



دائرة رأس الخيمة للمعرفة
RAS AL KHAIMAH
DEPARTMENT OF KNOWLEDGE

RAK DOK Sustainability Policy Guidance for Private Schools

**Supporting Sustainable Practices Across Ras Al
Khaimah's Private Education Sector**



1. Introduction

The Ras Al Khaimah Department of Knowledge (RAK DOK) recognises the important role of education in achieving a more sustainable future. In support of the Ras Al Khaimah Integrated Sustainability Strategy 2050 (RISS) and national UAE priorities, this policy guidance has been developed to encourage private schools to consider how sustainability can be reflected in school operations, student learning, and community engagement.

1.1. Purpose

This policy is intended as a reference framework. It provides a flexible starting point to help schools begin exploring sustainability in ways that are appropriate to their capacity, curriculum, and context.

1.2. Scope

This policy applies to all private general education institutions licensed by RAK DOK in Ras Al Khaimah.

2. Definitions

This section outlines terms used in the document and may serve as a helpful reference for schools beginning their sustainability journey:

Ras Al Khaimah Integrated Sustainability Strategy 2050 (RISS)	A strategic framework aimed at enhancing energy efficiency, reducing carbon emissions, and promoting renewable energy in Ras Al Khaimah to support sustainable development and align with national and global climate goals.
Sustainability	Acting in ways that protect the environment, support community wellbeing, and make responsible use of resources, ensuring long-term benefits for future generations.

Sustainability Coordinator	A nominated staff member responsible for supporting sustainability related activities and acts as the main point of contact for RAK DOK.
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3. Guiding Principles

RAK DOK encourages schools to adopt a practical and inclusive approach to sustainability that is:

- **Curriculum-linked**, integrating learning and real-world application.
- **Community-minded**, involving students, staff, and families in meaningful activities.
- **Locally and nationally aligned** with Ras Al Khaimah and the UAE's sustainability goals and needs.

4. Areas of Focus for School Sustainability Planning

a. Environmental Responsibility

Schools are encouraged to:

- Promote energy and water efficiency in classrooms and facilities.
- Reduce waste through recycling, reusing materials, and minimising single-use items.
- Encourage environmentally themed student projects, eco-clubs, and awareness campaigns.
- Consider aligning activities with local sustainability targets under RISS 2050.

b. Community Engagement and Awareness

Schools may also wish to:

- Engage students in community service or environmental awareness days.

- Encourage partnerships with parents and the broader community on sustainability efforts.
- Highlight student voice in shaping environmentally responsible actions.

c. School-wide Leadership and Coordination

RAK DOK recommends:

- Assigning a Sustainability Coordinator to lead planning, share ideas, and liaise with RAK DOK.
- Creating a simple action plan to identify sustainability priorities for the academic year.
- Including sustainability in school events and communications where appropriate
- Celebrating milestones and sharing successes with the school community

5. RAK DOK's Role

To support implementation, RAK DOK will:

- Share examples of good practice from schools across the Emirate.
- Provide guidance materials and templates for school use.
- Organise joint campaigns, student challenges, and awareness events.
- Offer networking and training opportunities for Sustainability Coordinators, where applicable
- Celebrate schools' achievements in sustainability.

6. Implementation Approach

This policy is a non-mandatory guide, offered to support and inspire schools. It is designed to accommodate a variety of starting points—whether a school is

initiating its first sustainability activity or building on existing practices. Schools are encouraged to adopt a step-by-step approach and grow their efforts over time.

7. Feedback and Improvement

Annual Review: DOK will conduct a yearly review of this policy to incorporate feedback, address emerging needs, and ensure it aligns with the latest educational standards and regulatory requirements.

Feedback Mechanisms: School administrators are encouraged to submit feedback on the Private School Establishment and Licensing Policy to DOK, which allows for continuous improvement based on schools' practical experiences.

8. Contact Information

For any questions related to this policy, please contact: info@dok.rak.ae

9. Conclusion

RAK DOK welcomes the contributions of all private schools toward a more sustainable Ras Al Khaimah. Through shared responsibility, innovative ideas, and collaboration, we can empower students to become thoughtful, responsible citizens and stewards of their environment.

10. Revision History

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Note:

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