

RAS AL KHAIMAH ACADEMY



أكاديمية رأس الخيمة

OUR ALUMNI, OUR STORY

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

1ST EDITION | 2026

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WELCOME TO THE FIRST RAK ACADEMY ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Every school has a journey, and ours continues long after students leave its halls. Today, we are proud to introduce the very first edition of the RAK Academy Alumni Newsletter a space created to reconnect, celebrate, and bring our alumni closer to the heart of the RAK Academy community.

[Join the RAK Academy Alumni Network](#)
– scan the QR code to register:





Welcome Back to the RAK Academy Community

It has been some time since we last connected, and we want to remind you that you are always remembered. Each of you is an important part of RAK Academy's 50-year journey. Our history is made richer because of the paths you have taken and the achievements you continue to build.

For years, our classrooms have been filled with laughter, curiosity, friendships, and dreams in the making. Thousands of students have walked through our halls, learned, developed, and moved on to study, work, and lead in different parts of the world. Bringing our alumni community together again is more than a celebration; it is a chance to honor the legacy of RAK Academy and to highlight the achievements and paths of those who once called this place home.

As they toured the campus, the alumni marveled at how much had changed. They fondly recalled memories from their time there, felt inspired by the impressive developments throughout the campus, and expressed deep pride in RAK Academy's continued growth and unwavering commitment to its values.

This newsletter is only the beginning. In future editions, we will share more alumni stories, memories, achievements, and opportunities to reconnect with one another and with the school. We hope this becomes a place where our graduates feel seen, celebrated, and always welcome.



RAKA Alumni Tour: Honoring the Past, Discovering the Future

On Saturday, December 6, 2025, a group of alumni returned to RAK Academy for a tour that beautifully blended cherished memories with new discoveries. As they walked through the campus, they revisited moments from their school days while experiencing the excitement of how much the school has grown.

The tour offered a special opportunity where familiar stories met new beginnings—upgraded classrooms, modern facilities, and a transformed environment that reflects RAK Academy's continuous commitment to improvement.

The atmosphere throughout the visit was warm, engaging, and filled with meaningful conversations. Their reactions – smiles, surprise, and pride – captured exactly what this tour was meant to celebrate: the journey from what RAK Academy once was to what it has proudly become today.



Campus Highlights:



Life at RAK Academy continues to be shaped by shared experiences that bring students and educators together. From vibrant community competitions to meaningful professional learning, recent events across the campus reflect the Academy's commitment to connection, growth, and excellence.

RAK Academy House Cup 2026

The third annual RAK Academy House Cup united students from all three campuses in a spirited day of friendly competition. Across a series of football matches, participants demonstrated collaboration, determination, and respect while representing their houses.

The day also fostered a strong sense of community among students, staff, and families. The Black Horses emerged as Overall Champions, capping off an event that celebrated connection and a shared sense of pride across the Academy.



Teaching & Learning Conference 2026

RAK Academy hosted its first school-wide Teaching & Learning Conference 2026, welcoming over 250 educators from across its campuses. The event began with welcome and opening remarks from Executive Principal Graham Beale, followed by a keynote session delivered by David J. Harkin. A panel discussion on Innovation in Education, led by David J. Harkin and joined by Peter Hill, Tomas Duckling, Dr. Steven Reissig, Philip Lee, and Salma Azam, encouraged reflection on best practices and future-focused teaching.

Workshops and wellbeing activities further strengthened collaboration among staff, reinforcing the Academy's commitment to supporting educators and enhancing student learning.



Al Hamra Campus Expansion

RAK Academy continues to evolve with the expansion of its Al Hamra campus, marked by the launch of a new Secondary School for the academic year 2026–27. The introduction of a UK curriculum pathway through to A-Levels will provide students with a comprehensive and future-focused education.

This development builds on the Academy's strong track record, including being the first school in Ras Al Khaimah to be rated 'Outstanding', reflecting its commitment to high educational standards. Designed with innovation and sustainability in mind, the campus will offer modern learning environments that support academic excellence, creativity, and student wellbeing.



Alumni Spotlight — Where Are They Now?

Our alumni community is one of RAK Academy's greatest strengths. Today, our graduates live, study, and work both in the UAE and around the world — including the UK, Canada, the United States, Australia, and countries across the Middle East and Europe. Their paths reflect the global spirit of our school and the diverse directions our students take after graduation. In this spotlight, we feature alumni whose achievements and milestones demonstrate the passion and dedication nurtured during their time at RAK Academy.

