

GEMS World Academy

DUBAI

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GEMS World Academy - Dubai (GWA) is a Pre-K to Grade 12 school established in 2008 as a member of the GEMS Network of schools. Situated in Al Barsha South, Dubai, GWA hosts more than 2,000 students from over 85 nationalities.

GWA is authorised to offer the Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP) and Diploma Programme (DP) to students aged 3 - 18. GWA is also a member of the Council of International Schools.

Why ManageBac?

As a large school with an international student body, communication between students, teachers and parents is critical to GWA. Managing such an extensive network across different platforms was time-consuming, prompting the school to seek a way to smoothly link students, teachers and parents in real time, regardless of location.

With ManageBac, GWA found a platform that not only enabled it to optimise communication, but also large-scale class management. Previously, coordinating assignments across different classes and subjects was complicated. Now, the school can easily see assignments in all classes and facilitate academic coordination.

Implementing ManageBac

GWA first began using ManageBac in 2011 to manage the DP, focusing on electronic CAS supervision. When Director of Digital Learning & ManageBac Coordinator Andrew MacRae joined GWA in 2012, he and the GWA team began expanding the use of ManageBac throughout the school.

“ At GEMS World Academy, we use ManageBac because it provides instant communication between parents, teachers and students. ”



Andrew MacRae

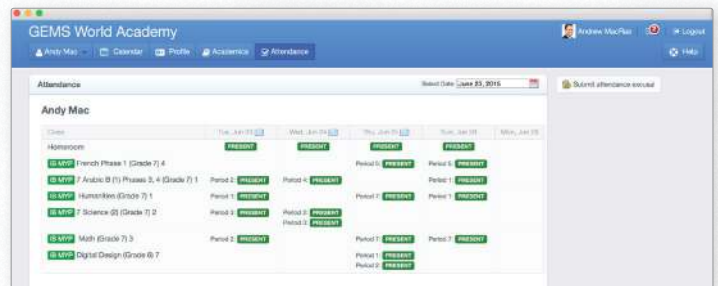
Director of Digital Learning
& MB Coordinator K-12

Andrew says that ManageBac was initially introduced to manage CAS and the DP. This was found to be very successful and was then implemented throughout the MYP and PYP. He adds that all teachers are now required to take attendance, plan units and set assignments using ManageBac.

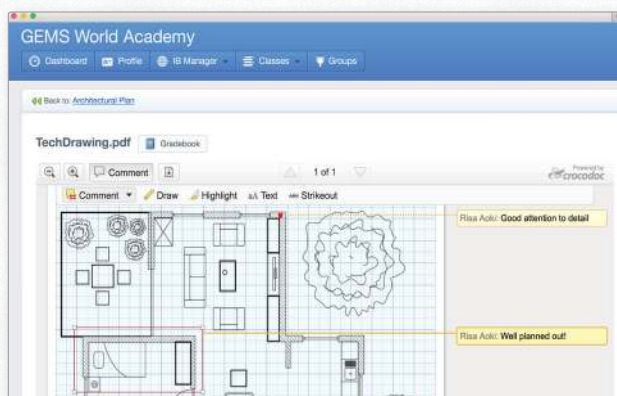
The flexibility of the ManageBac reporting system allows GWA to create programme-specific reports with custom rubrics that are easy for parents and students to understand.

Parent Portal

Parents' response to the system's school-wide implementation has been positive. Many appreciate the ability to track their child's whereabouts through the Attendance feature and oversee their academic progress through the gradebook's live assessments.



ManageBac has also served as a conduit for parent feedback. For example, when parents suggested color-coding tasks to make it easier to track progress, GWA implemented a tricolor system for labelling assignments. This lets teachers see the workload in each grade at a glance and ensure that summative tasks are distributed.



Classroom Management

Teachers cite the online gradebook as one of ManageBac's key advantages, because it allows them to gauge progress over a given period by displaying all of a student's past grades in one location.

PYP teachers say ManageBac's assessments calendar provides a clarity they find extremely useful when planning Units of Inquiry. MYP teachers use ManageBac to create a positive learning environment which monitors progress and attainment.

DP teachers use ManageBac's integration with Turnitin to view originality scores directly on the system. The teachers also appreciate ManageBac's built-in annotation tool, which allows them to provide in-depth feedback instantly to students.

Through the ManageBac system, GWA has further extended its learning beyond the classroom and engaged parents in school life.

About ManageBac

ManageBac is the leading planning, assessment and reporting system for IB World Schools founded by three former IB Diploma students in 2007.

Today, ManageBac is the trusted choice of 4 in 5 IB Diploma students at over 2,000 leading schools.



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