



# RIYADH NAJED SCHOOLS

## COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS BOOKLET 2024-2025

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## College & Career Advisors' Welcome Message

**Academic Year 2024-2025**

**Dear Esteemed Guardians and Parents,**

College and Career counseling play a crucial role in identifying students' potential and guiding them towards appropriate career paths. Our school's College and Career Counseling services are designed to assist students in setting career goals, planning effectively, and navigating their future educational endeavors. The years from Grade 9 to Grade 12 are pivotal for your child's development. As RNS prepares to support your child's future educational journey, we are pleased to offer the following assistance through our dedicated College and Career advisors:

- Understanding the college admission process across various types of institutions and selectivity levels.
- Registration for standardized and language exams (e.g., PSAT, SAT, AP, GAT, SAAT, IELTS, TOEFL).
- Writing school recommendations and support letters for students.
- Educating families about college admissions, financial aid, and scholarships.
- Collaborating with the Test Prep Coordinator to provide information on testing options and preparatory classes.
- Offering one-on-one support to students regarding college and career readiness.
- Assisting with college admissions and applications.
- Providing support with the Bridge U Platform software related to career planning.

Our College and Career advisors will be available daily from Sunday to Thursday in the High School from 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for student assistance and inquiries. Students can also reach advisors via email at [k.davis@riyadhnajed.com](mailto:k.davis@riyadhnajed.com) (boys' section) and [n.almadi@riyadhnajed.com](mailto:n.almadi@riyadhnajed.com) (girls' section).

For parents, advisors will be available daily from Sunday to Thursday in the General Administration office from 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for inquiries. Parents can also communicate via email at [k.davis@riyadhnajed.com](mailto:k.davis@riyadhnajed.com) and [n.almadi@riyadhnajed.com](mailto:n.almadi@riyadhnajed.com) or contact us by telephone at 012-491-616, Ext. 910 (for the boys' section) and Ext. 603 (for the girls' section) to schedule consultations at a time most convenient for them.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

College & Career Advisors  
Riyadh Najed Schools

## **Introduction to College & Career Readiness**

At Riyadh Najed Schools, we are dedicated to preparing students for success beyond high school by providing comprehensive support in college and career readiness. Our goal is to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the complexities of college applications, scholarships, and standardized testing. We offer robust resources and guidance to ensure students are well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, helping them to make informed decisions about their future educational and career paths.

## **Navigating College Applications and Scholarships**

The college application process can be intricate, and our College & Career Counseling team is here to assist students every step of the way. From understanding application requirements to crafting compelling personal statements and gathering recommendation letters, we provide personalized support to help students present their best selves to prospective colleges. Additionally, we guide students through the scholarship application process, offering insights into available opportunities and strategies for securing financial aid to make higher education more accessible.

## **Maximizing Extra-Curricular Activities and Standardized Testing**

Extracurricular activities play a vital role in a student's development and college applications. We encourage students to engage in a variety of activities that foster personal growth, leadership, and community involvement. Our program also emphasizes the importance of standardized tests such as the PSAT, SAT, AP, GAT, and Tahsili exams. We offer resources and preparatory support to help students perform at their best on these exams, which are crucial for college admissions and academic success. By leveraging these resources, students can enhance their profiles and improve their prospects for future academic and career achievements.

## **The Importance of College Essays**

Working closely with college and career advisors on your college essays is crucial, as these essays play a significant role in your application. Advisors can provide valuable feedback and help you refine your narrative to highlight your strengths and unique experiences effectively. To craft a compelling essay, start by brainstorming and reflecting on personal experiences that have shaped your goals and character. Focus on authenticity and clarity, making sure your voice shines through. Be sure to structure your essay with a strong introduction, clear body paragraphs, and a thoughtful conclusion. Additionally, seek feedback from multiple sources and revise your draft to ensure it is polished and free of errors. By leveraging the expertise of your advisors and following these tips, you'll enhance the quality of your essays and strengthen your college applications.

## **GPA**

Maintaining a high GPA is crucial for staying competitive in the college admissions process, as it reflects your dedication, academic abilities, and readiness for higher education. A strong GPA not only enhances your application but also opens doors to scholarships and prestigious programs that can shape your future. To keep your GPA high, focus on developing effective study habits, managing your time wisely, and seeking help when needed. Remember that consistent effort and a commitment to your coursework will pay off in the long run. By striving for academic excellence, you position yourself as a standout candidate and increase your chances of gaining admission to your preferred colleges, ultimately setting a solid foundation for your future success.

## Responsibilities of the College & Career Advisors

Kindly find below the responsibilities of our RNS College & Career Advisors.

- Provide comprehensive guidance on the college admission process across various types of institutions and levels of selectivity.
- Oversee the registration process for standardized exams, including PSAT, SAT, AP, GAT/TAHSILI-QIYAS.
- Draft and submit school recommendations and support letters for senior class members.
- Educate families on the nuances of college admissions, financial aid, and scholarship opportunities.
- Collaborate with the Test Prep Coordinator to offer detailed information on testing options and preparatory classes.
- Offer individualized support to students to enhance their college and career readiness.
- Assist with college admissions and application processes.
- Provide support with the Bridge U Platform software for career planning and college readiness.
- Organize and facilitate university and career trips for stakeholders.
- Assist with the Bridge U Platform software to aid career planning and development.