Reem Saab — Therapeutic Area Partner (ASCVD), Novartis Pharma

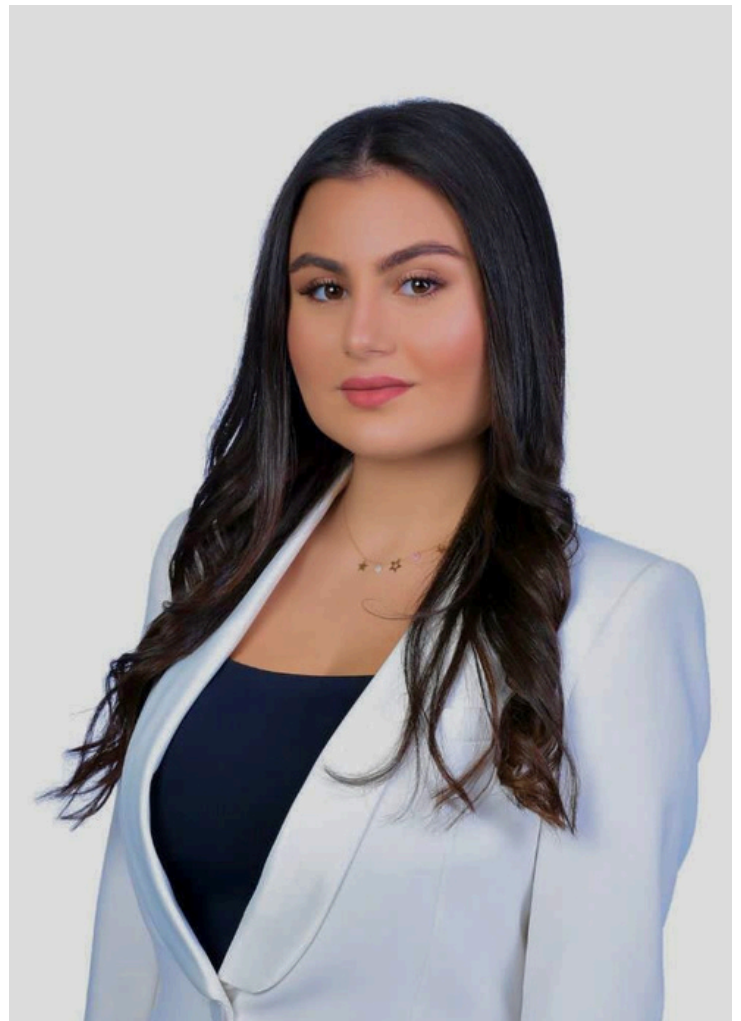
RAK Academy Alumna – Class of 2018

Her Story:

I spent my school years at RAK Academy from KG to Grade 12 — a place that shaped not only my education, but also my character, friendships, and confidence.

After graduating, I pursued a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree at Gulf Medical University, completing it in 2024. I began my professional journey as an ASCVD Disease State Education Intern, where I built a strong foundation in cardiovascular care and patient education. Soon after, I transitioned into my current role at Novartis, working closely with healthcare professionals to support better treatment outcomes.

I am motivated by continuous learning and growth, and I aim to keep developing within the pharmaceutical and healthcare field while making a meaningful impact on patient care. In my free time, I enjoy swimming, traveling, and discovering new places with friends.



Reem Saab works as a Therapeutic Area Partner in cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) at Novartis Pharma in Dubai, collaborating with healthcare professionals to support evidence-based patient care.

Alumni Spotlight — Where Are They Now?

Ahmed Alzaabi — Business Development Manager, IBM

RAK Academy Alumnus — Class of 2019

His Story:

I graduated from RAK Academy in 2019 carrying one lesson that still guides me today: resilience. Like many students at that stage, I was still discovering my direction and learned that growth comes from moving forward, adapting, and learning along the way.

Over time, this journey led me to the intersection of technology, strategy, and public service — a space where ideas can create real-world impact. At IBM, I now help governments turn ambition into action through technology and thoughtful planning.

Returning to the American University of Ras Al Khaimah as an Advisor less than a year after graduating was especially meaningful. It reminded me that contribution is not about titles or timing, but about adding value whenever possible — and that purpose naturally follows when you invest in your growth while helping others along the way.



Ahmed Alzaabi is a Business Development Manager at IBM, where he supports government entities in translating strategy into practical technology solutions. He also serves as an Advisor at the American University of Ras Al Khaimah, contributing to the academic community.

Alumni Spotlight — Where Are They Now?

Zonash Aasim — Climate Policy & Sustainability Advocate

Zonash Aasim — Climate Policy & Sustainability Advocate

RAK Academy Alumna – Class of 2023

Her Story:

After graduating from RAK Academy, I began my studies at Durham University, where I discovered a deep interest in climate policy and environmental impact.

I was selected from over 2,500 applicants for a competitive policy internship in Pakistan, working closely with government officials and gaining firsthand experience in policy development and public-sector collaboration.

One of the most defining moments of my journey was joining the official delegation to COP30 in Brazil as the only undergraduate from Durham University. There, I followed high-level climate negotiations and represented both Durham and Pakistan on an international platform.

Alongside my studies, I serve as President of Enactus Durham and the Durham Student Energy Society, and as a Student Advisory Board Member at the Durham Energy Institute. I was also honoured to deliver a speech at Oxford University — an experience that reinforced my belief in youth leadership and global responsibility.

