



Early Childhood Education: Pre-KG to KG





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## Welcome to the ABQ family

The first years of school are an exciting and important time in any child's development.

If you are joining the ABQ school family for the first time, you will find that we strive to provide and promote a quality and nurturing environment for the developing young child. Early childhood is a time of remarkable growth, with brain development being at its peak.

At ABQ Explorer, we see this as a wonderful opportunity to capture the curiosity of children and instill in them a life-long love for learning. ABQ Explorer sets the stage for the rest of your child's time with us.

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For any child,  
life remains a  
sea full of rich  
experiences just  
waiting to be  
explored.”

- Natan  
Gendelman





## The ABQ Journey: Pre-KG to Grade 12

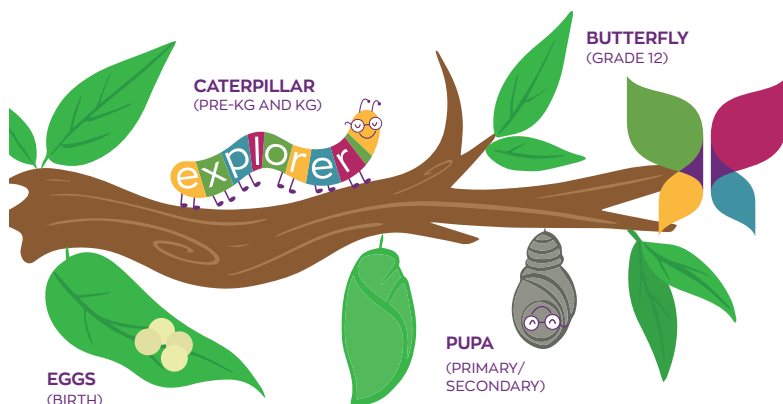
"Our main task is to discover and fulfill our deep innate potential, much as ...the caterpillar becomes the butterfly."  
– Carl Jung 1875-1950

The ABQ journey starts with the "caterpillars", our little ABQ Explorers. We have the privilege of seeing them develop into beautiful butterflies over the years, being well-equipped to make the world a better and more beautiful place. We take every step to ensure that they flourish in a happy, safe, and nurturing environment.

