



KIND - AWARE - READY

Family First

Nurturing global thinkers
Championing human values



مدرسة جيمس وينشستر
GEMS Winchester School
FUJAIRAH



A New Age



Sunny Varkey
Chairman and
Founder



Emmanuel Keteku
Principal and CEO

“Family isn’t an important thing, it is everything” Michael J. Fox

Family First is a worldwide movement that aims to transform lives and communities by empowering global change through the enduring values of love, care, and shared stories.

Building upon a solid foundation of rigorous research and peer reviewed data, we aspire to foster stronger communal bonds and promote intergenerational learning in our fight against the growing challenges of depression, loneliness and social fragmentation.

WSF is committed to fostering a strong sense of family within our community. As we embark on our Family First journey together, it is important to recognise the significance of family not just in our cultural and religious backgrounds, but also in shaping the development of our students.

Family occupies a central place. It is the cornerstone of our society, providing love, support, and guidance to each member. At our WSF, we strive to extend bond beyond the confines of individual households, creating an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and supported.

By instilling the values of family within our educational framework, we aim to cultivate a sense of belonging and unity among. It is important that WSF students feel connected: when they do, they are more motivated to excel academically, socially, and emotionally.

Through working together with parents, we can reinforce family values both at home and in the classroom. By fostering open communication, mutual respect, and active participation, we can create a collaborative partnership that enriches the educational experience of our students.

Overview



Foreword 1

Overview 2

Our Team 3

Vision and Mission 4

Events 5

School Activities 6

Family First at WSF 7



Our Team



FAMILY FIRST

A MOVEMENT OF LOVE AND CARE



Family is the source of our strength and support. When we put family first, we prioritize love, unity, and connection. By valuing our family relationships above all else, we create a foundation of trust and understanding that can weather any storm. As a father of two boys, I know that by cherishing and nurturing family, we build a legacy of love that will endure for generations to come.

Emmanuel Keteku
Principal and CEO



Growing up with siblings may seem chaotic, but it teaches valuable lessons in teamwork, patience, and unconditional love. In a family, every member plays a unique role, fostering a sense of unity and camaraderie. Despite the challenges, the bond between siblings is unbreakable, creating a support system that lasts a lifetime. Embrace the memories and cherish the moments shared with your big family.

Fadheilah Rashed Mobarak Alyammahi
Student Affairs Co-Ordinator



Living away from home can be challenging for our students, but family remains a constant source of comfort and support. At WSF, our community and school ties provide a sense of belonging and connection in a foreign land. Embracing our family values and traditions helps us stay grounded and connected to our roots, reminding us of who we are and where we come from.

Mushira Ahmed
Parent Relations Executive



Friendship is the family we choose for ourselves, a bond built on trust, loyalty, and shared experiences. In our friends, we find a support system that uplifts us in times of need and celebrates our successes. They become our pillars of strength, offering love, laughter, and companionship. Cherish these friendships as they enrich our lives and remind us that family extends beyond blood relations.

Siobhan Dickerson
Vice Principal

Vision & Mission



FAMILY FIRST

A MOVEMENT OF LOVE AND CARE

Vision

To be a leading institution in providing internationally recognized education, shaping responsible, globally-minded, and innovative future leaders by promoting unity, support, and well-being learned firstly from family.

Mision

- 01** We are committed to delivering a holistic education that combines strong academics with deep character development, preparing students for success in personal and professional life.
- 02** We support students' understanding of cultural diversity, global thinking, and cross-cultural experiences. We promote global partnerships and cultural exchanges to broaden students' worldviews.
- 03** We shape students into responsible, ethical, and socially-aware leaders. We encourage participation in community and family projects.
- 04** We create a safe, inclusive learning environment that fosters individual growth, respecting each student's uniqueness, family experiences and background.
- 05** We empower families to prioritize their relationships and overall wellbeing whilst learning from each other and sharing memorable moments.

Events



FAMILY FIRST

A MOVEMENT OF LOVE AND CARE

01



March | Family Language Lessons

Opportunities for parents to develop their own English speaking skills so they can support their children with home learning and with interacting with the community.

