

# The Central School Dubai

*Al Nahda 2 Dubai, United Arab Emirates*

## 1]. Section-A

<i>Title of the Policy</i>	<b>Innovation Policy</b>	<i>Designation</i>	<b>Principal</b>
<i>Name of Policy Writer</i>	<b>Zenab Sultan</b>	<i>Date of Next Revision</i>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> March 2019</b>
<i>Date of Policy Revision</i>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b>	<i>Department/Section</i>	<b>Principal</b>
<i>Policy Code</i>	<b>TCS/PC/1819/01</b>		

## 2]. Section-B

<i>Purpose</i>	This policy intends to define innovation at TCS, outline its impact on day to day practice and describe how innovative practice will help the school achieve its aims and support its vision.
<i>Approach</i>	The policy is divided into 4 sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rationale</li> <li>• Definitions and context</li> <li>• Teaching and Learning – Parents, Teachers and students</li> <li>• Pastoral and Operational</li> </ul>
<i>Rationale</i>	Innovation should be at the heart of the planning and practice of a successful school. The school aims to develop an environment in which innovation can spark and flourish, both in the classroom and in the ways in which the school is managed and governed. This policy aims to provide a framework through which innovative practice can be integrated into developmental planning and a set of guidelines that give all staff a starting point from which to launch creative approaches and new ideas.
<i>Definitions &amp; Context</i>	Innovation can be defined as ‘the act or process of introducing new ideas, devices and methods’, usually designed to improve overall quality of life and work. The UAE government has introduced the <b>UAE National Innovation Strategy</b> , which requires all areas of the private and public economy and infrastructure across the emirates to actively develop strategies for the promotion and implementation of innovation.  For schools and institutes of Higher education, the Knowledge and Human Development Authority has incorporated innovation into its own framework. This

	<p>framework illustrates innovation in schools as:</p> <p>Innovation comes in many forms. There are innovations in the way schools are owned, organized and managed; in curriculum design models; in teaching and learning approaches, such as the ways in which learning technologies are used; classroom design including virtual spaces; assessment; timetabling; partnerships to promote effective learning and engagement in the economy; and the ways in which teachers and leaders are recruited, trained, developed and rewarded. These innovations can be small or large, recognizable or entirely new and different.</p> <p>Innovation is driven by a commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. It is based on curiosity, the willingness to take risks experiment test assumptions, and is based on questioning and challenging the status quo. It is also based on recognizing opportunity and taking advantage of it. Being innovative is about looking beyond what we currently do well, identifying the great ideas of tomorrow and putting them into practice.</p> <p>The Innovation Policy for TCS is designed to enable the school to meet all requirements of the National Innovation Strategy and provide a platform from which the school can build towards the ideal model outlined by the KHDA.</p>
<p><i>Teaching and Learning</i></p>	<p><b>TCS aims to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop learners who leave TCS as confident critical thinkers with autonomous skills for innovation and problem solving.</li> <li>• Create a curriculum which is child centered, flexible and fosters an ideology for originality and flair. KG has incorporated the best practices of EYFS</li> <li>• Encourage the creative use of technology and other forms of digital media as a vehicle for innovation. Introduced BYOD from Grade 3.</li> <li>• Ensure that enterprising, critical thinking and problem solving is intrinsic feature of everyday learning and practice.</li> </ul> <p><b>SLT will ensure that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They provide links with external agencies and the wider local community to support the school based projects of innovation, (teacher licensing)</li> </ul> <p><b>Our leaders will be responsible for:</b></p>

- The curriculum design, which will have a clear rationale aligned with the national vision for lesson plans have an element of critical thinking for innovation and challenge, HOTS and SMART Goals. It will be successful in delivering a balance of knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Implementing an effective Innovation CPD programme for all teaching and non-teaching staff, to support everyday practice for creativity, enterprising and originality.
- Carrying out regular and rigorous evaluation of its curriculum in relation to students' achievements, aspirations and national priorities, all observations are linked to target setting and overall management.
- Embedding cross-curricular links which are meaningful and planned purposefully and innovatively; ensuring skills from all subjects are transferable.
- A range of curricular options; providing Grade XI and XII students with choices and opportunities to benefit from learning experiences that nurture their talents, interests and aspirations. We offer a vocational stream for students.
- Offering an excellent range of opportunities designed to motivate and inspire all students.
- Opportunities for enterprise, innovation, creativity and social contribution that are embedded through all curricular areas.
- A wide and stimulating programme of extracurricular activities within and outside the school significantly enhances students' academic and personal development.