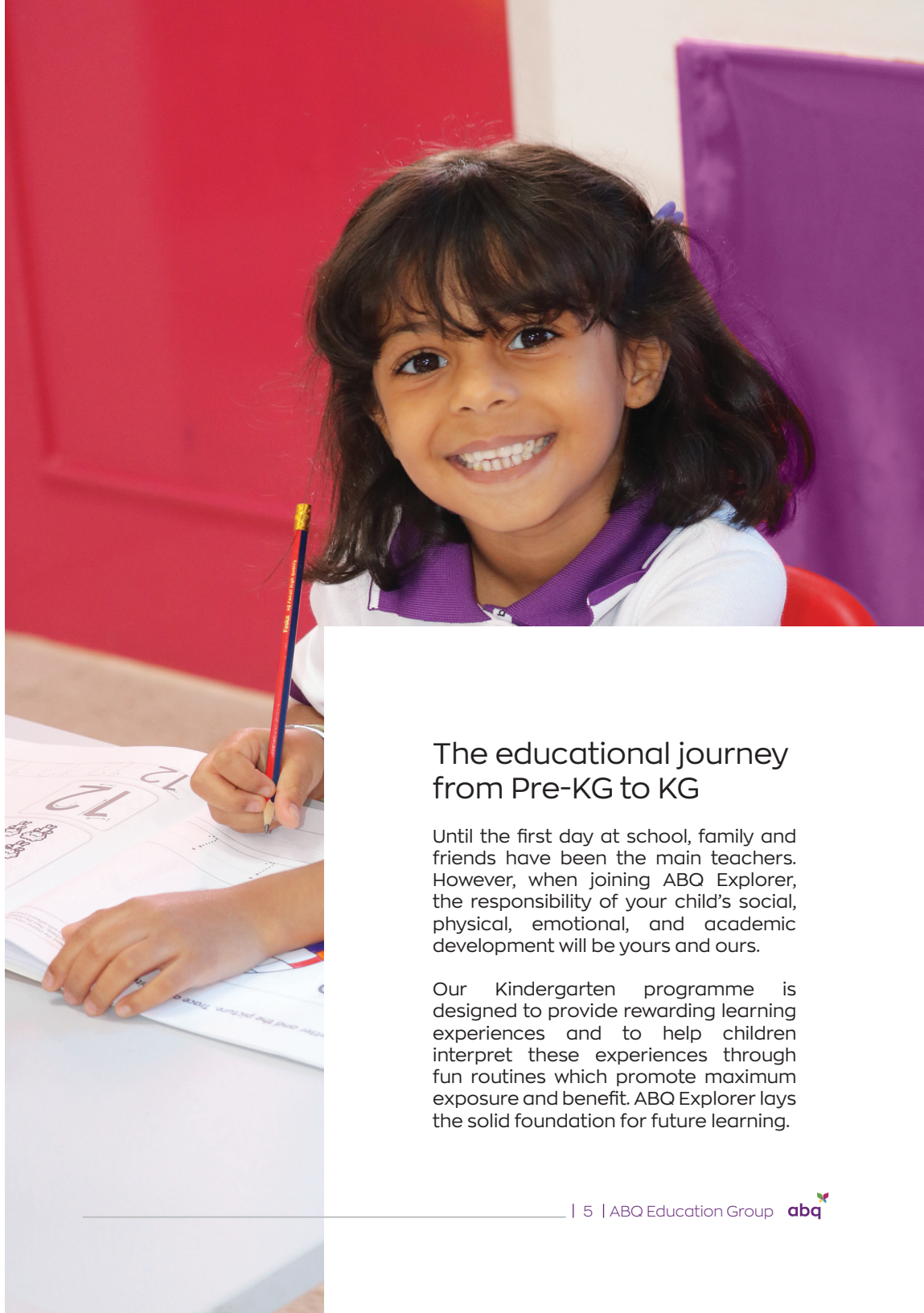


Being an ABQ butterfly and going through all the necessary stages of development, provide our students with the skills to not only complete their school years with us successfully, but to thrive after Grade 12 as well.

The talents and uniqueness of our students are represented by the colourful wings of the ABQ butterfly.








## The educational journey from Pre-KG to KG

Until the first day at school, family and friends have been the main teachers. However, when joining ABQ Explorer, the responsibility of your child's social, physical, emotional, and academic development will be yours and ours.

Our Kindergarten programme is designed to provide rewarding learning experiences and to help children interpret these experiences through fun routines which promote maximum exposure and benefit. ABQ Explorer lays the solid foundation for future learning.

A photograph of two children in school uniforms on a red and white playground slide. A boy is sliding down, and a girl is standing at the top. The background shows a clear blue sky and some trees.

## Who are the ABQ Explorers?

At every age, ABQ focuses on providing a 'home away from home' environment with educational opportunities to support your child's overall growth and development.

Age requirements for our young explorers:

