



This is Saint George Schools first sustainability report. It highlights our schools sustainability culture by summarizing our commitment, through the programs we apply, to both the environmental and social aspects of sustainability. We will try in this report to stress on our community at school that empowers students not only through knowledge, but also through life skills in order to prepare them for their future challenges. It includes all the programs, competitions and achievements until December 2020.

We hope this report would inspire other educational institutions on this platform.



St. Georges Schools

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H.E. Antonio Guterres  
Secretary-General United Nations  
New York, NY 10017  
USA

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am pleased to confirm that *Saint George Schools - Hadath* supports the ten principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. With this commitment, we express our intent to support the Global Compact advancing these principles, and will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

We also pledge to participate in and engage with the UN Global Compact in the following way(s): Propose and implement local partnerships on corporate sustainability, continue to engage with other stakeholders, and engage in any way we can with the Global Compact Network Lebanon.

We recognize that a key requirement for participation in the Global Compact is the submission of a Communication on Engagement (COE) that describes our organization's efforts to support the implementation of the ten principles and to engage with the Global Compact. We support public accountability and transparency, and therefore commit to report on progress within two years of joining the Global Compact and every two years thereafter according to the Global Compact COE policy.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Ragheb Alama

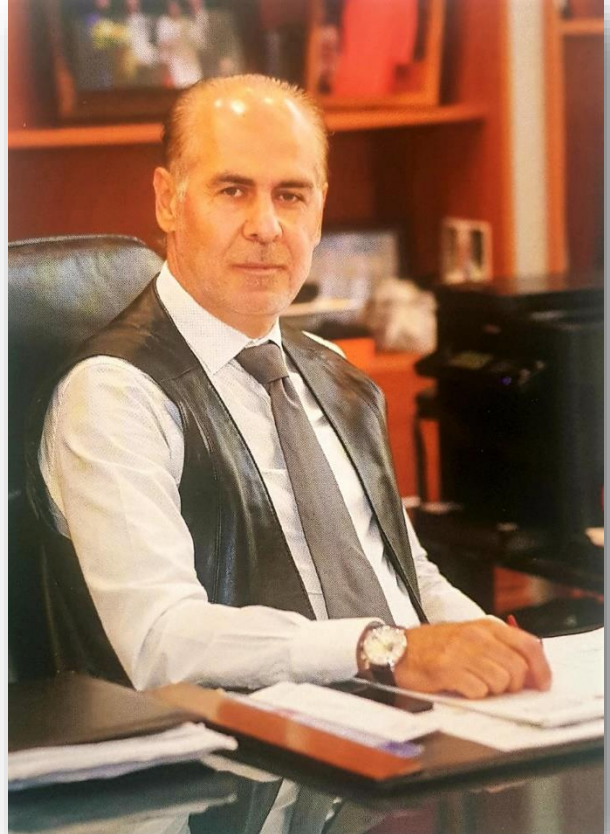




Since 1985, Saint George Schools have been delivering great educational experiences to teachers, students and community. Starting from that time, our aim has been to deliver knowledge in the best way despite all the difficulties our beloved country, Lebanon, has passed through.

Being the general manager for 35 years by now, I have witnessed the success and the achievements we have had day by day, and challenge after another. The clue behind all this was having a great cooperative team that has built this institution starting with its first branch with nearly 200 students, reaching almost 2000 students in three branches.

Through all these years, we have tried to educate our students to be active local and global citizens in order to have them gain valuable understanding in areas such as ethics, academic and social integrity. We strive to raise our students in an environment that encourages personal inquiry, social responsibility and academic excellence, and we have adopted different sustainable development goals due to our belief that who other than us, educators, would facilitate such mission.



*The General Manager;  
Dr. Ahmad Alameh*



## Content

- 1- *School Context*
- 2- *Leadership programs*
- 3- *UNESCO Programs*
- 4- *Partnership With ADYAN*
- 5- *International Model United Nations*
- 6- *Civic Engagement*
- 7- *The Environment*
- 8- *Global Community*



### 1- The School Context

Our school is a private school that has three branches in Beirut city with more than 225 employees. It has all scholar levels, starting from pre-school years (KG's) reaching secondary academy. The school culture generally refers to the beliefs, perceptions, relationships, attitudes and rules that shape and influence every aspect of how [Saint George](#) schools function. It encompasses more concrete issues; such as, the physical and emotional safety of students, the orderliness of classrooms and public spaces, and the degree to which a school embraces and celebrates all cultural occasions and students' continuous success. The positive school culture is conducive to professional satisfaction, morale and effectiveness, as well as to students learning, fulfilment and well-being.

We have both English and French sections in all scholar levels, not to forget having a special centre for special education (SKILD Centre).

#### Vision:

We empower learners to acquire, demonstrate and appreciate knowledge. We promote an environment to encourage personal inquiry, social responsibility and academic excellence.