**Our teachers will:**

- Attend CPD training programmes internally and external training to enhance their understanding of innovation – and its role in the development of the student.
- Skillfully apply their knowledge and understanding of the students to plan imaginative lessons within the TCS framework, provide inspiring learning environments and use time and resources creatively to enable all groups of students to learn very successfully.
- Provide opportunities for students to take risks in their learning and embed creative ways of problem solving and challenge in the classroom.
- Purposefully develop students' critical thinking and independent learning skills to problem solve and produce original responses.
- Participate in the TCS lesson review cycles to evaluate their innovative practices in the classroom.
- Lead on a variety of creative extra-curricular activities within and outside of

the school environment – as an extension of the creative curriculum at TCS offers.

**Our Governors will ensure that:**

- The best possible opportunities for TCS students to innovate in tandem with the local community, business and other education institutions are sought out.
- The school is supported in funding training for staff - and equipment for students - that will best allow all parts of the school to participate in innovative opportunities.

**Our leaders will be responsible for:**

- Providing a pastoral and house structure that supports students in developing innovative ways to compete, fund raise and create links with business and community.
- Seeking out global, regional and local initiatives and projects that will allow a broad range of students to get involved in their communities.

**Our staff will:**

- Support the leaders in exploring innovation through action, thought and mind in initiatives such as:

1. CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS COUNCIL

- Encourage student participation in workshops, seminars, competitions and events to promote awareness about saving the environment.
- Phase wise school projects to design models by using re-cycled material.

2. Health and Fitness Programme-30 days fitness challenge.

3. Partnership with colleges and Universities (Middle Sex University )  
a.Partner with education program, offering our school as a site for internships.

4. Partner with Homes for the Elderly/therapy Centers (Develop social skills-  
empathy, understanding, collegiality)

- Red Cross society

5. Continue to participate in KHDA What Works Events (Innovation)

6. After school clubs such as Abacus, MAD Science etc.
7. Participation in events such as GITEX, Business internships.
8. Using Facebook
9. Student exchange programmes / setting online links with schools outside Dubai.
10. **INJAZ UAE** – TCS partners with INJAZ UAE. The programs are dedicated to giving youth the knowledge and skills they need to plan their professional future and make smart academic and economic choices. It helps spark the learning in youth to experience the opportunities and realities of professional world in the 21st century.
11. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT SESSIONS:** TCS encouraged students to attend IPR sessions conducted by Dubai Customs to make them aware of fake and real products and how Dubai Custom works.
12. **DUBAI PUBLIC PROSECUTION VISIT** – Students visited the Public Prosecution to understand the judiciary system in UAE.
13. **CHARITY TO COMMUNITY** – TCS contributed 400 Kg of food to support the needy in community. The food was given to NGO- Beit Al Khair to be distributed.
14. **VOLONTEERSHIP PROGRAMME:** Students with teaching faculties in collaboration with Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities participated in the Iftar Kit Distribution at Al Quoz Industrial area, Dubai
15. **SIMPLY BOTTLES** – TCS partners with Simply Bottles to recycle the plastic bottles across UAE.
16. **INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY PARTICIPATION** – Students are motivated for healthy living by participation in fitness program.
17. **HEALTHY MORNINGS-** Everyday during assembly exercises will be conducted through TCS Radio for keeping students and staff healthy and active.
18. **ROBOTICS CLUB** – As a part of a club activity TCS has introduced Robotics from Grade 3 Upwards.
19. **OPEN DOOR ASSESSMENTS** – Open door assessment will be supporting the students through providing students with challenging and thought provoking questions on the concepts taught in the class. Applicable to Grade 3 – 10
20. **READING EGGS** – The programme to improve reading skills in students. Applicable to Grade KG - 7