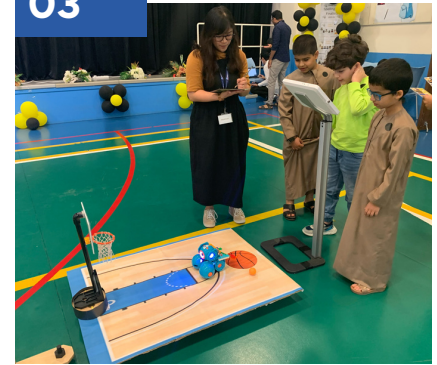
02



April | Parent Seminars

Parent seminars are focused on specific topics of interest or concern to parents. They will usually feature presentations, discussions, and Q&A

03



April | Stay and Play: Innovation

Stay and Play sessions such as Dash Robot Olympics where parents and children are invited to spend time together in our classrooms and innovation lab.

04



April | Fujairah Family Frames competition

A Second round of our photography competition focusing on family and community life in Fujairah. Entries can be from whole families or individuals, with a showcase of the best entries being displayed in the school.

05



May | Guest Speakers and Lecture Series

Opportunities for parents and the community to learn from local experts in the field of health, wealth and wellbeing as well as the areas of interest selected by our parent body.

School Activities



01 Parent Workshops

Provide parents with information, resources, and strategies to support their child's learning and development. Workshops may cover topics such as literacy, maths, technology, behaviour management and supporting healthy lifestyles.

02 WSF Love and Care

Our students and their families will collect for Red Crescent across the Holy Month of Ramadan and will document their activities through our school social media.

03 Celebration Assemblies

Reward our students in the Primary and Secondary schools with monthly assembly presentations for nominated award winners for acts of community service

04 Community PicNc

Engage our families with community picnics during the cooler weather. Such a beautiful landscape here to enjoy the outdoor environment and for families to build friendships and get to know staff.

05 Ted Talk-style events

Many of our students and staff, as well as some of our parents, will lead expert type talks on topics such as Life in UAE, Excelling as an Expat, Traditional Values in a Modern World and Innovation in Action.

06 Language Proficiency

Celebrate the plethora of languages we speak as staff, students and parents with a social media takeover and Instagram reel. Use our linguists to help others learn basic conversation to make their friends feel welcome.

07 Competitions

A range of activities across the school to catch Family Values in action, supported by activities in the home that will develop the whole child.

08 Read to Succeed

Encourage students to read literature that celebrates family, family structures and dynamics in Arabic, English or their home language. Mystery readers in school (parents, grandparents and siblings).

09 Community Engagement

Display extracts of the Holy Quran that talk about family. Jointly celebrating Ramadan and Family. Build activities on the history of the UAE and Emirati Traditions. Set up home learning opportunities that link Islamic values of such as honesty, compassion, and forgiveness.

10 Newsletters

Parent Voice will be an added feature and section to the newsletter. We will encourage parents to share their activities and thoughts with us, including recipes, traditional games and crafts for children to try.

Family First at WSF



01

Diverse Students

Our school prides itself on its diverse student population, with students from over 70 nationalities, creating a vibrant and multicultural community. This diversity enriches the learning experience and encourages cross-cultural friendships.



02

Extracurricular Activities

Our students actively engage in various extracurricular activities, including sports, arts clubs, chess and robotics teams. These activities foster teamwork, leadership skills, and personal growth.



03

Community Service

Our students are committed to giving back to the community. They actively participate in various community service projects, volunteering their time and skills to make a positive impact locally and globally.



04

Global Perspective

We encourage students to embrace a global perspective through cultural exchange programs, international partnerships, and educational trips. These experiences broaden their horizons and prepare them for an interconnected world.



05

Learning from Others

Our school places a strong emphasis on academic excellence. Our students are dedicated to their studies, and many of them benefit from working with their families, friends and parents to complete project-based learning activities or to prepare for showcases.