



The British School Al Khubairat

CASE STUDY

Located in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, students, teachers and parents at the British School Al Khubairat (BSAK) have recently been exploring the possibility of increasing ICT in their teaching and learning, with exciting results. BSAK shows how introducing a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), such as Fronter, is helping meet educational needs of its children and connect the wider school community.

Overview

The British School Al Khubairat is a British curriculum school catering to students from age three to 18 year-old. It is the most established school in Abu Dhabi, with excellent facilities and an enviable reputation across the region and internationally.

BSAK was established in 1968 on land generously donated by the then ruler of Abu Dhabi, His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. It now has nearly 1,800 students, of more than 50 nationalities who benefit from the highest quality British education in a truly multi-cultural environment.

“Academic standards are high. Students attain standards above or well above government schools in England; standards also compare favourably with those of the independent sector in the UK.”

The Fronter School Community at BSAK

Year Classrooms: One of the key elements in the successful implementation and quick take off of Fronter at BSAK has been the creation of the Rooms for each Year Group. The rooms contain thematic Learning Zones; Learning and Organizational Toolkits (containing a blog), external and internal links, a calendar, and notes; and icons for entry into different content learning Rooms. There's even an area in each Room for students to support each other in their achievements.

Currently Year 6 is learning in the blended Fronter environment. Year 5 and Year 4 are due to incorporate the use of Fronter into daily lessons, followed shortly by Year 3 and Year 2.

Students and teachers are excited about using Fronter to enhance teaching and learning.

BSAK Fronter Users

Learners

Learners log into Fronter and have access to certain rooms depending on their age, class and level. Some of the rooms that they can access are:

- ☑ Year Groups Rooms which are color-coded by house name and which contain information about lessons or allow students to download/upload assignments.
- ☑ Photograph galleries of students, staff, clubs, and sporting events.

Parents

Parents will be able to use Fronter to access relevant information about their children, school information, and newsletters according to when their child's year group comes online.

Teachers

Teachers have a private Staff Room where important information is shared. Access to this room is customised so that information is kept confidential and not available to parents and students.

“All the teachers and students keep asking when they will be allowed to use Fronter in their own classes.”

Dan Batson
ICT Coordinator
British School Al Khubairat

Keys to Effective Change Management

The successful implementation of the Fronter VLE at BSAK was clearly due to the SLT (what is this? Expand) team successfully communicating the vision, mission and objectives of the change. This enabled staff, children and parents to understand how these changes would affect them personally, how the teaching and learning environment would change, and what the outcomes would be. By giving support, encouragement and time from the highest level, BSAK has successfully implemented the Fronter VLE.