Private School Organizing Regulations:

The private schools organizing regulations issued by council of ministers approval through decision no. 1006 dated 21-08-1975.

Article 1:

For the purposes of these regulations, private school is every non-governmental organization that conduct any type of general or special education activity before higher education level.

Following are not private schools:

A. Cultural institutes or centers established by states or foreign entities by agreement between them and the government of Saudi Arabia.

B. Schools established by diplomatic or consular bodies to provide education exclusively for children of their staff.

Article 2:

Opening of a private school, transfer of ownership, change of address or education levels it provides is not allowed without a written approval to do so, issued by the head of the supervising authority, in accordance with the terms and procedures stipulated herein.

Article 3:

It is not allowed for a private school to accept monetary or in-kind grant from a foreign or international source without the approval of the supervisory authority.

Article 4:

Private schools shall be under supervision of the government authority competent with their type of education. Their academic, health, administrative, social and financial affairs shall be inspected as well as any other aspect required for the cause of education. School shall comply with their instructions.

Article 5:

Private school shall adhere to the following primary duties:

A. Respect for the country’s religious and ethical values.

B. Location shall be appropriate and distant from all, which affects the mission carried out by the school.

C. School facility shall be free of defect and fulfill health requirements.

D. School shall have adequate furniture and equipment and have conducive conditions for the educational purpose.

E. As per the laws applied in government schools, private school shall enroll pupils of single sex only, except for the nurseries or kindergartens.

Article 6:

Use of private school facility for a purpose other than education is not allowed. However, part of facility may be allocated as dormitory/housing for students on the condition that such part conforms to the requirements of law, morals and general health standards.
Article 7:
Owner of the private school is accountable to the authorities for the proper management of their school in all respects.

Owner should fulfill the following terms:

A. Saudi person*. * This paragraph was amended as (or a Gulf Cooperation Council national).
B. Not younger than twenty-five years.
C. Hold, at least, an academic qualification similar to the type of education their school will be providing.
D. Must not be convicted of a crime such as impinging honor or integrity.
E. Must not be subject of a disciplinary punishment such as expulsion from government service, or from a private school.
F. Must be of good conduct and distinguished career.

Article 8:
A headmaster shall be appointed for each private school to assume responsibility of academic and administrative affairs of their school, an adequate faculty and staff shall be appointed as required by the supervisory authority. Owner of the school may assume its management if he fulfills the terms and conditions stipulated in article seven.

Article 9:
All private school staff shall meet the following requirements:

A. Must be of good conduct and distinguished career.
B. Must not be convicted of a crime such as impinging honor or integrity.
C. Must not be subject of a disciplinary punishment such as expulsion from service.

Article 10:
Faculty member shall meet the minimum required terms and conditions of a similar member at government schools.

Article 11:
Books and records shall be kept at each private school, for organizing all administrative, financial and academic aspects of its work. School shall report its budget inclusive of revenues and expenditures, to the supervisory authority, by the end of each year.

Article 12:
School shall specify educational/scholastic costs not less than three months before the beginning of the academic year. Raise in these costs during the year is not allowed.

Article 13:

A. Within budget limits and regulations, the supervisory authority may provide a profit gaining school with financial, in-kind or a technical support/subsidy.

B. Non-profit private schools shall report their budgets to the Ministry of Finance to consider making up any financial deficits.

C. Non-profit private schools shall be provided with financial and in-kind support, including lending of needed facilities or playgrounds owned by supervisory authorities.
Article 14:
Private school shall follow the national educational curricula. Supervisory authority may permit some private schools to introduce a number of complimentary courses or increasing certain course hours. It also has the right to license a school or certain schools for the provision of a type of education that differs from government schools in terms of content, delivery or approach, or administration, if authority is satisfied that acting so is in the educational or academic interests.

Article 15:
When private school, except schools of expatriate communities, is licensed to continue provision of curriculum different from the national curriculum, it is binding on them to maintain provision of religious, Arabic and social curricula of the government schools on equal level to their curriculum.

Article 16:
Supervisory authority may decide to endorse private school examination results as qualifiers to enroll at schools affiliated to their supervision and to set for their exams.

Article 17:
At loss by the licensee of any qualification outlined herein, they shall transfer school license to another person who meet the terms within a maximum of three months duration or by the end of the academic year, whichever duration longer.

Article 18:
If school owner has passed away and there exist no person satisfying all terms outlined herein among the heirs, heirs shall appoint a deputy who satisfy terms within a maximum of three months duration or by the end of the academic year, whichever duration longer. During this period, the school headmaster or a deputy appointed by the supervisory authority shall assume school management.

Article 19:
If proven that school has failed, or about to fail, for any reason, to achieve its mission, or that its financial state has deteriorated to a level that renders it unable to fulfill its obligations; or in the case that students level have become lower than the adequate level, then the supervisory authority, may decide to revoke its License.
License revocation decision construe an enforceable warning for the next academic year unless the state of school improves and a subsequent decision is issued abrogating the one earlier.

Article 20:
Supervisory authority, without prior notice, may bring to closure any private school on evidence of theological or behavioral delinquency.

Article 21:
If school’s state is not harmed as prescribed in the articles (17, 18, 19), supervisory authority may assume school management, temporarily or permanently, or bring school to closure for public interest.

Article 22:
Anyone violating any provision of these regulations, or established a private school without a license; shall punished by a fine not less than five hundred riyals and not exceeding five thousand riyals. Supervisory authority head should issue a decision specifying the fine.
Article 23:
Competent entities/departments, within their competence, shall release executive orders/instructions related to these regulations.

Article 24:
These regulations and general instructions released herein shall be published in the official gazette, and shall take effect by the beginning of the first academic year from its publication.