

17 March 2023
123/Admin/22

Dear Senior Section parents,

As we have promised to parents and older students information on the new rules for equivalency.

There have been changes to the Thanawya Amma equivalency rules from the Ministry of Education. We have just been notified that Ministerial Decision 41 will be effective for this academic year 2022-23 and Ministerial Decision 884 will be cancelled.

The part of the recent Ministerial Decision 41 relating to schools following the British Curriculum is attached. This indicates that to gain equivalency students need to pass a minimum of five (5) GCSE subjects with grades 9-3/A*-E and 2 x GCE AS levels at A*-E or 1 x GCE A2 level A* - E. The Ministry of Education subjects of Arabic, Islamic and Moral Education are also required.

The universities will set their own entrance requirements including results required for scholarships. They recognise twelve years of formal education being required and that starts with Grade 1 and finishes in Grade 12. Students in Grade 12 take their GCE AS levels. Some universities may admit students with GCSE's however it is usual to complete a foundation year if that is the case. This may be a preparation course in the subject area to be studied a degree level it is not necessarily an English language course. Thanawya Amma will require twelve years of formal schooling G1-12.

Please contact the school if you wish further clarification and we will meet with you if required. I will be discussing this with the students in Grade 9 and above to ensure they understand what pathways are available. Hopefully we will now keep our students for longer in the FPA community than would otherwise would have been possible. Also the military service availability for Emirati boys will follow the pattern of other system schools.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Regards,

Jan Brettingham Ms

Principal

Ministerial decision No (41) for 2023

Amendment of some rules and extension the implementation of the ministerial decision (199) for 2019 regarding the equivalency system of private schools' certificates.

The Minister of Education:

- After reviewing the federal law (1) for 1972 regarding the responsibilities of Ministries, the power of ministers and its amendments.
- The federal Decree-Law (11) for 2008 regarding Human Resources in Federal Government and its amendments.
- The federal Decree-Law (18) for 2020 regarding private education.
- The Council of Ministers' decision (29) for 2008 regarding the regulations of private education.
- The Council of Ministers' decision (1) for 2018 regarding the executive regulations for the Decree-Law No (11) for 2008, regarding Human Resources in Federal Gov. and its amendments.
- The Council of Ministers' decision (21) for 2021, regarding the organizational structure of MOE.
- The Ministerial decision (199) for 2019 regarding equivalency of private schools' certificates in the transitional period till the end of the academic year 2020/2021.
- The ministerial decision (883) for 2019 regarding the equivalency of private schools' certificates.
- The ministerial decision (50) for 2021 regarding organizational structure of MOE Dept., offices, Sections, and its responsibilities and missions.

As required for the public benefit, the following has been decided:

First term

1. Cancel the ministerial decree No (883) for 2019 regarding the equivalency of private schools' certificates.
2. Extension of the ministerial decree No (199) for 2019 regarding the equivalency system of private schools' certificates till the end of the academic year 2022/2023.

Second term

Replace the text of point No 5 in the fifth term of the ministerial decree No (199) for 2019 with the new text as follows:

The previous text	The new text
<p>5. The Emirate student should pass:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The Emirates standard test of English for university admission: (EmSAT Achieve English) with at least 1100 mark.b. The Emirates standard test of Maths for university admission (EmSAT Achieve – Mathematics) with at least 500 mark.	<p>5. The Emirate student should pass:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. <i>English test for one of the following below:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• English (TOFEL) with at least 61 for the (iBT) test (the online test).• IELTS Academic test with at least 5.• The Emirates standard test of English for university admission (EmSAT Achieve - English) with at least 1100 mark.b. <i>Maths test of one of the following tests mentioned below:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• (SAT 1 – Maths reasoning test, with at least 450 mark.• Emirates EmSAT for university admission “Mathematics” with at least 500 mark.

The Third Term

Replace the text of point No 3&4 of the sixth term in the Ministerial Decision No (199) for 2019 with the new text mentioned below:

<i>The old text</i>	<i>The new text</i>
3. The student should pass (5) subjects of (GCSE/ IGCSE) level with one of the following pass grades (A*, A, B, C, D, E)	3. The student should pass (5) subjects of (GCSE/ IGCSE) level with one of the following pass grades (A*, A, B, C, D, E) OR: (9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3)
4. The student should pass (2) subjects of (GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level) OR (1) subject of (GCE Advanced Level with one of the pass grades (A*, A, B, C, D)	4. The student should pass (2) subjects of (GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level) OR (1) subject of (GCE Advanced Level with one of the pass grades (A*, A, B, B, C, D, E)

The Fourth Term

This decision should be informed to whoever is required to implement it and act according to that. Any text to the contrary shall be repealed.

Dr Ahmed Balhowl Alfalasi

Minister of Education

The original signed by the minister

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