SLP)** — articulation, language, and communication
- **Occupational Therapy (OT)** — fine motor skills and independence
- **Physical Therapy (PT)** — mobility, posture, and motor development
- **Behavioral Therapy (BT)** — ABA plans and social-emotional support
- **Counseling** — character education, social skills, and parental support

Specialized Facilities

- **Sensory Room** — supports autism spectrum and sensory processing needs
- **Sensory Gym** — gross motor and adaptive response training
- **Swimming Pool** — PE lessons with certified lifeguard teachers
- **Daily Flag Ceremony** — self-regulation and citizenship development

Admission Policy & Requirements

Dasman accepts students regardless of race, religion, or nationality who can benefit from the SEN/VOC curriculum. Admission requires space availability and meeting all criteria.

Key Requirements

- Ages 5.6–21 per Ministry age scale
- Diagnosed intellectual disability (IQ 50–84)
- Testing by SEN psychologist
- Basic functional English or Arabic
- Toilet trained; no severe behavioral challenges

Factors Preventing Admission

- Developmental age under 3 years
- No/limited language skills
- Limited independent mobility
- Visual or auditory disabilities
- Serious medical conditions

The Admission Team includes the SEN Principal, Vice Principal, School Psychologist, and Classroom Teacher. The superintendent makes the final recommendation.

IEP, Curriculum & Assessment

Individualized Education Plan (IEP)

Each student receives a customized IEP with short- and long-term goals. Developed by a multidisciplinary team, reviewed twice yearly, and signed by parents. Revised with parental consent as needed.

Curriculum & Online Learning

SEN follows Common Core (ELA/Math), NGSS (Science), and For a Better World (Social Studies). VOC follows ASDAN and BTEC. Digital platforms include **IXL**, **RAZ**, **Microsoft Teams**, **Follett Destiny**, and **Monster Phonics** — a multi-sensory phonics scheme using color coding and sound cues.

1

Baseline Assessment

Determines functioning level at start and end of year

2

Formative Assessment

Ongoing feedback woven into daily learning

3

Summative Assessment

End-of-unit evaluation against benchmarks

Since 2022–2023, DBS-SEN uses a **skill-based writing system** replacing letter grades, clearly documenting acquired skills to guide future learning. Standardized tests were introduced in 2025–2026 to enhance placement decisions.

Attendance, Uniforms & Discipline

Attendance Policy

- School begins at **7:15 AM**; students after 7:45 AM receive a late slip
- Students will not be received after **8:15 AM**
- Warning letters issued at 5, 10, and 15 consecutive unexcused absences
- Exceeding 15 days may result in enrollment termination
- Valid excuses: illness, medical trip, death in family
- Early dismissal requires written parental notice and principal approval

Uniforms

- Cohorts 1/2–3/4: Elementary attire
- Cohorts 5/6–7/8: Middle school attire
- Cohorts 9/10–11/12 & VOC: High school attire

Discipline

DBS maintains a safe, respectful environment. Inappropriate behavior results in a behavior contract. **Severity Clause:** If a student is a danger to themselves or others, parents are called immediately.

School Bus Safety

Bus safety is a shared responsibility among students, parents, drivers, supervisors, and school staff. Students are escorted to and from buses by teacher assistants daily.



On the Bus

Sit in designated seat, fasten seatbelt, keep aisles clear, no eating or drinking, no loud talking or fighting.



Prohibited Behaviors

No pushing, no objects thrown, no obscene language, no use of rear emergency exit except on driver's instruction.



Parent Responsibilities

Review safety rules with your child. Ensure no loose straps on clothing or bags. Students must go directly home upon arrival and be received by a parent or caregiver.

Students with behavioral issues will not be able to use the bus.

General School Life & Communication

Communication Channels

Use **Class Dojo** and **email** to contact teachers and therapists. WhatsApp is restricted. Phone calls are welcome during working hours after student dismissal. Contact the division secretary to schedule admin meetings.

Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Morning drop-off at D7 reception. End-of-day pick-up at 1:00 PM from D7 reception. Bus students are escorted to the bus area at 1:55 PM.

Class Activities

- **Field Trips** — approved by Superintendent and Ministry; uniform required

Lunch & Library

Students may purchase from the canteen or bring a healthy lunch from home. Limit high-sugar items. Library books must be returned on time; fines apply for lost or damaged items. No eating or drinking in the library.

Electronic Devices

Mobile phones and personal devices are generally prohibited per Ministry of Education regulations. Devices permitted by the teacher may only be used at designated times.

Rights, Regulations & Key Reminders

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

DBS upholds the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in all aspects of school life and student treatment.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

All students are entitled to the rights outlined in the UN Convention, including the right to education, safety, and participation.

Ministry of Education — Mobile Phone Circular

Students are prohibited from bringing mobile phones to school per Ministry regulations. Phones brought to school must be surrendered to administration and collected at day's end. Legal action may be taken for non-compliance.

-  Close parental cooperation is mandatory for continued enrollment. Together, we build independence, confidence, and a brighter future for every student.