#### Mission: Our mission at Saint George is to:

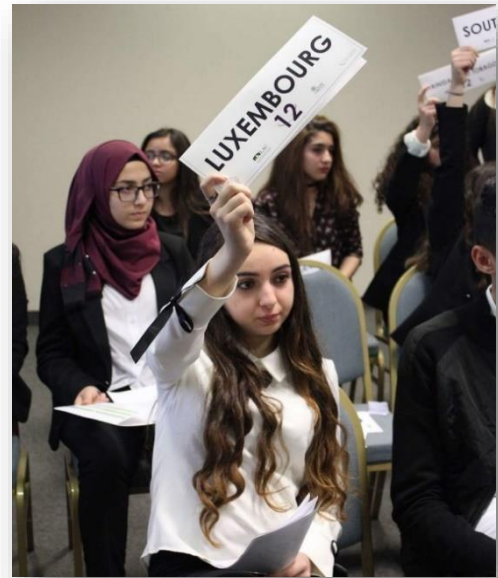
- Provide high quality education in a safe, respectful, motivational and a positive school environment.
- Implement a curriculum using a variety of teaching and learning styles in a stimulating learning environment.
- Promote a cooperative learning environment as well as acknowledging the uniqueness of learners by planning differentiated work to foster their skills and creativity.
- Allow learners to take responsibilities for their actions through reflecting on their work and behavior.
- Address student's social, emotional, intellectual, physical, and psychological needs to achieve optimum benefits from the educational program.
- Prepare learners to demonstrate 21<sup>st</sup> century skills by showing independence, critical thinking, logical problem solving skills and decision-making.
- Provide enriching and engaging learning resources.



## 2- Leadership programs

These programs empower students and provide them with information about the United Nations through MUN, The Arab League through MAL and the European Union through MEU. They are organized by the Lebanese American University.

**A- MUN, or Model United Nations** is a program that is present in almost every country around the world. In association with Global Classrooms and the United Nations of the United States of America's (UNA-USA) flagship education program, LAU has organized this program. MUN is an innovative educational program in which our high school students are engaged in an exploration of current world issues through simulation. It cultivates literacy, life skills and the attitudes necessary for active citizenship. It increases the cognition of students about the developmental issues that affect humanity. It's been 10 years participating in this program with more than 120 students as delegates in this program representing many countries; such as Finland, Indonesia, Netherland, Luxembourg...



The program aims to bring the UN culture of global awareness and teaches students, from all over Lebanon, life skills related to peaceful resolution of conflicts, creative communications and leadership skills, role-playing and diplomatic tackling of controversial issues throughout the 5 training sessions during which the following topics are discussed:

- Introduction to the United Nations
- Research and Interpretation/ Rules of Procedure
- Research and Interpretation/ Position Paper
- Public Speaking/ Role Playing
- Conflict Resolution/ Negotiations
- Caucusing and Resolution Writing
- Mock Simulation of The United Nations Day



**B- MAL, or Model Arab League;** we have been part of this program since ever its first year, 2011-2012, and we are still until today. The LAU MAL is an educational program that engages Lebanese High School students in an exploration of current Arab world issues, through interactive simulations and curricular materials. It helps engage students from various religious and political backgrounds in Lebanon, to discuss various social, political and economic subjects that are affecting and shaping our Arab World. Representing one of the Arab League's 22 member-states, students from various schools work to achieve answers on questions, with which diplomats face every day. These students are given the opportunity to debate and come out with resolutions that seek to resolve some of the Arab countries' most difficult challenges. The transfer of skills is conveyed through 5 training sessions, which prepare the students for a 2-day conference, simulating the various sessions and committees of the Arab League and ending with ceremony and [awards announcement](#).





During the sessions, MAL aims to:

- create a culture of dissemination of knowledge about the Arab World
- provide leadership training for the largest amount of Arab Youth
- develop an Arab citizen with a deep sense of democratic values and civic engagement
- promote values of peace, democracy and justice
- teach practical leadership skills
- introduce and discuss social, economic, cultural and political issues facing Arab countries
- train students on time management skills, use of parliamentary procedure and the dynamics of debating

**C- MEU, Model European Union** is also organized by the Lebanese American University in



partnership with 'Bringing Europeans Together Association'. LAU MEU allows high School students to deeply explore the European Union and its strategic and geographic potential. This program highlights EU Member States and their thriving economic and human capabilities, and the interconnection and interrelatedness among the EU Member States at the commercial, cultural, and social levels in order to understand the primordial nature of the European continent in world politics.

By the end of the sessions, the students become representatives of countries and EU political parties who take part in European Union session simulations. The simulations occur over the course of a two-day Conference where students play the role of Members of the European Parliament and Council of the European Union in the EU Parliament and Council of Ministers, respectively, and discuss various current topics.





