

UAE NATIONAL ANTHEM OBSERVANCE PROTOCOL

APPROVED BY:



MS. ASHA ALEXANDER
PRINCIPAL AND CEO, GEMS LEGACY SCHOOL | EXECUTIVE LEADER, GEMS EDUCATION

DATE: 30/03/2026

LAST REVIEWED ON: 30/03/2026

NEXT REVIEW DUE BY: 30/03/2027

At GEMS Legacy School (GLS), we are committed to fostering respect, unity, and national identity in alignment with the vision of the United Arab Emirates and the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA). The UAE National Anthem is recognised as a powerful symbol of national pride, unity, and shared values. Its daily observance reflects our commitment to civic responsibility, respect, and belonging within our school community.

This protocol aligns with KHDA requirements and outlines the expectations, procedures, and inclusive practices for the respectful observance of the UAE National Anthem across all school settings.

PURPOSE

To ensure the UAE National Anthem is observed respectfully and consistently, reinforcing national identity, unity, and belonging among all members of the school community.

SCOPE

This protocol applies to all students (Phase 1–4), staff, school leadership, parents, visitors, contractors, and suppliers across:

- Daily school operations
- Assemblies and institutional events
- School celebrations and national occasions
- Virtual and hybrid events

DAILY OBSERVANCE IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CAMPUS

The UAE National Anthem will be played every instructional day:

- During morning assemblies
- At 7:45 a.m., Monday to Friday, via the whole-school PA system, and during days when assemblies are not held.

No other national anthem will be played during this time.

In exceptional circumstances (e.g., emergencies), observance will resume as soon as it is safe to do so.

WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES

All students will attend at least one physical assembly weekly, conducted in a shared space where students face the UAE Flag during the National Anthem. The school will maintain a structured Assembly Plan outlining schedules, supervision, and arrangements, including provisions for Students of Determination.

- **Phase 1** – Monday to Thursday (7:45a.m. to 8:30a.m.)
- **Phase 2** – Monday to Thursday (7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.)
- **Phase 3** – Monday to Wednesday (7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.)
- **Phase 4** – Thursday and Friday (7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.)

INSTITUTIONAL EVENTS

The UAE National Anthem will be played at the start of all formal school events, including:

- UAE National Day, Flag Day, Commemoration Day
- Graduations, Sports Day, International Day
- Assemblies, performances, open days, and ceremonies
- Virtual and hybrid events where applicable

PARTICIPATION AND CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

During the National Anthem, all members of the school community are expected to demonstrate respectful behaviour.

Students will:

- Stop all activities immediately

- Stand respectfully (where physically able)
- Remain silent and attentive
- Face the UAE Flag
- Sing the anthem where appropriate

Age-appropriate participation is expected for Early Years students through guided respectful behaviour.

Staff, parents, and visitors will:

- Stand respectfully where physically able
- Face the UAE Flag
- Remain silent and attentive throughout

STUDENTS OF DETERMINATION

Inclusive participation will be ensured through reasonable adjustments based on individual needs, including sensory support, assisted participation, and access to suitable spaces. All arrangements will promote dignity and inclusion.

SUPERVISION

School leadership and staff will ensure safe and respectful implementation:

- **Leadership:** overall oversight and compliance
- **Heads of Section:** implementation within phases
- **Teachers and staff:** supervision and reinforcement of expectations
- **Duty staff:** safe movement and assembly management

COMMUNICATION AND COMPLIANCE

Expectations will be communicated through:

- Staff induction and student orientation
- Parent communication at the start of each academic year
- School signage, assemblies, and publications

The protocol will be reviewed annually in line with KHDA guidance, and updated as required.

DOCUMENTATION

The school will maintain records of:

- Assembly plans and schedules
- Risk assessments and supervision arrangements
- Communication records
- Inclusion and reasonable adjustment plans
- Exceptional circumstances (if any)

MONITORING

Implementation will be monitored by the Senior Leadership Team through regular reviews and observations to ensure consistent compliance and respectful practice.