\*Pre-KG: 2 yrs and 2 months+

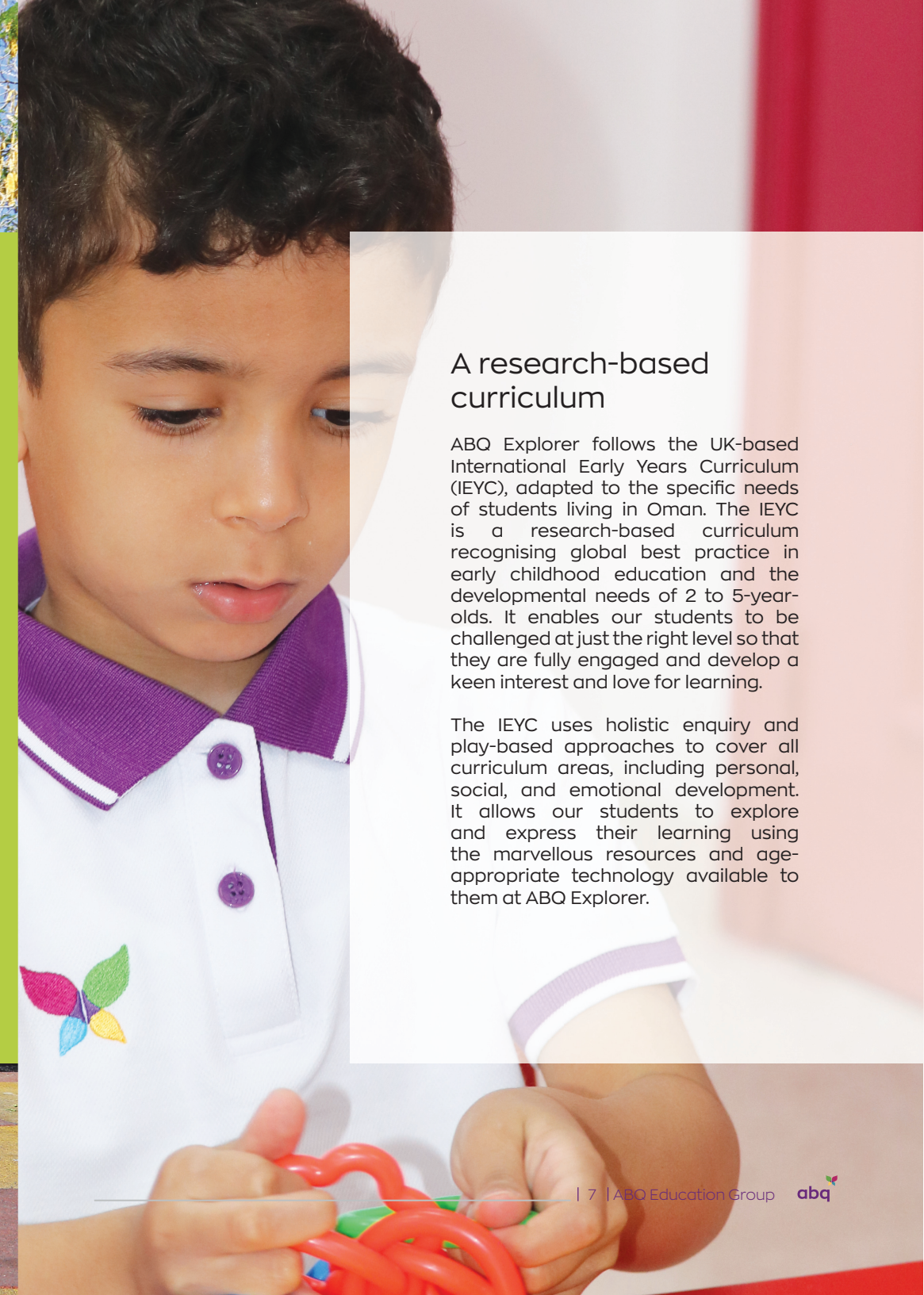
KG 1: 3 yrs and 2 months+

KG 2: 4 yrs and 2 months+

\*Pre-KG is not available at all ABQ international schools.

All ABQ Explorer classes are taught by an internationally qualified teacher and at least one experienced teaching assistant.





## A research-based curriculum

ABQ Explorer follows the UK-based International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC), adapted to the specific needs of students living in Oman. The IEYC is a research-based curriculum recognising global best practice in early childhood education and the developmental needs of 2 to 5-year-olds. It enables our students to be challenged at just the right level so that they are fully engaged and develop a keen interest and love for learning.

The IEYC uses holistic enquiry and play-based approaches to cover all curriculum areas, including personal, social, and emotional development. It allows our students to explore and express their learning using the marvellous resources and age-appropriate technology available to them at ABQ Explorer.

