



# **The Founders Fellowship**

## **Scholarships & Awards**

### **GEMS Founders School Al Mizhar**

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# The Founders Fellowship

## Scholarships & Awards

At GEMS Founders School Al Mizhar we seek to create a culture of *helping each other to Grow, Flourish* and being **Mindful**. Our school embodies the ethos, behaviours and values that are underpinned in **The GFM Way**.



**The  
GFM  
Way** #WeAreGFM

**Our Vision**

**Grow Flourish Mindful**

**Our Mission** 'To empower **people** to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.'

**Core pillars**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <i>Help each other to<br/><b>Grow</b></i> | <i>Help each other to<br/><b>Flourish</b></i> | <i>Help cultivate an ethos of<br/><b>Mindfulness</b></i> |
|---|---|--|

**Digital Transformation**

**Values & Behaviour**

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High expectations</b>, aspirations, excellence and a belief that all can succeed</li> <li>• <b>Innovation &amp; risk taking</b></li> <li>• <b>Lead by example</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate <b>respect</b> for themselves and every other member of the community.</li> <li>• Safe and inspiring <b>learning environment</b></li> <li>• Celebrate equality, diversity and <b>inclusion</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act to <b>support</b> each other to be successful</li> <li>• <b>Collaborate</b> and work together in teams</li> <li>• Trusting, <b>caring</b> &amp; honest relationships</li> </ul> |
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Our school embodies the ethos and legacy of GEMS Education, which has been in the UAE for over 60 years. These, combined with a spirit of the Founders DNA, will aim to prepare fellows for the challenges of the 21st and 22nd centuries.

We lead by example, stay true to our values, innovate, collaborate and strive to be the very best we can be.

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## Introduction to the Founders Fellowship Scholarships & Awards

Introducing the Founders Fellowship Scholarships & Awards at GEMS Founders Al Mizhar, a prestigious scholarship awards program designed to recognise and reward outstanding students in the fields of academic excellence, leadership, innovation, inclusion, community, creative arts and a commitment to **The GFM Way**. These scholarships aim to nurture and support the brightest minds, encouraging them to pursue their passions and contribute positively to both the GFM and wider society.

The Founders Fellowship Scholarships & Awards are more than just financial recognition; they represent a commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and a lifelong commitment to the Founders values. The scholarships form part of the Founders legacy. A legacy that involves all recipients becoming part of an esteemed Fellowship, dedicated to lifelong learning and giving back to the school. Through mentorship, leadership opportunities, and participation in future scholarship selection panels, our fellows play a vital role in shaping the future of GEMS Founders Al Mizhar, inspiring future fellows and a long-lasting legacy of excellence.

## Application Process for scholarships at GFM

At GEMS Founders Al Mizhar, Founders Fellowship Scholarships are awarded based on the evidence provided during the application process. It is crucial that applicants and their families carefully review the requirements for their desired scholarship before applying to ensure their application portfolio is comprehensive and targeted. Each scholarship application will be evaluated upon submission, and eligible portfolios will be presented to the scholarship committee.

Successfully shortlisted applicants will be notified of their advancement through to round one of the scholarship selection process. Applicants should be prepared for an initial interview with the scholarship committee as part of this selection process. During these interviews, the applicant's scholarship portfolio will serve as the basis for discussion. Following the interviews, the scholarship committee will shortlist a further group of students who will advance through to the final, executive panel. Finalists will be interviewed by Executive members of the senior team, LAB committee members, the Principal and Scholarship Fellows (previous winners).

Students interested in applying for a Founders Scholarship at GEMS Founders Al Mizhar can start the process by following the link below: [CLICK HERE](#)

## Scholarships and Criteria

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### **The Founders** Way Award – The Matthew Burfield Scholarship

#### *For outstanding academic achievement*

The Founders Way Award at GEMS Founders Al Mizhar is a prestigious recognition given to students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievements. This award honors individuals who consistently achieve academic excellence, showcasing dedication, perseverance, and a commitment to the highest standards of learning.

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Maintains top grades across all subjects
- Demonstrates a consistent commitment to academic success and intellectual growth
- Exhibits a passion for learning and a proactive approach to education
- Acts as a role model in academic pursuits, inspiring peers through their dedication and achievement.

