



Calendar and Public Holidays Policy

Academic Year 2026 – 2027

1. Introduction

In line with the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) guidelines, Belvedere British School (BBS) is committed to setting and communicating an academic calendar that ensures consistency, transparency, and alignment with national educational priorities. The calendar includes term dates, school breaks, public holidays, and examination periods.

2. Purpose

- To ensure BBS develops and communicates its academic calendar in compliance with ADEK's structure and deadlines.
- To harmonise the observance of public holidays in line with national guidance and UAE identity.
- To provide clarity for students, staff, and parents regarding academic scheduling and holidays.

3. Calendar Requirements

3.1 Submission

- BBS shall submit its proposed academic calendar annually through the ADEK Calendar System.
- The calendar adopts ADEK's suggested template and adheres to ADEK's mandatory parameters, including:
 - Academic year start and end dates
 - Winter, spring, and summer breaks
 - Minimum number of school days
- All internal and external examination dates (including board examinations) are included.
- The calendar is submitted according to ADEK's communicated timeline for review and approval.

3.2 Communication

- Once approved by ADEK, the school calendar is then formally communicated to all staff, students, and parents through:
 - School website
 - Digital newsletters
 - Parent and staff portals
 - Physical notice boards (where applicable)

4. Public Holidays

- BBS observes all public holidays as listed on ADEK's Calendar System.

- Public holidays are subject to change based on official UAE announcements.
- In cases where international or external examinations coincide with a public holiday, BBS will apply for prior approval from ADEK to hold school sessions during the holiday to accommodate exams.

5. Compliance and Accountability

- Full compliance with this policy is required starting AY 2025/26.
- BBS Management understands that failure to comply may result in administrative penalties as defined by ADEK regulations, including but not limited to those under Federal Decree Law No. (31) of 2021.
- BBS commits to ongoing review and adaptation of its calendar processes to ensure continuous alignment with ADEK directives.

6. Review and Updates

- This policy will be reviewed annually and updated in accordance with any new circulars or policies issued by ADEK.
- Updates will be approved by the school's leadership team and disseminated accordingly.

Review and Approval

Review Date: June 2026

Next Review Date: June 2027

Approved by:

Principal

BBS Board of Governors

School Stamp