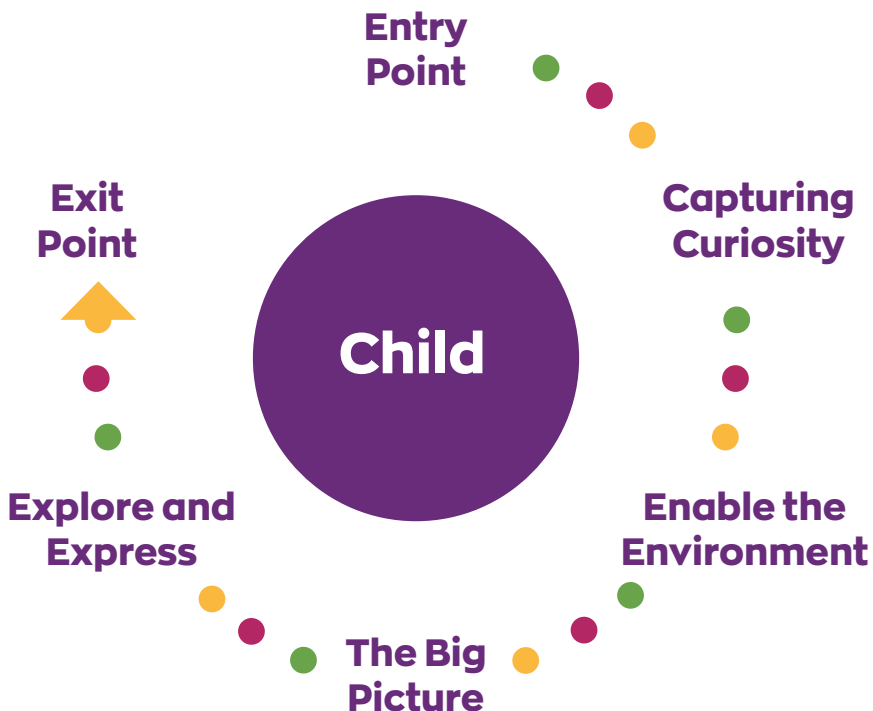


## How we teach

ABQ Explorer focuses on a process of learning, rather than relying solely on learning outcomes to drive children's development. Our IEYC process of learning successfully captures children's natural curiosity as a starting point and balances child-initiated and teacher-enhanced learning within an encouraging environment.

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It is never too early to begin exploring the world.





The **entry point** is an activity that begins each unit of work. It is usually a fun, engaging start to the theme. It gets the children excited about what they will learn in a specific unit.

**Capturing Curiosity** allows children to reveal what they already know about the topic, and what they would like to learn about the theme. Their feedback will be used to plan for future learning.

**Enabling the Environment** is the creating of indoor and outdoor spaces to support different types of themed learning.

The **Big Picture** provides children with some context to a specific IEYC unit of learning so that connections can be made between previous and new learning.

The **Explore & Express** parts of the learning process provide lots of opportunities and experiences where children play and learn together.

The **Exit Point** is where children share, reflect, and celebrate what they have learnt.



## At ABQ Explorer, we believe that:



Each child is unique and has individual needs.



Children develop through similar stages but at different rates and in different ways.



Young children come to kindergarten from diverse backgrounds and with varied experiences.



Young children are naturally curious and eager to learn. Their learning is enhanced by interactions with others, including children and adults, as well as the environment.



Young children learn through play. Through play, children explore and experiment with their environment to add to their knowledge, learn new skills and practice familiar ones. Current brain research confirms that opportunities for children to learn through play help the development of the brain.

Parents are their child's first and most important teachers. Parents and teachers work as partners to support learning both at home and at school.





“

**The best  
thing you  
can do for  
your children  
is give them  
the space to  
explore.**

## **Our response to Covid-19**

The safety and security of our students is our top priority, and we strictly adhere to the guidance and directives from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development in this regard.

Students, staff, and visitors are temperature checked and proof of vaccination is required on arrival. The school is thoroughly cleaned daily, and the recreational areas are disinfected intermittently throughout the day.



## What to pack every day

- > A backpack.
- > The ABQ Chromebook (KG only).
- > A spill-proof water bottle that they can open and close independently.
- > A spare set of uniform with underwear in a resealable plastic bag.
- > An ABQ jacket for cooler days.
- > Please apply sunscreen to your child at home before coming to school.
- > Pre-KG only (if applicable): Disposable diapers, wipes, and any preferred nappy cream.



## Time to eat

Our cafeteria service is outsourced to a professional catering company and provides breakfast and lunch to all students every day. Every effort is made to ensure that the meals provided are tasty and nutritious and the menu is reviewed regularly.

