

Attendance

At GIS International School we take the issue of students' attendance extremely seriously. Evidence shows that poor attendance has a detrimental effect on a student's educational attainment and life chances. It may also make it more difficult for them to make firm social bonds with other students.

We understand that there are times when such absences are unavoidable. We also understand that the school has a responsibility to work closely with the family to ensure that a child's attendance is as close to 100% as possible.

Please note that the **Bilo of Federal Law** for private education for the United Arab Emirates states: **'If the student is absent from school for no reason or for unacceptable reason for 20 consecutive days or for 25 non-consecutive days', 'the student may not be promoted to the next grade level if academic and social expectations are not being met.'**

Please see below for examples of acceptable and unacceptable reasons for student absences. Under the guidance of KHDA expectations and those of GIS, the principal will have final say over the absence.

Acceptable reasons for student absences

- Illness (A Medical Certificate if the leave is 3 days or more)
- Medical, dental, optometric appointment
- Visa (2 days)
- Funeral services for a member of the immediate family (3 days)
- *Observance of a religious holiday or ceremony
- Other reasons that are within the discretion of school administrators and, based on the factors of the pupil's circumstances, are deemed to constitute a valid excuse

**Only religious holidays or ceremonies that are not reflected in the school calendar are applicable for this reason to be valid.*

Unacceptable reasons for student absences

Going to work with parent or other family member

Going to the beach, desert or other form of vacation

Going to a concert

Babysitting, taking care of other family members

Shopping

Camping

Attending a sporting event

Missing the bus or no transportation available

Any other reason not included in "Acceptable reasons for excused student absences"

All absences must be approved otherwise they are automatically recorded as unapproved leave from school.

Thank you, as always, for your understanding and support in this matter.



EDUCATION