**Our students will:**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate responsible attitudes to their learning and illustrate strong self-reliance and thrive on critical feedback. - Behavior 4L policy, PRIDE Points.</li> <li>• Participate in the TCS learning community through enterprising and innovative projects</li> <li>• Exemplify originality in problem solving and creativity</li> <li>• Embody confident independent learning skills and lead in TCS initiatives, ‘Shadow a Student’ project.</li> <li>• Exhibit flair and articulate their reasoned decisions effectively through student.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Opportunity and Community</i></p>	<p><b>TCS aims to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage and inspire students through enriched learning.</li> <li>• Enable pervasive active learning to improve the student experiences.</li> <li>• Extend lifelong learning opportunities using new technology and partnerships to enhance approaches to teaching and learning.</li> <li>• Create global citizens through partnership with members of the local and international community in education, enterprise and volunteer.</li> </ul> <p><b>Our students will:</b></p> <p><b>Work with teachers and leaders to develop skills that will enable them to become flexible, creative and globally aware innovators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical thinking, problem solving, reasoning, analysis, interpretation, synthesizing information</li> <li>• Research skills and practices, interrogative questioning</li> <li>• Creativity, artistry, curiosity, imagination, innovation, personal expression</li> <li>• Perseverance, self-direction, planning, self-discipline, adaptability, initiative</li> <li>• Oral and written communication, public speaking and presenting, listening.</li> <li>• Leadership, teamwork, collaboration, cooperation, facility in using virtual workspaces</li> <li>• Information and communication technology literacy, media and internet literacy, data interpretation and analysis, computer programming</li> <li>• Civic, ethical, and social-justice literacy</li> <li>• Economic and financial literacy, entrepreneurialism</li> <li>• Global awareness, multicultural literacy, humanitarianism.</li> <li>• Scientific literacy and reasoning, the scientific method</li> <li>• Environmental and conservation literacy, ecosystems understanding.</li> <li>• Health and wellness literacy, including nutrition, diet, exercise, and public health and safety</li> </ul>

## **PASTORAL AND OPERATIONAL**

### **TCS aims to:**

- Introduction of “Educore” the parent and school portal for online communication
- Develop innovative methods of communicating, liaising and working with parents
- Use cutting edge technology to enhance the learning of students and the relationships between school, parents and the business community
- Establish a school community that cares for the environment and for those less fortunate
- Online involvement with parents for example, Monday Magic, Tuesday Tweets and amongst others.

### **Our SLT will ensure that:**

Resources are made available to allow TCS to achieve its aims

### **Our leaders will be responsible for:**

- Keeping systems and processes under review in order to best adapt to new developments, systems and technology.
- Maintaining an open forum through which stakeholders can contribute ideas to the development of the operational management of the school through parent council.
- Ensure that the school site is developed in innovative ways in order to maximize the effective use of available space and resources.
- Review the curriculum to ensure that it reflects a rapidly changing world and the skills sets required to be a success within it skill progression documents in terms of focus on skill teaching rather than the content.
- Ensure that teachers and support staff with particular skills in innovative practice are developed and engaged.

### **Our students will:**

- Become outward looking global citizens that develop a skills set that enables them to become creative, independent, innovative learners.
- Engage with the decision making processes within the operational management of the school.
- Be confident in showcasing their innovative ideas to their colleagues and the wider community.
- Become mentors and facilitators of learning for each other
- Take full advantage of an environment that is conducive to innovation and independent learning
- Global awareness, multicultural literacy, humanitarianism.
- Scientific literacy and reasoning, the scientific method

- Environmental and conservation literacy, ecosystems understanding.
- Health and wellness literacy, including nutrition, diet, exercise, and public health and safety

**List of initiatives taken under Innovation**

<b>Students</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Parents</b>
Wellbeing Survey	Monitoring and Evaluating	Parent Council
Volunteer system	CPD Schedule	Orientation
Student Council	Peer observation	Parent Report Card
BYOD	Team Teaching	Welcome Wednesdays
Target setting	CLR/ Drop In	Resource Persons for super study class
Botanical Habitat	Happitude	Happitude
Organic Farming	Work Anniversaries	
Hydroponics	Learning Walks	
Honesty To Charity		
STEAM		
Talent Hunt		
DEAR Program		
Thinking Thursdays		

**Policy Committee Members**

**Policy Incharge: Ms Zenab**

**Members**

**Mrs Saba  
Ms Saliya  
Mr Mishal  
Mr Ranilesh  
Ms Soumya**

**Date:**

**Approved by: Mala Mehra**



*Ameel*  
30/3/18  
**Signature of Principal**