



School Coeducation Policy (AY 2024-26)

Introduction

Bright Riders School acknowledges the prevailing trend of coeducation in Abu Dhabi, driven by the growth of the international school sector, while recognising the city's historical preference for single-gender educational institutions. In compliance with local customs and the [BRS Cultural Consideration Policy](#), BRS complies with legal requirements pertaining to coeducation and staff gender in particular circumstances. The basic requirements for coeducation and staff gender within the school are outlined in this policy.

Purpose

This policy is established to:

- Define the requirements for Bright Riders School (BRS) regarding the allocation, sharing, or separation of spaces based on gender.
- Specify the requirements for BRS concerning the gender of staff in accordance with school type and student grade levels.

Definitions

Coeducational	Having students of both genders interacting in a defined space.
Cycle	A stage in the primary and secondary educational process and is classified in Abu Dhabi following Indian curriculum as the following: KG, Cycle 1 (G1-G4), Cycle 2 (G5-G8), and Cycle 3 (G9-G12).
Gender Status	The classification of a school depending on its gender mixture, defined as coeducational, shared, or single-gendered.
Physical Education (PE)	The subject concerned with developing students' physical literacy and their ability to use their literacy to perform in a range of activities for the progressive development of their physical health. PE is planned, progressive learning (theory and practice) that takes place in a timetabled class with a documented curriculum that is delivered to all students by a qualified PE teacher. For the purpose of this policy, any reference to PE also includes other physical activity-based subjects where intentional physical contact between genders is possible (e.g., dance, yoga).
Section	An administrative grouping of students (e.g., by cycle, grade, class, bus, or any other dividing parameter).
Shared	Having both boys and girls on a campus, but with completely separate sections for each gender. Students share common facilities (e.g., labs), but use them at different times to ensure that there is no interaction between genders.
Single-Gendered (SG)	Having students of only one gender in a defined space.

Policy

1. Gender Status

- 11 Communication of Gender Status: BRS has published the school's gender status as coeducational on its website.
- 12 Coeducation in Cycle 1: As authorized by ADEK, BRS is coeducational in Cycle 1, Cycle 2 and Cycle 3.
- 13 Change of Gender Status: BRS cannot change its gender status, whether for the whole school or for a specific cycle/grade without prior approval from ADEK.
- 14 Single Class Conversion to Coeducational: Though we already are a coeducational institution, we understand that schools are authorized to convert a single class to coeducational on the following conditions:
 1. Request to ADEK: Schools shall submit an official request providing justification and evidence for converting a class.
 2. Majority Parent Consent: Schools shall provide proof of consent from the majority (more than 50%) of parents of students enrolled in any class being considered for conversion to a coeducational class. Single-gendered classes must be provided to students where the majority of parents do not agree to coeducational classes.
 3. Unauthorized Conversion: Despite being a coeducational institution, coeducational swimming classes from Grade 5 onwards are not conducted at Bright Riders School.

2 Gender Restrictions

- 21 KG: At Bright Riders School, class teachers and all teaching support staff in KG are female only. However, there are no gender restrictions for teachers in other grades, except for those covered in Section 2.2 (PE and Swimming).
- 22 PE and Swimming
 1. Regardless of gender status, BRS adheres to the gender restrictions required for PE classes and swimming classes as per *Table 1. Gender Restrictions for PE and Swimming*.

Table 1. Gender Restrictions for PE and Swimming

Class	Grades	Gender Status of School/ Section	Teacher/ Adult Gender
PE	PKG-G4	SG Male	Male or Female
		SG Female	Female
		Coeducational**	Male or Female
	G5-G12	Male Section	Male
		Female Section	Female
		Coeducational**	Male or Female
Swimming*	PKG-G4	SG Male	Male
		SG Female	Female
		Coeducational**	Female
	G5-G12	Male Section	Male
		Female Section	Female

*Swimming: applies to swimming during PE only. This does not apply to extracurricular swimming activities.

**Contingent on ADEK approval.

- Students are separated by gender (male and female sections) from Grade 5 onward for swimming.
- During swimming, students, and teachers in Grade 5 and above are of the same gender.

23 Changing Rooms and Spaces

- Changing rooms are separated by gender or their occupation is staggered to strictly ensure use by only one gender at any given time.
- Nudity is prohibited throughout the campus and BRS ensures that students are aware of adhering to modest changing practices in changing rooms.
- BRS provides completely separated spaces for any activity in the school that requires the changing of clothes to the level of undergarments or beyond (e.g., during costume changes in a dance performance).
- Changing of clothes to the level of undergarments or beyond is not permitted outside of designated changing rooms or spaces for any activity taking place on the school premises.

24 Prayer Rooms

- BRS has separate male and female prayer rooms, which can be used by both staff and students.

25 Gender Restrictions for Other Staff

1. BRS adheres to the gender restrictions for bus supervisors, cleaners, and nurses as detailed in Tables 2-4.

Table 2. Gender Restrictions for Bus Supervisors

Grades	Gender Status of School	Staff Gender
G4 and below	SG Male/ SG Female/ Coeducational	Female
G5 and above	SG Male	Male
	SG Female/ Coeducational	Female

Table 3. Gender Restrictions for Cleaners*

Grades	Gender Status of School	Staff Gender
G4 and below	SG Male/ SG Female/ Coeducational	Female
G5 and above	SG Male	Male
	SG Female	Female
	Coeducational	Male/ Female

*During official working hours (and with visible signage/ notification otherwise)

Table 4. Gender Restrictions for Nurses

Grades	Gender Status of School	Staff Gender
PreKG-KG2	Any	Female
G1-G4	SG Male	Male or Female
	SG Female	Female
	Coeducational	Male or Female
G5 and above	SG Male	Male
	SG Female/ Coeducational	Female

*While it is preferred for a student to be treated by a nurse of the same gender, if this is not possible, the student is entitled to request the presence of a third-party adult of the same gender.

3 Policy Awareness

- 3.1 Regular awareness sessions are organized to ensure all members of the school community (students, staff, parents, visitors) are aware of the ADEK Coeducation

Policy as applicable in the school.

4 Compliance

This policy is effective from the beginning of the Academic Year 2024/ 25. Bright Rider School ensures full compliance with the provisions of this policy no later than the commencement of the Academic Year 2025/ 26.



Approved By:

Rachna Prakash
Principal
Bright Riders School- Abu Dhabi

Next Review: AY 2026-2027