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### **The GFM** Way Award

#### *For outstanding commitment to the school core values*

The GFM Way Award at GEMS Founders Al Mizhar is a distinguished honor awarded to a student who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the values outlined in The GFM Way. This award recognizes an individual who consistently embodies the school's core values in their actions, interactions, and contributions to the school community.

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Embodies the core values outlined in The GFM Way
- Actively promotes and practices these values in daily school life and interactions

## The Principal's Scholar Award

*For outstanding Leadership*

### Scholarship Description:

The Principal's Scholar Award is a prestigious recognition issued by the Principal, to an exemplary student who exhibits exceptional leadership. This scholarship is often one of the highest honors a student can receive from their school and reflects the principal's confidence in the recipient's potential and achievements.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Evidence of leadership roles in school clubs, organisations, or community projects
  - Demonstrates the ability to inspire, motivate, and positively influence peers and the wider school community
  - Embodies the core values outlined in The GFM Way
  - Actively promotes and practices these values in daily school life and interactions
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## The Founders Award – The Varkey Scholarship

*For outstanding contributions to the area of Innovation*

### Scholarship Description:

The Founders Future Award at GEMS Founders Al Mizhar is a prestigious recognition given to a student who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to the area of innovation. This award recognizes an individual who has shown exceptional creativity, problem-solving skills, and a forward-thinking mindset, significantly impacting the school community through their innovative ideas and projects.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Demonstrated significant contributions to innovation within the school community
- Active involvement in projects or initiatives that showcase creativity and problem-solving
- Exemplary leadership and teamwork in driving innovative solutions

## The Founders Determination Award

*For the outstanding progress made by a student of determination*

### Scholarship Description:

The Founders Flourish Award at GEMS Founders Al Mizhar is a prestigious recognition given to students of determination who have demonstrated exceptional progress, resilience, and dedication to their personal and academic growth. This award honours individuals who embody the spirit of perseverance and have made significant strides in overcoming challenges, contributing positively to the school community.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Shows significant progress in academic performance and personal development
- Overcomes obstacles with perseverance and a positive attitude
- Acts as an inspiration to peers through their resilience and achievements

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## The Founders Service Award

*For outstanding contribution to the wider school community*

### Scholarship Description:

The Founders Service Award at GEMS Founders Al Mizhar is a prestigious recognition given to a student who has made outstanding contributions to the wider school community. This award celebrates a student who demonstrates exceptional commitment to community service, leadership, and the betterment of the school environment. The recipient of this award embodies the values of GEMS Founders Al Mizhar, showcasing dedication, compassion, and excellent citizenship.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Demonstrated significant contributions to the school community
- Active involvement in community service projects
- Exemplary leadership and teamwork skills

‘To empower people to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.’

## The Florenza Spinola Award

*For outstanding contribution to the area of Creative Arts*

### Scholarship Description:

Named after the late Florenza Spinola. This award is a prestigious recognition given to a student who has made significant contributions to the area of Creative Arts. Florenza was an incredibly special, dedicated and committed founding member of our Founders Community, and this award has a very special place in The Founders scholarship legacy.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Demonstrated significant contributions to the Creative Arts within the school community
- Active participation in artistic projects, performances, or exhibitions
- Exemplary creativity, skill, and passion for the arts



## The Founders Fellowship

Previous recipients of the Founders Scholarships will join the prestigious Founders Fellowship, a collective of extraordinary fellows dedicated to lifelong learning, leadership, and giving back to the GFM school community. As members of the Fellowship, they commit to an ongoing relationship with the school, providing mentorship, support, and inspiration to current students. Additionally, they will be invited back to participate in future panel processes to select new scholarship recipients, ensuring that the selection process benefits from their insights and experiences.

Their achievements serve as a testament to the impact of the Founders Scholarship, underscoring its role in nurturing talent, fostering innovation, and encouraging a spirit of service. The Fellowship not only celebrates their past accomplishments but also ensures their continued involvement and contribution, enriching the school environment and sustaining the legacy of excellence for future fellows.