## Scholarship Resources

Scholarships represent crucial opportunities that can significantly enhance students' future prospects. Riyadh Najed Schools is committed to informing students and parents about available scholarship opportunities. We strongly encourage our students to fully utilize these advantageous resources to further their academic and career goals.

Kindly find below a list of a few different scholarships:

- 1. Ministry of Education (KSA)- Safer Scholarship**  
<https://safer2.moe.gov.sa/Portal>
- 2. Ministry of Education (KSA)- Tamayuz Scholarship**  
<https://moe.gov.sa/ar/education/pages/scholarship.aspx#>
- 3. KAUST KSRP GIFTED STUDENTS PROGRAM Scholarship -**  
<https://kgsp.kaust.edu.sa/>
- 4. Aramco's College Degree Program Scholarship-**  
[aramco.com](http://aramco.com) (برنامج الابتعاث الجامعي لخريجي الثانوية)
- 5. Ministry of Culture- Scholarship**  
<https://scholarship.moc.gov.sa/programs>
- 6. King Fahad University of Petroleum & Minerals**  
<https://qabool.kfupm.edu.sa/ar/initial-early-agreement/> (Early Admission)  
<https://apply.kfupm.edu.sa/undergraduate-sat-admission/> (SAT Track)

**\* The information provided in the links could be updated/changed at any time. \***

## **Extra-Curricular Activities/ Academic/ Fellowships/Summer Programs**

Riyadh Najed Schools encourages all students to remain actively engaged during their free time. We recommend participation in extracurricular activities and after-school or summer programs, whether they are athletic or academic in nature. Developing skills and hobbies through these activities can significantly contribute to students' personal growth and development. Additionally, involvement in extracurricular activities enhances students' profiles and can positively impact their college applications.

**Kindly find below a list of various Extra-Curricular Activities/ Academic/ Summer Programs (KSA):**

**1. Misk Distinct Program**

<https://hub.misk.org.sa/programs/leadership/distinctive-college-prep-program/>

**2. Mawhiba Programs**

<https://www.mawhiba.org/Ar/programs/enrichment/Pages/default.aspx>

**3. Tamayyuz Program**

<https://www.mawhiba.org/Ar/programs/ExcellenceProgram/Pages/default.aspx>

**4. Aramco Summer High School Program**

<https://www.aramco.com/en/careers/for-saudi-applicants/student-opportunities/high-school-students>

**5. Ithra by Aramco IN- Schools F-1 program**

[FI® in Schools \(ithra.com\)](https://www.ithra.com/)

**6. KAUST SRSI Summer Program**

[SRSI \(kaust.edu.sa\)](https://www.kaust.edu.sa/)

**7. Tuwaiq Academy**

<https://tuwaiq.edu.sa/>

**8. Al Faisal University's Summer Program**

<https://aupep.alfaisal.edu/>

Please contact your College & Career Advisors for more programs.

- Kindly note that these programs are merely recommended and that students/parents are fully responsible to follow the instructions/costs of the programs. The websites are updated periodically by the institutions.

**\* The information provided in the links could be updated/changed at any time. \***

## IVY LEAGUE Academic/ Fellowships/Summer Programs

Riyadh Najed Schools is committed to encouraging students to engage in prestigious Ivy League programs designed for high school students. By participating in these programs, students can delve into rigorous academic challenges, gain invaluable social experiences, and develop a broader perspective on their future careers. We believe that these opportunities are crucial for fostering intellectual growth, enhancing leadership skills, and building a network of peers and mentors. Ultimately, we aim to empower our students to achieve their highest potential and prepare them for success in their academic and professional endeavors.

1. **Harvard University's High School Summer Program**  
<https://summer.harvard.edu/high-school-programs/>
2. **Yale's Young Global Scholars Program**  
<https://globalscholars.yale.edu/>
3. **Columbia University's Summer Immersion Program**  
<https://precollege.sps.columbia.edu/programs/summer-programs/online-summer>  
<https://precollege.sps.columbia.edu/>
4. **UPENN's Global Youth Program**  
[Wharton Global Youth Program Home - Wharton Global Youth Program \(upenn.edu\)](https://wharton.upenn.edu/global-youth-program/)
5. **Cornell University's Pre-College Program**  
[About Cornell SCE Precollege Studies - About - Precollege Studies](https://precollege.cornell.edu/about/)
6. **Brown University's Pre-College Program**  
<https://precollege.brown.edu/programs/summerbrown>

## Other Academic/ Fellowships/Summer Programs

7. **Stanford's Summer Program**  
<https://summer.stanford.edu/high-school>
8. **Boston University's Summer Challenge**  
<https://www.bu.edu/summer/high-school-programs/summer-challenge/>
9. **Oxford Scholastica**  
[https://www.oxfordscholastica.com/oxford-summer-courses/?gad\\_source=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI3KCwqOD9hwMVyk1BAh25PCeLEAAYASA\\_AEgIeZPD\\_BwE](https://www.oxfordscholastica.com/oxford-summer-courses/?gad_source=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI3KCwqOD9hwMVyk1BAh25PCeLEAAYASA_AEgIeZPD_BwE)

