



Press Release

Oryx International School deemed “Effective” following Qatar National School Accreditation’s (QNSA) visit under the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (Evaluation Institute) Inspection.

Oryx International School is proud to confirm that the school has been awarded one of the highest levels of the evaluation assessment, having been awarded ‘Effective’ for evaluation of quality of enhancement of the national identity by the Qatar National Schools Accreditation (QNSA).

In June 2024, Oryx International School opened its doors to a team of Inspectors from the Ministry of Education & Higher Education (MoEHE) as part the school’s first QNSA inspection, which related specifically to understanding how the school showcases and embeds “Qatar National Identity.”



The State of Qatar launched the QNSA for private schools in 2011 to ensure that its schools meet international standards for performance and quality. The evaluation system provides quality assessments on schools based on their academic, educational and administrative performance and there are four possible outcomes to QNSA evaluation visits:

- Denial of evaluation – for ‘Ineffective’ performance
- Effective to some Extent’ – for evaluation of quality of enhancement of the national identity
- Effective - for evaluation of quality of enhancement of the national identity
- Very Effective - for evaluation of quality of enhancement of the national identity





As part of Oryx International School's assessment and evaluation, a team of eleven inspectors, came on-site for a 4-day visit, to thoroughly review the school's efforts and outcomes.

During the visit, inspectors reviewed various materials and evidence from the school which spanned across 4 key categories covering all areas of the school provision, with a specific focus on Qatari values:

1. Educational Leadership, Governance & Management
2. Educational Performance
3. Development of the Learners
4. The Family & Community Partnership and Communication

In parallel, to reviewing evidences, inspectors were also keen to directly engage with the wider school community and held meetings with staff, parents and students, to ask them questions about the school, as well as listen to their feedback and ideas. The inspectorate team also spent several hours observing lessons, to see teaching & learning in action at the school, to ensure that the educational programme was thoroughly evaluated and verified to have met the QNSA exacting standards.

In September, the school were pleased to receive the final summary report from the visit which was extremely complimentary, highlighting points such as:

- ✓ The school applies a clear and comprehensive plan. This includes diverse, continuous and effective classroom and afterschool activities and competitions to enhance the national identity and Qatari culture in all the educational stages and school subjects
- ✓ The school applies the value programme (My Values Shape My Identity) through implementation of activities, poems and competitions, such as the popular proverbs and old professional crafts.
- ✓ Furthermore, the school supports the Qatari small enterprises through organising an exhibition and sale of Qatari traditional clothes, such as the Abaya, at school community events
- ✓ The school also implements a comprehensive and diverse plan, which includes classroom and after-school activities and programmes, which enhance the good morals and Islamic values. These support students' behaviours and enhance specific Islamic values such as the value of Respect, Responsibility and Sustainability: the latter in which the school achieved the first place in enhancing the concept of sustainability at all school levels in the State of Qatar (and the World through the IATA Environmental Assessment Stage 2 Compliance Certificate. See [Press Release](#))

One particular area that the school shone through, was The Family & Community Partnership and Communication assessment area, which overall was deemed the highest of all the categories as **"Very Effective**. The school pride themselves on their welcoming and truly international community, which was duly witnessed by the visiting team who noted:

- ✓ The general atmosphere in the school enhances the mutual respect and respect of other cultures and the relationships between all the students and teachers, as well as positive relationships between the students themselves
- ✓ The Student Council has an effective role in the school, where it was clear that the members are aware of their roles & responsibilities in the enhancement of the student's contribution to taking school decisions.



- ✓ The school communicate with parents/guardians in diverse manners to acquaint them with different aspects of school in the elementary stage. The parents/guardians are continuously made aware of the new developments through text messages, email, weekly bulletins, social media and electronic applications such as Class Dojo.

Mr Laidlaw, Executive Principal of Oryx International School, added *"I am delighted that the school has achieved this "Effective" status and would like to extend my thanks to the school academic and administration teams who worked tirelessly to showcase Oryx's outstanding education. As a British International School, with over 90 nationalities across our student body, it is so important to us to appropriately blend our school provision with the appropriate balance of local Qatari traditional values to help our students truly appreciate their setting and enrich their learning outcomes."*

Mrs. Nehad Hamada, Head of the Ministry Compulsory Subjects Department, expressed profound pride in the department's achievements, stating: *"We are honored that the Qatar National Standards Authority has recognized our department's exceptional performance and our dedication to fostering national identity and cultural values within our curriculum. This acknowledgment reflects our deep commitment and the tireless efforts of our teachers in fulfilling the ministry's vision, highlighting our pivotal role in shaping a generation that is both aware and proud of its Qatari identity. This success not only stands as a testament to the quality of our work but also embodies our vision of delivering education that harmonizes academic excellence with respect for national identity".*

The evaluation result embeds a key milestone to showcase that Oryx International School has the resources, processes, commitment and knowledge to effectively attain its Mission, Vision & Values which is (Vision) *'To deliver an engaging, value rich, broad and balanced 'British International Education Programme' with the end outcome (Mission) 'To ensure that students leave Oryx International School enabled, confident and ready to face the challenges that their next stage of life will bring. They will have developed effective behaviours that will enable them to thrive and succeed as global citizens of the 21st century.'*

In parallel, this evaluation also provides parents with the knowledge that the school has passed a rigorous local quality assurance process, which couples intrinsically with the schools other international accreditations. (COBIS [Beacon School](#) Status, SENDIA [Inclusion Award](#), ECO Schools Award and the WAS – Wellbeing Award for Schools Award among others).

As a direct result of the QNSA evaluation, Oryx International School has now announced that they are accepting Educational Vouchers provided by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to Qatari students for the current academic year 2024/25. For more information, please contact the school's Admissions Department: admissions@oryxschool.qa





About Oryx International School:

Educating approximately 2,000 students, Oryx International School delivers the best of British Education exclusively for the children of employees of Qatar Airways and its approved subsidiaries.

Owned by Qatar Airways and operated by Orbital Education, the school provides the highest standard of facilities and the best British International education in a safe, caring and welcoming environment.

The school Mission is to deliver an engaging, value rich, broad and balanced 'British International Education Programme' to the children of the employees of Qatar Airways by highly qualified and experienced UK curriculum teachers.

The Vision of the school is to ensure that students leave Oryx International School enabled, confident and ready to face the challenges that their next stage of life will bring. Students' in their time studying at the school, will have developed effective behaviours that will enable them to thrive and succeed as global citizens of the 21st century, thanks to our school Values and unique approach to education.

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