

GULF TIMES  
FOCUS PUBLICATION

# Education

01 March, 2026



CARING FOR OUR PLANET: WHAT STUDENTS CAN DO ● SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE ● WHY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IS GAINING MOMENTUM

# DOHA COLLEGE



**EYFS**  
3-4 years old



**PRIMARY**  
5-10 years old



**SECONDARY**  
11-15 years old



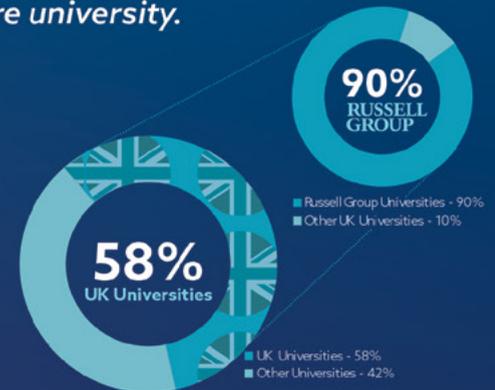
**6th FORM**  
16-17 years old

## Take A Seat and Experience the DC Difference!

Nurturing confidence, creativity, and curiosity in a safe, inclusive community.

*At Doha College, education is more than academic success. As a not-for-profit British international school, we invest in exceptional teaching, inspiring spaces, and holistic experiences that support pupils from their earliest years through to their final steps before university.*

**95%** OF  
OUR PUPILS GO ON TO HIGHER  
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# CURIOUS BEGINNINGS TO CONFIDENT FUTURES:

## The Doha College Journey



**Eva Taggart**  
Primary  
Assistant Head -  
EYFS

**The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) marks a pivotal chapter in a child's development.**

A time when curiosity is sparked, confidence begins to grow, and a love of learning takes shape. At Doha College, we understand that these early experiences set the tone not just for school, but for life.

As a not-for-profit British international school, Doha College reinvests directly into teaching, learning, and facilities to ensure every child is supported in a safe, nurturing, and inspiring environment. Our EYFS provision reflects this commitment, where rich play experiences sit at the heart of a thoughtfully planned curriculum, allowing children to explore, discover, and flourish at their own pace.



SCAN TO FIND  
OUT MORE!



**Sarah Jackson**  
Secondary  
Assistant Head -



## 6TH FORM AT DOHA COLLEGE:

### Preparing leaders for a global future

**As pupils move into 6th Form, learning at Doha College evolves to reflect growing independence, ambition, and personal responsibility. Pupils are encouraged to think deeply, lead confidently, and prepare for life beyond school as informed global citizens.**

Academic excellence remains central, supported by a rigorous British curriculum and opportunities such as the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which develops critical thinking, research skills, and intellectual curiosity. Education at this stage goes beyond examination results, focusing on personal growth and leadership.

Leadership is embedded in everyday life through pupil-led initiatives, mentoring, and community involvement. Investment in enhanced common rooms and a new community café provides welcoming spaces where pupils can collaborate, reflect, and connect. Alongside strong academic and pastoral support, personalised university and careers guidance ensures pupils leave confident, prepared, and future-ready.

# A Standard of Education Built Over Time

British Education in Qatar Since 1997

## Education with Purpose

Doha British School has delivered British education in Qatar since 1997. Guided by the belief that every learner can achieve, DBS places equal importance on academic success, personal growth, and student wellbeing.

## An Education Defined by Vision

DBS aims to be a vibrant, welcoming international school delivering a first-class education. Pupils are encouraged to excel, innovate, and engage confidently within a global context.

## Academic Outcomes That Reflect Standards

In the Summer 2025 IGCSE, AS, and A Level examination series under Pearson Edexcel, Doha British School students were once again recognised through Pearson's Outstanding Learner Awards. DBS is recognised by Pearson every year for outstanding academic outcomes, reflecting sustained high performance against international benchmarks.


 Students achieved  
 The Highest  
 Mark in the World

Students achieved  
 Highest  
 Mark in Qatar 

## Education Beyond Academics

- Strong pastoral care with tutors, Heads of Year, counselling and career support
- Leadership opportunities through prefects, student council, and house system
- Broad enrichment programme including sports, arts, performances, and internationally recognised programmes such as Duke of Edinburgh
- Global outlook with 90+ nationalities, sustainability initiatives, Model United Nations, and international trips



Experienced and Principled Leadership



Four Sixth Form Pathways:  
AS Level, A Level,  
IBDP & BTEC



Consistent Academic Standards with English National Curriculum



A Clear EYFS to Sixth Form Pathway

WHAT SETS  
DBS APART



## A Commitment That Endures

Delivering a first-class education requires sustained commitment to teaching excellence, curriculum depth, and student wellbeing. At DBS, these commitments are deliberate and upheld every day in the classroom.