### 3- UNESCO Programs

We are a member in UNESCO schools, and in the Associated Schools Project of UNESCO, we have a twinning program with a Danish public school, Julesminde School, and another Irish public school, Saint Francis School. We exchange experiences of how to apply SDGs by exchanging high school students and their teachers.



We are also represented by [Hiba Ballout](#), global teacher prize ambassador, who is a member in [Life Link Schools](#) Network, which is a global network that organizes annual conference for high school students to discuss one of the SDGs through International Model United Nations Conference, which takes place in Sigtuna-Sweden.



#### 4- Partnership with ADYAN

We've been in partnership with [ADYAN](#) foundation for more than 8 years by now.

Starting from the belief that the school is a second home for students, and it is where not only knowledge but also values are being implemented, and because of the urge to peace building especially in the coming generation in a country that suffered from civil war due to sectarianism and hatred, incorporating peace building program and teaching life skills are vital. *ALWAN* is a program organized by *ADYAN* Foundation, a Lebanese NGO that works locally, regionally and internationally for pluralism, inclusive citizenship, community resilience, and spiritual solidarity, through homegrown solutions in Education, Media, Policy, and intercultural and inter-religious



relations. This program promotes a national culture among youngsters, particularly high school students based on the knowledge of the Lebanese cultural and religious diversities, and on the values of coexistence and inclusive citizenship within Lebanese schools in all regions and communities. Through many training sessions that we lead at school in Alwan Club, the students recognize the importance of coexistence, civilization, communication, humanity, civic engagement, respecting other religions and accepting the diversity.



The success of implementing such program in our curriculum depends on the following:

- **Training of Teachers:** Educators are trained by The Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management at Adyan which organizes an annual training for educators of Alwan program for education on Living Together in the framework of active and inclusive citizenship. Educators are trained to get ready for the new scholar year in which they have the challenge to teach and encourage their students to act and find solutions to different issues related to religious and cultural diversity, within the framework of Active and Inclusive Citizenship.
- **Training of students:** Alwan program is a two-year program that consists of training sessions including activities that help students realize the importance of communication and dialogue. It focuses on values such as respect, tolerance, coexistence and partnership that all lead to peace. Students are also trained on how to use social media and create a professional page for their club, they are also taught how to make awareness activities themselves and how to conduct community service projects.
- **Awareness Activities:** In partnership with students from different backgrounds, our students end their first year in the program in planning and applying an awareness activity that highlights a certain issue that would help build better community. We teach our students the guidelines into planning and applying their projects.
- **Community Service and Civic Engagement:** Project management is the big theme of the program in its second year. During this year, the students learn how to network and affect in the community in order to apply their community service project together with students in their age from a different religious or geographical background to serve the Lebanese Community.





### 5- International Model United Nations

It has been our fourth year participating in the annual Global Classrooms International Model United Nations conference, which is organized by the Lebanese American University in partnership with The United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) in New York. Our high school students are encouraged each year to participate as this conference brings together more than 2,000 high school students from around the world to discuss diverse and pressing international issues. Their participation would serve as an opportunity to spread Model United Nations programs and initiatives. Students debate pressing international issues such as environmental refugees, gender equality, migration and aid effectiveness and oversight. The Closing Ceremony of this conference and the [awards announcement](#) take place in the United Nations Headquarters.





### 6- The Environment

The science department in our school is planning to have an environmental club in Hadath having members from grades 7 and 8. This club raises awareness on all the goals related to the environment. Not to forget raising awareness and separating wastes in classes using recyclable bins from Gemayel Freres Company in their Waste Collection Project.

Our Annual Environmental Exhibition is prepared by students in cycles 2, 3 and 4 by reusing wastes.



### 7- Civic Engagement

Local projects (in Lebanon) for high [school students](#) in addition to a project that we do in Jordan every year are applied. The students with high achievement in the official exams of Grade 9 participate in an annual conference in Amman organized by “Promise Welfare Society”, a foundation lead by her highness princess Alia Al Tabbaa. This conference allows students to meet with people from the Arab world, discuss issues that affect our daily life and cooperate to perform community service projects.





### 8- Global Community

Our school was selected among 100 schools worldwide to showcase one of our best practices in the ‘World’s biggest education conference’ that enables schools to share their learning to a huge online audience during the inaugural [World Education Week](#), that was held from 5-9<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The hand-picked schools joined together in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal on Quality Education (SDG 4) and shared their expertise across a range of educational themes. The World Education Week was an effort by thirty civil society organizations coming together after the record-breaking [T4 conference](#) on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020 that was attended by over 100,000 teachers in which one of our Saint George family members, Mrs. Hiba Ballout was a speaker talking about [teachers’ wellbeing](#).

