



AL BASMA BRITISH SCHOOL

Policy: School Bag Policy

Approved/reviewed by	
Governors/Head of Centre	
Date of next review:	September 2024

This plan is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations.

Al Basma British School - School Bag Policy

Purpose:

To ensure that as custodians of children's well-being the school bag weight does not have a future impact on student's well-being.

It is recommended that a child's school bag does not exceed 20% of their body weight to avoid adverse effects on their spine and body.

Maximum Bag weights are as below in accordance with the ADEK Policy:

Year Group	Maximum Backpack Weight (Kg)
FS2	2.2
Year 1	2.4
Year 2	2.6
Year 3	3.0
Year 4	3.4
Year 5	3.8
Year 6	4.1
Year 7	4.5
Year 8	5.0
Year 9	5.8
Year 10	6.5
Year 11	7.3

Practice:

In order to support student well-being the following practices are followed at the school:

1. Parents are informed that children should not bring large trolley bags to school.
2. Parents are informed that children should not bring heavy bags to school.
3. Parents are informed that backpacks with broad shoulder straps are the most suitable school bags.
4. Children are encouraged to use both backpack straps to avoid all of the bag weight being supported by one side of the body.
5. Parents of new admissions are informed in the Welcome Letter of the requirement for small bags.
6. Parents of new admissions are informed about the expectations regarding copy books and stationery remaining in school for FS1 to Y6 and the reasons behind this policy at the parent induction event which takes place annually to coincide with new student induction on the last week day before school reopens for term 1.
7. Expectations regarding copy books remaining in school for FS1 to Y10 and stationery remaining in school for FS1 to Y6 and the underlying reasons for this practice are reiterated for all parents in the annual 'Meet the Teacher' meetings at the beginning of the academic year.
8. FS & Primary parents are informed that there is no requirement for a child to bring a bag to school; only a lunch box and water bottle.
9. School books are kept in the homeroom or teaching room for Nursery to Y6 and in the teaching room for Y7 to 10 to ensure that availability of books to facilitate consistent marking and feedback and so that books are not misplaced by students. This removes any significant weight

from student's bags.

10. The majority of homework is set using online platforms such as Bug Club, EdShed, ABT Non Arab Platform, My First Language, Alef Baa Taa, Alef platforms and the use of Google Classroom. This removes additional weight from student's bags.
11. Staff make visible checks on student bags as they enter and leave daily and appropriate reminders are made when necessary regarding size and weight of the school bag.

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Approved By Board of Governors:	Approved
Principal Approval:	
Review Date:	1/9/2024