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## Sparkling Classrooms

### Introduction

At Innoventures Education we are firmly committed to our mission “to empower students with a holistic, rigorous and international education for success in an ever changing world”; through our core values: Achievement; Collaboration; Integrity; Respect; and Responsibility. It is therefore fundamental that the learning environment reflects both the mission and core values - creating an atmosphere conducive to the highest quality in student learning and achievement. Roy Blatchford defines the ‘Sparkling Classroom’ as “the places where young minds flourish. These classrooms are places and atmospheres which remain long in the minds and spirits of the learners.”<sup>1</sup> In addition to the quality of what is on display on walls, ceilings and floors, it is also the quality of the relationships that truly creates a ‘Sparkling Classroom’ – one where students feel safe, valued, supported and challenged.

### Essential Features of a Sparkling Classroom

While this is in no way an exhaustive list, the following features are non-negotiable and must be evidenced in every Innoventures school learning environment. It is to be used as both a checklist and starting point from which teachers can create their sparkling classrooms.

- The school Mission, Core Values and Vision, in English & Arabic.
- Clearly displayed learning Objectives and outcomes.
- Displays on walls, ceilings and floors are focused upon learning, up-to-date and regularly refreshed.
- High quality student work is on display that showcases student achievement.
- Annotated student work is displayed, which models high attainment.
- Key words relevant to current learning with symbols, as appropriate, to secure students’ understanding (particularly for those with SEN & ELL).
- A ‘UAE presence’ – relevant displays that celebrate; the UAE, Arabic and Islamic education.
- The outdoor environment is visibly focused upon learning.
- Where appropriate, displays are reflective of the specialist subject being taught.
- Photographs are of high quality, positively reinforce learning in action, and demonstrate students’ achievement.
- Students have no fear of failure because they are supported by their teacher and their peers.

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<sup>1</sup> Blatchford, R. (2013) *Sparkling Classrooms* AMS Educational Winsford