

ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF ABU DHABI (ACS)

ASSISTED SCHOOL SPECIAL NEEDS PROFILE

NOTE: School situations can change quickly, particularly as schools face cutbacks to learning support programs due to the pandemic, unrest, and economic uncertainty. For the most current information, work with the REO and school. Information in this document was collected by the Department of State's Office of Overseas Schools directly from the school in spring 2023 and shows the availability of services rather than an assessment of the quality of the services. The profile is intended as a jumping off point for a conversation with the REO and school to understand the best fit for your child. Definitions may vary school to school. If a field is not specified, please reach out to the REO listed below for more information.



The American Community School of Abu Dhabi (ACS) is an independent, coeducational day school, which offers an educational program from preschool through grade 12 for English-speaking students of all nationalities. The school was founded in 1972. Read more on the [Overseas Schools Fact Sheet](#).

ADMISSIONS & SPECIAL NEEDS INFORMATION

The school's admission criteria and procedures can be found at www.acs.sch.ae/join-us/admissions.

IN GENERAL, THE SCHOOL CAN SUPPORT STUDENTS WHOSE LEARNING SUPPORT NEEDS ARE

Mild to Moderate

ABLE AND WILLING TO ACCOMMODATE STUDENTS WITHIN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES

Hearing Impaired	No	Behaviorally/Emotionally Disturbed	No
Physically or Orthopedically Impaired	No	Multiple Disabilities	No
Visually Impaired	No	Other health impairment	No
Autistic	No	Speech or Language impaired	No
Specifically Learning Disabled	Yes	Traumatic Brain Injury	No
Intellectually Disabled	No		

SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT SERVICES

Teacher Accommodations	Teacher Accommodations Learning Support Teacher	Learning Support Teacher	Co-Teaching/ Team Teaching in the Classroom	Academic Support Class Secondary School
No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOM	In Elementary No In Middle School No In High School No	Maximum Hours per Week per Student Push In Pull Out 1 2	Support for special needs preschoolers	Use of IEP or ILP
No			No	Yes

SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT STAFF IN THE SCHOOL

Social Worker:	0
Nurse:	2
Special Needs Coordinator:	1
Special Needs Teacher:	7.5
Psychologist:	1
School Counselor:	8

Staffing numbers are listed as full school totals. A breakdown by elementary, middle, and high school levels can be found on the [School Summary Information Portal](#) or by emailing OverseasSchools@state.gov.

SERVICES AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH

SCHOOL COMMUNITY		SCHOOL	
Psycho Educational Assessment	Yes		No
Speech Therapy	No	1 : 1 Trained Classroom Aide	No
Occupational Therapy	No	Special Transportation	No
Physical Therapy	No	Transportation Paraprofessional	No
Behavior and/or Autism Specialist (ABA/Behavior Plan/Interventions)	No		
Social Skills Group/ Social Skills Training	Yes		No

LITERACY & MATHEMATICS SUPPORT

SCHOOL COMMUNITY	
U.S. Credentialed Reading Specialist	No
Reading Remediation	No
Reading Programs for Dyslexia (Orton Gillingham, etc.)	No
Math Specialist	No

Please note, some schools may have an expectation that parents make arrangements for support services even if they are listed as available.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BEST EDUCATIONAL FIT FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Reach out to:	Regional Education Officer (REO)	MED/CFP
OverseasSchools@state.gov	Mike Emborsky emborskym@state.gov	Child and Family Program Team MEDCFP@state.gov

www.state.gov/m/a/os