



Coeducation Policy

Introduction:

Merryland International School is committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive educational environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. As part of our commitment to promoting diversity and equality, Merryland International School embraces a coeducational model, providing equal opportunities for both male and female students to learn, grow, and succeed together.

Objectives:

- Foster a culture of inclusion, respect, understanding, and collaboration among students of all genders, backgrounds, abilities, and learning needs.
- Provide an inclusive and holistic educational experience that prepares students for the diverse and interconnected world they will enter as adults.
- Promote gender equality, inclusion, tolerance, and mutual respect while challenging stereotypes through positive interactions and shared learning experiences.
- Encourage the development of essential social and interpersonal skills, such as communication, empathy, cooperation, and respect for diversity, through coeducational interactions.
- Prepare students to work effectively in inclusive and mixed-gender environments that reflect real-world workplaces, communities, and multicultural societies.

Gender Status:

Merryland School's gender status will be published on the school website

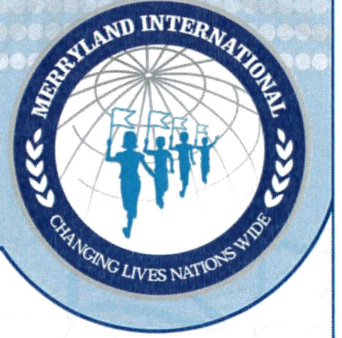
All cycle 1 classes (KG-Gr.4) in Merryland School is coeducational. Coeducation in higher classes is done after obtaining the approval from ADEK and also with the majority parent consent.

Majority Parent Consent: Proof of consent from the majority (more than 50%) of parents of students enrolled in any class will be considered for conversion to a coeducational class.

Single-gendered classes will be provided to students where the majority of parents do not agree to coeducational classes.

Curriculum Implementation:

The curriculum at Merryland International School is designed to be inclusive and equitable for all students, regardless of gender. All subjects and activities are accessible to both male and female students, with no limitations based on gender.



Teachers are encouraged to create inclusive learning environments where diverse perspectives are valued and respected. They should actively challenge any stereotypes or biases that may arise and promote equal participation and opportunities for all students.

Gender-sensitive teaching approaches may be employed to ensure that the curriculum addresses the needs and interests of all students. This may include incorporating diverse perspectives, using inclusive language, and providing opportunities for students to explore gender-related topics in a safe and supportive environment.

Extracurricular Activities:

Extracurricular activities play a vital role in promoting social interaction, teamwork, and personal development. Merryland International School offers a wide range of extracurricular activities that are open to all students, regardless of gender.

Sports teams are encouraged to be inclusive and welcoming to students of all genders.

Teachers and staff responsible for supervising extracurricular activities are expected to promote a culture of respect and inclusion, ensuring that all students feel valued and supported in their participation.

Facilities and Resources:

Merryland International School is committed to providing safe and inclusive facilities and resources for all students. Classroom materials, textbooks, and educational resources are selected with consideration for gender diversity and inclusivity. Where appropriate, materials should reflect a variety of perspectives and experiences to provide a well-rounded education for all students.

Support and Guidance:

The school provides support services and guidance to students to ensure their well-being and academic success. Student Counsellor and child protection team are available to address any issues related to gender, identity, or interpersonal relationships in a confidential and supportive manner.

Students are encouraged to speak up if they experience any form of discrimination, harassment, or bullying based on gender. The school has zero tolerance for such behaviour and will take prompt and appropriate action to address any concerns and ensure a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students.

Parent and Community Engagement:

Merryland International School values the partnership between parents, the school, and the wider community in promoting coeducation and gender equality. Parents are encouraged to support the school's coeducational policies and participate actively in school activities and initiatives.

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The school may organize workshops, seminars, or other events to engage parents and the community in discussions about coeducation, gender equality, and related topics. These events provide opportunities for dialogue, learning, and collaboration among stakeholders to support the school's mission and values.

Gender Restrictions:

In Merryland all class teachers and all teaching support staff in KG are female only.

PE and Swimming

class	grades	Gender status of section	Teacher/adult gender
PE	KG-G3	Co-educational	Female
	G4	Co-educational	Male
	G5- G12	Male section	Male
		Female section	Female
		Co-educational	Female
Swimming	KG-G4	Co-educational	Female
	G5-G12	Male section	Male
		Female section	Female

Changing Rooms and Spaces will be separated by gender. Nudity is prohibited throughout the campus and students are made aware of adhering to modest changing practices in changing rooms.

The school will provide completely separated spaces for any activity (e.g. dance, drama) in the school that requires the changing of clothes to the level of undergarments or beyond.

Changing of clothes to the level of undergarments or beyond will not be permitted outside of designated changing rooms or spaces for any activity taking place on school premises.

Prayer rooms

The school will have separate male and female prayer rooms, which can be used by both staff and students.

Gender Restrictions for Other Staff

Bus supervisors

Grades	Gender status of section	Staff gender
KG-G12	Male section	Female
	Female section	
	Co-educational	

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Cleaning staff

Grades	Gender status of section	Staff gender
KG-G12	Co-educational	Female
	Male section	Male
	Female section	Female

Nurses

Grades	Gender status of section	Staff gender
KG-G12	Male section	Female
	Female section	
	Co-educational	

Evaluation and Review:

Merryland International School regularly evaluates and reviews its coeducation policy to ensure that it remains relevant, effective, and aligned with its mission and values and ADEK School Coeducation policy. Feedback from students, parents, staff, and other stakeholders will be solicited and considered in the review process.

Any necessary updates or revisions to the coeducation policy are made based on the outcomes of the evaluation and review process, with the goal of continuously improving the school's efforts to promote coeducation, gender equality, and inclusion.

Conclusion:

Merryland International School is committed to providing a supportive and inclusive learning environment where students of all genders can thrive and reach their full potential. By embracing coeducation and promoting gender equality, the school aims to prepare students to become responsible and compassionate global citizens who contribute positively to society.

Policy Awareness

Awareness sessions will be organized to ensure all members of the school community (students, staff, parents, and visitors) are aware of the ADEK Coeducation Policy as applicable in the school.

This policy outlines the principles, objectives, and strategies for implementing coeducation at Merryland International School, emphasizing inclusivity, equality, and respect for all students.

This policy will be reviewed every year.

Official Supporting Documents:

ADEK_School_Coeducation Policy_v.1.0 2024 (January) Department of Education and Knowledge, Abu Dhabi (ADEK)

Principal

Muneer

Reviewed on 25 May 2024

