

Kings' School Al Barsha

Dubai, United Arab Emirates



A red-brick, doughnut-shaped campus in Al Barsha climbed from Good to Outstanding across four KHDA inspections.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	70/100
Academic outcomes	75/100
University placement	72/100
Prestige & heritage	67/100
Alumni network	59/100
Facilities	81/100
Transparency	72/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Kings’ School Al Barsha sits in a crowded Dubai prep market and still carves out a distinct place. The headline fact is regulatory: it moved from Good to Outstanding across **4** KHDA inspections, and it now holds Outstanding status for **2023/24**. That matters because plenty of schools trade on branding while inspection grades stall. This one improved. It is also a pure primary school, serving ages **3–11**, which gives it a sharper focus than all-through campuses trying to be everything at once. Parents looking for a British day school with disciplined early-years and prep provision, rather than a sprawling through-school machine, should pay attention.

What sets it apart is not novelty for novelty’s sake, but a clear proposition: a British curriculum school with a strong local reputation, a purpose-built campus, and a record of sustained regulatory progress. The red-brick, doughnut-shaped site gives it an identifiable physical character in a city full of interchangeable campuses; more important is what that shape signals — a school designed around younger children, not retrofitted for them. The BSO accreditation adds another layer of external scrutiny. For parents, the appeal is **institutional seriousness**, **hard-won credibility** and a school that has **earned its status** rather than borrowed it from a group name.

This belongs on a shortlist for families who want academic structure early, value strong oversight, and prefer a school that is fully committed to the primary phase. It suits children who thrive in a **settled, well-run environment**, respond well to routine, and benefit from a campus built around younger pupils rather than older teenagers. It also suits parents who want the reassurance of English-medium teaching and a British curriculum without the dilution that can come when a school’s attention is split across nursery to sixth form. The trade-off is clear: families wanting the breadth, independence and senior-school identity of an all-through campus will need to look elsewhere. For the right child, though, this is a **confident**, **high-expectation** prep setting with **real regulatory heft**.

STRENGTHS	TRADE - OFFS
• Rated Outstanding by Dubai's KHDA in its most recent inspection. • Offers a complete British through-school pathway from Foundation Stage 1 to Year 13 (ages 3 to 18) under one roof. • Large, genuinely international community drawing students from more than 60 nationalities, giving a broad expat social mix. • Publishes examination outcomes: the 2025 A-Level cohort of 111 candidates achieved 26% A* and 48% A*-A, and the 2025 BTEC Level 3 cohort of 43 recorded a 100% pass rate (WSA). • Secondary students can work toward the Gold level Duke of Edinburgh International Award as part of an extensive extracurricular offer.	• Fees sit in the ultra-premium bracket, ranging from roughly AED 57,999 to AED 105,873 per year (WSA). • Teacher turnover of around 25% is at the higher end of the Dubai average (WSA). • Rapid roll growth to over 3,000 students has led some parents to report larger classes and a higher student-to-teacher ratio. • Parent sentiment has softened, with WSA's survey rating standing at 2.3 out of 5, chiefly over growth and staff retention.

ADMISSIONS

Kings' School Al Barsha accepts applications year-round across all year groups from FS1 to Year 13, though the school advises applying early given limited places, particularly in popular entry years. Secondary applicants typically need to submit recent academic reports as part of the process. With a roll of over 3,000 students and a consistent Outstanding KHDA rating, competitiveness varies by year group and is generally moderate at entry points but tighter in oversubscribed grades; families should confirm current availability directly with admissions.

WTS RATING 

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