RAK Academy gave me the confidence to pursue opportunities I once thought were beyond reach and the foundation to believe that meaningful impact is always possible.



Currently studying Business & Management at Durham University, Zonash has developed a strong focus on climate policy, sustainability, and responsible leadership.

Your Story Matters!

Share your story, career journey, or life update and be featured.

Reach us on LinkedIn: RAK Academy Alumni Engagement

Email: alumni@rakacademy.org

WhatsApp: [+971 56 170 9183](https://wa.me/971561709183)

We would love to continue expanding this section in future editions, as your experiences inspire not only your fellow graduates but also the next generation of RAKA students.

Long-serving Staff Members:



Having worked with generations of students over the years, one of my greatest joys of my work is seeing former students return as accomplished alumni. Watching your growth beyond school reminds us why our work matters and how learning extends far beyond the classroom.

Our Academy community remains proud of each of you. Continue striving, growing, and believing in the impact you can make wherever life takes you.

We wish you continued success and happiness.

We hope you continue to stay connected with our Academy community.

Tamar Harboyan - Wellbeing & Counselling Manager
RAK Academy since 2007



It has been a genuine pleasure to teach and learn alongside so many inspiring students at RAK Academy. Seeing you grow, not only in your confidence with mathematics but also into curious, resilient, and open-minded individuals, has been the most meaningful part of my journey.

Mathematics was never just about results, it was about thinking deeply, asking questions, and learning to persevere when things felt challenging.

I hope you continue to carry that mindset with you, wherever life leads, and know that I am proud to have been part of your journey.

Joyce Moses - Subject Specialization Teacher: IB - A Level Maths Teacher
Rak Academy since 2014



منذ انضمامي إلى أكاديمية رأس الخيمة عام 2005، أصبحت المدرسة أكثر من مجرد مكان عمل، بل بيتي الثاني، مليئاً بالذكريات والوجوه التي لا تُنسى. لقد شهدت نموّ الطلاب ليصبحوا قادة، وتحوّل المتعلمين إلى صنّاع تغيير. أنا فخورٌ جداً بخريجينا، وأتمنى أن تحملوا معكم القيم التي شاركناها، وأن تسترجعوا أيام دراستكم بامتنان، وأن تنطلقوا نحو المستقبل بثقة وعزيمة.

Since joining RAK Academy in 2005, the school has been far more than a workplace – it has been a second home filled with memories and unforgettable faces. I have witnessed students grow into leaders and learners into changemakers. I am incredibly proud of our alumni and hope you carry with you the values we shared, look back on your school days with gratitude and move forward with confidence and purpose.

Ahmed Issa - Head of Islamic and Arabic Social Studies
Rak Academy since 2005

Reconnect • Celebrate • Belong

Life moves fast, and we know that everyone is balancing busy schedules, new responsibilities, and constant growth. Yet even in these demanding times, one thing remains unchanged – the importance of staying connected to the place where your journey began.

This page is your invitation to reconnect and remain part of a community that will always welcome you back.

1. Update Your Alumni Information

Help Us Stay in Touch – reach out to past classmates and encourage them to register as well.

We are building a vibrant alumni network. Registering or updating your details ensures you receive invitations, updates, and future opportunities.

Share your details here: [Alumni Registration Page – RAK Academy](#).

2. Join Us on LinkedIn

Stay Connected Beyond the Newsletter

Our LinkedIn page is a growing professional community for alumni to reconnect, share achievements, and stay updated.

Connect with us here: [RAK Academy Alumni Engagement](#)



A Moment of Reflection:

In these demanding times, staying connected to your roots is more important than ever. RAK Academy is where your story began – and it will always be part of who you are.

Alumni Feedbacks — Reconnecting Feels Special

I appreciate all the information, and kudos to whoever is setting this up.

I look forward to catching one of your events soon. Thanks

Faisal Khalil

Thank you! I have registered my details on the Alumni Database.

I really appreciate you organizing these events. It would be great to reconnect with my old classmates.

Asad Qazi

I really like what the alumni team is doing — it's great to see RAK Academy keeping graduates connected. I will be filling in the links soon. I still carry very strong and unforgettable memories from RAKESS. My departure was sudden, but I'm truly grateful for everything the school and that period of my life gave me. Today, I'm focused on growing and providing real value to society. Thank you again, and please keep up the great work.

Christien Hage



Thank You

Thank you for being part of the very first edition of the RAK Academy Alumni Newsletter.

Your stories, achievements, and continued connection are what keep our community alive.

We look forward to sharing more memories, updates, and celebrations with you in the future issues.



Wherever you are in the world today, you will always have a place here at RAK Academy.

RAK Academy Alumni Team

alumni@rakacademy.org

www.rakacademy.org/alumni

[RAK Academy Alumni Engagement](#)