UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



Compliance Domains, Standards and Elements of the General Compliance Visit Form for Nurseries-2026

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
 Management and Organisation	Institution licence	The nursery must obtain a valid licence from the Ministry of Education
		The nursery must obtain a valid licence issued by the Department of Economic Development in the emirate
		The nursery premises must be used solely for childcare purposes and must not provide any services without prior approval
		The nursery shall appoint a manager approved by the Ministry
		The nursery must obtain the Ministry's approval for the initial fee structure and any subsequent increases
		The nursery must comply with the official working hours approved by the Ministry
		The nursery must adhere to the approved overall child capacity

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Institution Management	The nursery must commit to accepting and enrolling all children applying for admission without discrimination and refrain from implementing any policy indicating otherwise.
		The nursery must not collect donations or receive aid or grants from any entity, or provide financial support to any entity without obtaining prior approval from the Ministry.
		The nursery must display its name in a prominent place at the main entrance.
		The nursery must ensure the adequacy of primary and supporting caregivers in a manner that guarantees the availability of one primary caregiver (supervisor or teacher) for each age group in accordance with the approved requirements.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Academic Plan and Curriculum	The nursery shall have an academic plan that includes a clear and concise description of all aspects of childcare and services to be provided
		The nursery shall maintain a commitment to teaching the Arabic language to nursery children.
		The nursery shall maintain a commitment to teaching Islamic Education to nursery children.
		The nursery shall maintain a commitment to teaching national identity and knowledge of Emirati culture and environment to nursery children.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Human Resources	The nursery shall ensure the issuance of labour cards for all employees.
		Employees shall comply with the terms and conditions stated in the appointment approvals issued by the Ministry/educational authority.
		The nursery shall conduct periodic performance evaluations for supervisors and staff members.
		All staff members shall possess a valid occupational health card.
		The nursery shall ensure the registration of employees' data using the ID card reader, with periodic updates of such data on the approved electronic system.
		The nursery shall maintain daily attendance and absence records for employees.
		The nursery shall maintain staff files containing all required documents
		The employee list issued by the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation must match the actual workforce on site
		The nursery shall ensure the regular payment of employees' salaries in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations in the UAE.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Records and Reports	The nursery must comply with the requirement to register the data of Children of Determination using the ID card reader, with periodic updates on the approved electronic system.
		The nursery must comply with the requirement to register the data of children and their parents using the ID card reader, with periodic updates on the approved electronic system.
		The nursery must maintain daily attendance and absence records for all children.
		The nursery must ensure availability of a dedicated file for each child containing the child's information and the parent's details.
		The nursery must ensure availability of effective communication channels between the nursery and the children's parents

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
Management and Organisation	Culture, Norms and Customs of U.A.E	The nursery should ensure children's participation in religious and national celebrations
		The nursery must ensure that Muslim children do not participate in non-Islamic celebrations.
		The nursery must refrain from displaying pictures or posters of figures or symbols other than the leaders of the United Arab Emirates.
	Children of Determination	The nursery must ensure the readiness of the building and its facilities to meet the needs of Children of Determination.
		The nursery must provide a policy for the inclusion of Children of Determination, based on its capabilities in terms of the availability of necessary resources and specialised supervisors.
		The nursery should provide a qualified staff member to support and take care of Children of Determination.
		The nursery should provide an individualised support plan for Children of Determination and update it periodically.
		The nursery should provide a communication mechanism between the special needs coordinator, parents and other specialists to support children and exchange information regarding their progress.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Child Protection	The nursery must commit to implementing clear procedures for handling cases of abuse, violence or harm involving children, in accordance with the National Child Protection Policy.
		The nursery must establish internal procedures and systems to ensure the prevention of all forms of harm to children.
		The nursery must assign a qualified member of administrative or educational staff to be responsible for implementing child protection measures.
		Nursery staff must be limited to female employees only.
		The nursery must provide child protection training to all employees.
		The nursery must commit to providing a safe and positive environment for children.
	Self-Compliance	The nursery must commit to completion of the self-compliance form.
		The nursery must commit to efficiency in its documentation and organisation of all records and files related to administrative operations.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Risk Management	The nursery shall ensure that electrical rooms and electrical boxes are securely closed and equipped with warning signs
		The staircases within the building must be safe and equipped with protective handrails
		The nursery building shall be completely free of gas cylinders
		The nursery must ensure the safety of electrical connections on the premises and that all connections are properly insulated and kept out of the reach of children.
		All rooms must be free from any unauthorised electrical devices or flammable materials.
		All cleaning tools and materials must be stored in secure, locked places out of the reach of children.
		Smoking shall be strictly prohibited in the nursery, with 'No Smoking' signs prominently displayed.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
 Risk and Emergency Management	Emergency and Evacuation Management	The nursery must comply with safety requirements for evacuation routes and emergency exits.
		The nursery must ensure the provision of first aid training for all nursery staff.
		The nursery must provide first aid kits containing all required supplies, with all contents valid and within their expiry dates
		The nursery must ensure availability of directional and identification signage for all nursery facilities
	Fire Prevention and Control	The nursery must carry out periodic fire drills and ensure the implementation of evacuation procedures
		The nursery must ensure availability of a valid certificate confirming compliance with fire prevention requirements issued by the Civil Defence Department, along with a clear evacuation map and designated assembly points
		The nursery must ensure availability of all necessary safety, emergency and fire prevention equipment on the premises
		The nursery must ensure availability of adequate early warning and fire suppression systems on the premises