Anchored in a clear vision and mission, Doha British School continues to set a standard built over time.



### Globally Recognised Accreditations

- British School Overseas
- Council of International Schools and the International Baccalaureate
- Awarded Eco-Schools Green Flag

مدرسة الدوحة البريطانية  
DOHA BRITISH SCHOOL  
SINCE 1997

# Shaping Futures Building Dreams

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Excellence  
& Innovation

Outstanding  
British Education  
In Qatar



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Preschool - Sixth Form  
4019 8008  
admissions.rw@dohabritishschool.com

# TWO DECADES ON, EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARD CONTINUES TO SHAPE NATIONAL EXCELLENCE

**T**he State of Qatar believes that investing in human capital through education is the optimal and sustainable investment for present and future generations, as education is a fundamental pillar of the State's aPermanent Constitution and building educated individuals capable of achieving academic excellence, contributing to national development, and creating a prosperous future for all is among the foremost objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030.

There is no doubt that the progress and renaissance of nations depend on the quality of their education and the strength of their educational systems. In embodiment of this vision, the Qatar Education Excellence Award was launched in 2006 to honour academically outstanding Qatari students, foster and reinforce a culture of excellence and innovation within society and the educational field, motivate high achievement, and improve educational outcomes in line with international standards.

## Academic honour

Over the past two decades, the award has become the highest academic honour in the country, aiming to build knowledge-based human capital capable of meeting future challenges, while also promoting positive attitudes toward knowledge and scientific research.

The award, whose 20th edition was recently concluded by the State of Qatar, represented by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, is not merely a means of honouring outstanding achievers. It also stands as a testament to the efficiency and quality of Qatar's educational system, and clear evidence of the capabilities and potential of its people.

During the latest ceremony, 108 winners were honoured across the award's nine categories: the Excellence Award for Primary School Students, the Excellence Award for Intermediate School Students, the Excellence Award for Secondary School Students, the Outstanding Teacher Award, the Outstanding School Award, the Distinguished Research Award, the Excellence Award for University Graduates, the Excellence Award for Master's Degree Holders, and the Excellence Award for Doctorate Holders.

Earlier, the Executive Committee of the Qatar Education Excellence Award had announced the results of the 19th edition on Jan 6, following their approval by the Award's Board of Trustees, chaired by HE Minister of Education and Higher Education Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater. The results revealed that 108 candidates were selected from a total of 371 applicants, reflecting the rising level of competitiveness, the high quality of submissions, growing awareness of the award's criteria and requirements, and a



strong commitment to excellence in alignment with Qatar's vision of building qualified and capable human capital.

The results also reflected notable diversity in the educational institutions represented by the winners, including students from public, private, and specialised schools, as well as civilian and military universities and various colleges. This highlights the broad base of excellence and the widespread culture of achievement across Qatar's educational landscape.

Recent editions of the award have introduced significant enhancements. A gold medal was added alongside the platinum medal for the doctoral category, while, for the first time, a platinum medal was introduced for master's degree holders in addition to the existing gold medal. Similarly, the Distinguished Research Award for secondary school students now includes a platinum medal alongside the gold medal awarded in previous years.

The Ministry also adopted the new official title, "Qatar Education Excellence Award", alongside a new visual identity under the slogan 'A New Identity and Promising Horizons', and increased financial rewards for winners. These developments reflect the award's evolution and growing national and regional significance.

Looking ahead, the award will introduce three new categories — Educational Leader, Diploma

Holders, and Educational Research — beginning with the twenty-first cycle in 2028. These additions represent a qualitative expansion in scope and recognise leadership, academic achievement, and applied research contributions in education.

The latest editions witnessed outstanding participation and high-quality submissions, reaffirming the award's status as a national platform that promotes excellence, innovation, and the development of distinguished national role models capable of contributing positively to Qatar's future.

The award's rigorous evaluation process, which includes comprehensive file reviews and interviews, ensures fairness, objectivity, and equal opportunity, thereby strengthening confidence in its credibility and outcomes.

As in previous cycles, the results also highlighted the important role of supportive family environments in nurturing excellence. In some cases, multiple members of the same family were honoured, reflecting the strong culture of academic achievement within Qatari households.

