

**School Improvement
Package: Support
Programme
2014**



Due to weaknesses in management and performance in some key areas of work an American Curriculum school in Dubai, as outlined in the school's inspection report, Ruskin Education was contracted to help improve the school in key areas. Action plans were put into place in SEN management, early years provision and in middle leadership. The action plan was linked with the deployment of specialist consultancy support against each area and a team was deployed to work alongside existing staff at the school. A full-time Lead Consultant was placed by Ruskin Education in the school to take on the role of Vice Principal and to co-ordinate the improvement strategy and work alongside the principal. Key responsibilities for teaching and learning and supporting middle leaders taken on and additional specialist consultant support in the Early Years and with the SEN management team worked to improve provision and systems. Regular quality assurance from a senior Ruskin Education team member ensured that the plan's delivery was focused and had demonstrable impact on quality and outcomes. Early Years support turned the quality around and the school's early years department showed significant improvement in the subsequent regulatory inspection.

Staff turnover threatened to affect the improvement strategy and therefore Ruskin Education revised its plan to using its recruitment services team to find high quality replacements and full time senior leaders to lead on SEN and teaching and learning, to secure a permanent solution and allow the senior Ruskin Consultant to withdraw. Following our engagement, in the 2014 KHDA inspection, school leadership and management were deemed to be good and effective. There had been a significant increase in the number of areas consider good and effective. Four features of the school, including Kindergarten and provision of special educational needs, were improved from inadequate to acceptable.

'We have been delighted with the work of Ruskin Education and my only regret is that we had not involved them much earlier'

School Principal

Interim placements have now become a core part of Ruskin Education's key strategy to support schools facing short-term difficulties.