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Approval of the Premises	The nursery premises shall be free from any residential use, modifications or additions made without obtaining the necessary approvals and permits from the concerned authorities
 Environment, Health and Safety Requirements	Security and Surveillance	The external door of the facility must remain closed
		The nursery shall provide a dedicated security staff member
		The nursery shall ensure provision of internal and external surveillance cameras in a manner that respects the privacy of children
		The nursery must document visitors' entry to the premises according to a defined identity verification procedure
		The nursery shall ensure supervision of children at all times
	Learning and Activities Rooms	The nursery shall ensure the separation of children in care rooms according to their age groups
		All nursery facilities (including learning and activity rooms, sleeping rooms and indoor play areas) shall be kept clean, with air quality, ventilation rates, humidity, temperature and lighting maintained within normal and permitted limits
		The nursery shall provide a safe and well-equipped learning environment that is appropriate for the children's needs and development.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
 Environment, Health and Safety Requirements	Children's Napping Areas	The nursery shall provide a safe and healthy sleeping environment for children in accordance with the approved requirements
		Infants should be placed in cribs in a proper and safe manner
	Food Preparation and Dining Facilities	The nursery shall ensure availability of a food preparation room/area or kitchen
		The nursery shall ensure availability of seating for children during mealtimes.
		The nursery shall ensure availability of equipment and facilities for food storage and maintaining the required food temperature
		The nursery shall ensure correct hygiene and cleanliness of the food preparation area/kitchen
		All food preparation staff shall adhere to personal hygiene standards and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) while working.
	Playground	The nursery shall ensure that safety and security requirements are met in both indoor and outdoor play areas
		Outdoor activities shall be scheduled in a way that ensures the total number of children in outdoor play areas does not exceed the approved outdoor space requirements, as follows:3.5 square metres per child under two years of age.5 square metres per child over two years of age
		The nursery shall ensure availability of designated indoor and outdoor play areas.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Clinic and Health Services	The nursery shall contract with a health clinic or medical service provider to provide a visiting doctor for the facility to monitor children's health, as specified in the visit schedule (twice weekly).
		The nursery clinic must be licensed by the competent authorities
		The nursery clinic must be equipped in accordance with the standards and requirements of the competent authorities in the country
		The nursery must ensure availability of a licensed and qualified nurse during daily working hours
		The nursery must ensure availability of an individual medical record for each child, as well as a record for critical and special medical cases
		All incidents must be recorded and documented in a dedicated record.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
 Environment, Health and Safety Requirements	Sanitary Facilities (Toilets/Diaper-Changing Places)	The nursery shall provide sanitary facilities for infants from newborns to two years of age, in accordance with the requirements approved by the Ministry/educational authority
		The nursery must ensure the adequacy of children's washroom facilities in accordance with the requirements approved by the Ministry/educational authority
		The nursery must ensure readiness of washrooms at all times
		The nursery must ensure availability of staff washrooms, separate from children's washrooms
	Buses, Vehicles and Parking Lots	The nursery shall comply with the requirements and conditions related to transportation in accordance with the applicable legislation in this regard
		Buses shall not move until children have boarded and are securely seated, with supervisors assigned to monitor and organise the boarding and disembarking process
		Bus drivers and attendants shall hold the required permits to practice their profession in accordance with the requirements of each emirate
		The nursery shall follow clear procedures for the daily monitoring of children using the buses

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Maintenance and Sanitation	The nursery shall ensure regular maintenance of facilities and equipment and guarantee their safety and proper condition
		The outdoor areas surrounding the building shall be kept clean and free from weeds, litter and any flammable materials
		The nursery shall provide a pest control contract with an approved company, along with the required records
		The nursery must ensure cleanliness of all facilities.
	Water tanks	Water tanks shall be disinfected periodically (every 6 months), and water shall be regularly tested by an appropriate specialised company.
	Swimming and Paddling Pools	The nursery shall appoint a qualified person or contract a specialised contractor to carry out cleaning, periodic inspections and maintenance works
		The nursery must ensure readiness of all swimming and paddling pools.

Compliance Standards and Elements

Standard	Domain	Element
	Prevention and Response Measures	The nursery must ensure compliance with the approved procedures upon receiving alert notifications
		The nursery must ensure development of response plans for handling emergency situations.
		The nursery must ensure identification and preparation of safe internal areas for rapid response to emergency situations