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## Standardized Tests & Language Exams Resources

Standardized exams are a crucial component of the educational journey for high school students globally. It is imperative that our school equips students with comprehensive preparation for exams such as the GAT, PSAT, SAT, AP, and others. Riyadh Najed Schools is proud to offer dedicated resources and facilities for administering the GAT, Tahsili, PSAT, SAT, and AP exams. Regarding the GAT and Tahsili, kindly contact the High School Principal regarding enrichment/preparation classes. These exams are pivotal for college admissions both locally and worldwide. For international students planning to study abroad, mandatory English language proficiency tests, such as the IELTS or TOEFL, are also required for admission.

We emphasize the importance of early registration for these exams to avoid last-minute complications.

Please find below links to resources for both national and international standardized exams, as well as English language proficiency tests (IELTS/TOEFL):

### 1. GAT & Tahsili-

- a. <https://etec.gov.sa/ar/service/Generalabilitytest/faq>
- b. <https://training.etec.gov.sa/>
- c. <https://etec.gov.sa/en/service/inclinationsscale/servicegoal>

### 2. PSAT-

- a. <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat-suite-benefits-students-parents/why-take-psat/why-take-psat-nmsqt>
- b. <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt/preparing/practice-tests/online>
- c. <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/dpsat-practice-test-01-12/xf042e2c5bc6f4af4:dpsat-practice-test-01-12/xf042e2c5bc6f4af4:psat-test-sections/a/dpsat--pt1--math--m0>

### 3. SAT-

- a. <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register/international>
- b. <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/digital/digital-practice-preparation/practice-tests>
- c. [About the digital SAT | Digital SAT Math | Test prep | Khan Academy](#)
- d. <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/digital-sat>

### 4. AP-

- a. <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/ap-a-glance>
- b. <https://blog.khanacademy.org/khan-academy-is-the-official-practice-partner-for/>

### 5. IELTS-

- a. [https://saudiarabia.britishcouncil.org/en/exam/ielts/dates-fees-locations?gad\\_source=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIx4KQ0u39hwMViqdoCR11vgtXEAAAYASAAEgIXWfD\\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://saudiarabia.britishcouncil.org/en/exam/ielts/dates-fees-locations?gad_source=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIx4KQ0u39hwMViqdoCR11vgtXEAAAYASAAEgIXWfD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds)
- b. <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare>
- c. <https://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/take-ielts/prepare/free-ielts-english-practice-tests>

### 6. TOEFL-

- a. <https://www.ets.org/toefl>
- b. <https://www.ets.org/toefl/test-takers/ibt/prepare.html>

**\* The information provided in the links could be updated/changed at any time. \***

## Volunteering

High school volunteering is essential for both community contribution and personal development. It fosters social responsibility, empathy, and practical skills that extend beyond the classroom, enhancing both college and job applications. Additionally, volunteering exposes students to diverse perspectives, contributing to a well-rounded worldview.

The benefits of volunteering for students include:

- **Personal Growth:** Volunteering promotes character development, resilience, and a sense of purpose, significantly contributing to overall personal growth.
- **Skill Development:** It provides opportunities to acquire and refine valuable skills such as leadership, communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.
- **Community Engagement:** Volunteering connects students with their communities, fostering a sense of responsibility and a deeper understanding of societal issues.
- **Networking:** Students can build valuable connections that may benefit future academic and professional opportunities.
- **Resume Enhancement:** Volunteer experience enriches college applications and resumes, highlighting a commitment to service and a well-rounded background.
- **Career Exploration:** Volunteering enables students to explore potential career paths, gain insight into various industries, and better understand their interests and passions.

### **LIST OF AVAILABLE VOLTEERING:**

1. **Volunteering at RNS Events**\_(Kindly contact your College & Career Advisor for more information)
2. **Ministry of Human Resource & Social Development-** [النصبة الوطنية للعمل التطوعي \(nvg.gov.sa\)](http://nvg.gov.sa)
3. **Saudi Red Crescent-** [منصة التطوع الصحي \(srca.org.sa\)](http://srca.org.sa)

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## Schedules, Office Hours, and Communication for our RNS College & Career Advisors

### Academic School year 2024-2025

Sunday-Thursday available from 6:30am-2:00pm

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to visit the College & Career advisors.

Students are permitted to visit their college and career advisors during the times mentioned above with permission of the Principal & Vice-Principal.

**The 1st condition** is that students may visit their advisors granted that they take the permission to leave the classroom from their teacher.

**The 2nd condition** is that students may visit their advisors granted that they don't visit during exams, quizzes, important lessons, or projects.

For more information, please contact your College & Career Advisors:

**Mr. Kenneth Davis**

**College & Career Advisor**

**012491616 Ext. 910**

[k.davis@riyadhnajed.com](mailto:k.davis@riyadhnajed.com)

**Ms. Nourah Al Madhi**

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**\*\*Please be aware that this booklet can be updated\*\***