

Hartland International School

Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Ten minutes from the Burj Khalifa, where maths and physics classes study the skyline as their textbook

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	70/100
Academic outcomes	76/100
University placement	72/100
Prestige & heritage	67/100
Alumni network	59/100
Facilities	80/100
Transparency	72/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Hartland International School occupies a strong niche in Dubai’s British-school market: a full-through day school, founded in ****2015****, with a central location and a sharper academic identity than many newer entrants. The selling point is not heritage; it is execution. Hartland pairs the British curriculum with High Performance Learning, and the combination matters. The school pushes enquiry, specialist subject teaching from a young age, and a conspicuously broad enrichment offer. KHDA rates it Very Good for 2023/24, while BSO and HPL accreditation give parents an external check on standards. This is a school for families who want **serious academic intent** without the stale mechanics of a traditional exam factory.

What distinguishes Hartland is the balance between ambition and range. The school promises over **100** clubs and enrichment activities, with students spending up to **4** hours a week on them, and says almost all are included in fees. That is a material advantage in Dubai, where “extras” often inflate the real cost of schooling. The academic side has substance too. KHDA quotes point to strong teaching, secure assessment systems and high expectations, while also flagging a weakness: independent learning is less well developed than the school’s rhetoric about critical thinking implies. That criticism is useful because it gives a cleaner picture than the usual brochure language. Hartland delivers *a disciplined academic core*, *a wide co-curricular menu* and *a calm, orderly culture*; it still has work to do in producing students who drive more of their own learning without teacher scaffolding.

For parents building a shortlist, Hartland earns its place because it covers a lot of ground well. It serves ages 3–18, teaches in English, and offers continuity across the whole school rather than a handoff at Year 6 or Year 11. Its senior leadership advertises a combined average of over **20** years leading outstanding schools, and KHDA’s comments on leadership, inclusion and wellbeing are strong. The location also counts. In a city where school commutes can hollow out family life, a campus close to central Dubai carries real value. Hartland is expensive, as any school with this profile in this part of Dubai is expensive, so parents should expect to pay for the package; the question is whether they get enough in return. Here, the answer is yes.

The pupil who fits Hartland best is bright, engaged and comfortable in a structured environment that expects effort. This is not the first choice for a child who needs an eccentric, permissive or ultra-progressive culture. It suits students who will use the enrichment programme, respond to *high expectations*, and benefit from *close adult oversight* and *visible pastoral care*. It also suits internationally minded families who want a British education with modern framing rather than old-school mannerisms. In market terms, Hartland sits in the upper tier of Dubai British schools: not the oldest name, but one of the more convincing for parents seeking *urban convenience with academic depth*.

STRENGTHS

- KHDA rated the school 'Very Good' overall for 2023-2024, with Outstanding judgements for curriculum design and student personal development.
- British Schools Overseas (BSO) inspection in April 2025 rated Hartland Outstanding overall.
- Sixth form offers an unusually broad menu of 26 A Level subjects plus three BTEC qualifications, an Extended Project Qualification, and the school's own Hartland Diploma.
- Purpose-built Sobha Hartland campus includes a 650-seat theatre, a professional recording studio, specialised labs, gym and swimming pools.
- Student body drawn from 57 nationalities, giving a genuinely international, non-single-nationality-dominated community.

TRADE - OFFS

- Fees sit in Dubai's premium tier, ranging from roughly AED 48,781 to AED 92,803 a year depending on year group (2025-26).
- Campus is in Sobha Hartland/Mohammed Bin Rashid City, reached via Ras Al Khor and Al Ain roads, rather than in an established central expat residential belt.
- Some parent feedback flags Arabic language instruction as an area needing improvement.
- Founded in 2015, the school has a shorter operating history than Dubai's long-established British schools, so its outcomes track record is still comparatively young.

ADMISSIONS

Hartland accepts applications for Foundation Stage through Year 13, for children of all nationalities and ability levels. Entry requires an online application with birth certificate, passport, visa/Emirates ID copies and previous school reports, plus a non-refundable AED 525 registration fee. Assessment is conducted on-site (small group sessions) or, for overseas applicants, via a school liaison. Following an offer, a 10% tuition deposit secures the place within seven days. Some year groups run waiting lists when places are full, so timing an application well ahead of the desired entry year is advisable.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_e94703b928.