## School hours

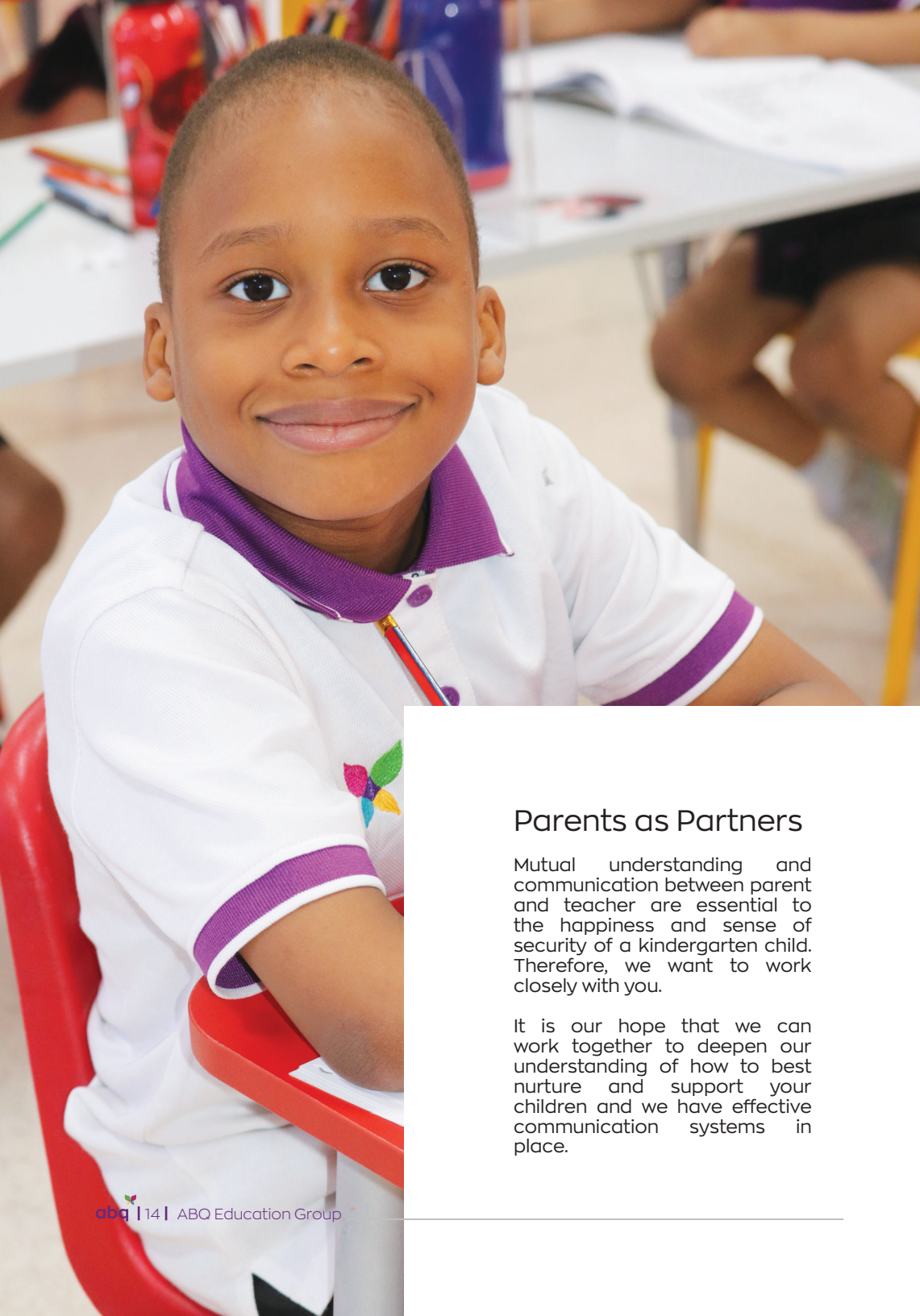
The school days for our young explorers are from 7:30AM - 12:30PM. However, an option for extended care is available.

## What do ABQ Explorers wear?

ABQ Explorers wear a special phase-specific school uniform, which includes a white polo dress, white t-shirt and black skirt/ black shorts.







## Parents as Partners

Mutual understanding and communication between parent and teacher are essential to the happiness and sense of security of a kindergarten child. Therefore, we want to work closely with you.

It is our hope that we can work together to deepen our understanding of how to best nurture and support your children and we have effective communication systems in place.



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**Their minds  
were not  
built to  
sit and be  
taught.  
They were  
built to  
explore,  
play and  
learn.**

## 10 Reasons to choose ABQ Explorer

1. It is the first step of your child's ABQ journey - with world-class academic outcomes.
2. We cherish individuality.
3. We are a fully bilingual school (English and Arabic).
4. Excellent indoor and outdoor facilities.
5. Communication with parents and guardians is vital.
6. The ABQ community is a caring family.
7. Your child will have some of the best teachers in the world.
8. We provide food and transportation services.
9. We use child-friendly technology.
10. We take exceptional care of the physical and mental health of every child.



The education of our children is too important a matter to be left to chance !