### Equal opportunities

Through its diverse categories, the award reflects the comprehensive nature of excellence across all educational stages, promoting equal opportunities and motivating society to invest in education and

knowledge as fundamental pillars of national development.

Since its inception in 2006, the Qatar Education Excellence Award has honoured more than 1,300 distinguished individuals. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education affirms that the award's new identity, expanded categories, and enhanced rewards represent a renewed chapter in its journey — further consolidating its role as a national platform for excellence, creativity, and inspiration for future generations, in line with Qatar National Vision 2030.

## EDUCATION

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## MoEHE launches project to boost preschool education

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) has launched a project titled "Enhancing Early Childhood Education", as part of efforts to develop the pre-school education system and improve the quality of educational outcomes in early stages.

The project is one of the strategic national initiatives stemming from the "Sunrise" programme, and aims to promote comprehensive social awareness of the importance of early childhood and its developmental characteristics, emphasising the pivotal role of the family as a strategic partner in building children's capacities and preparing them for subsequent stages of education.

The director of the Department of Early Years Education and national leader of the Sunrise programme at the MoEHE, Dhabia al-Khulaifi, said that the project reflects a national orientation toward investing in early childhood.

She noted that family awareness represents the fundamental pillar for achieving comprehensive and

sustainable child development, which in turn positively impacts the country's educational journey.

The launch ceremony was attended by a number of educational leaders, specialists, representatives of partner entities, and a group of parents.



The event featured a presentation of the project's objectives and its implementation phases, followed by a panel discussion that examined mechanisms for integrating the efforts of the family with those of educational institutions, while stressing the importance of early intervention.

The results of a survey conducted by the ministry to measure parents' level of awareness were also presented, with the aim of building a database to accurately and effectively guide the project's

awareness messages and field activities.

The event concluded with a tour of interactive stations that embodied the concept of learning through play, offering practical examples and awareness materials for families.



Qatar Education Excellence Award  
20 Years of Outstanding Contributions  
to Society and Education

**2006**

The Qatar Education Excellence Award was launched in 2006 to honor academically outstanding Qatari students

**108**

winners will be honored across the award's nine categories, who were selected from a total of 371 applicants in this cycle

**A platinum medal has also been approved**

alongside the gold medal granted in past years designated for secondary school students

**Sunday February 15, 2026**

The awards ceremony coincides with the 20th anniversary of the award's inception

**+1300**

distinguished individuals honored across various categories since the inception of the Award

**The introduction of a gold medal**

in addition to the platinum medal for the doctoral category

**2025**

In September, the adoption of its new official name the 19th edition of the Qatar Education Excellence Award

**3**

The award is also preparing to introduce three new categories, which will come into effect beginning with the twenty-first cycle in 2028

**The Board of Trustees' approval**

to raise the value of the prizes for the winners starting from this edition represents an investment in the Qatari people



## Education ministry to hold summer camps in France, Germany, Japan

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) announced that it will organise the 2026 summer language and culture camps in France, Germany, and Japan for outstanding Grade 11 Qatari students from public schools.

In a statement, MoEHE said that this initiative is part of its strategic programmes designed to enhance language skills and promote cultural exchange, adding that this year's camps build on the success of previous editions.

MoEHE added that through this initiative, it aims to strengthen students' proficiency in their target language and to broaden students' knowledge by exposing them to the host countries' cultures and traditions, thereby contributing to creating an open-minded and capable generation.

The four-week programme will commence in July and see the Qatari male students undergo an interactive educational experience

that includes intensive language courses and specialised workshops in the three countries, providing them with the opportunity to engage directly with students of diverse nationalities.

The statement noted that the summer camps adopt a comprehensive approach that goes beyond academics to include sports and cultural activities, as well as field visits to historical landmarks. These activities help refine students' personal qualities and raise their awareness of educational opportunities available for pursuing university studies abroad.

To ensure that Qatar is represented in the best manner, the ministry has established eligibility criteria, setting that applicants must be Qatari nationals of good conduct and are medically fit, in addition to having achieved an overall average of no less than 90% in the first semester certificate, with at least 85% in the foreign language subject and 90% in English.

## QF SPOTLIGHTS MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION AT THUNAI CONFERENCE

As Qatar Foundation (QF) marked the International Day of Education 2026, experts shared insights on why multilingual education matters and how learning can build bridges between the past and the future, through the Thunai Conference.

One of a series of events and platforms organised by QF's Pre-University Education to celebrate a day that reinforces how education is everyone's right and responsibility, the conference at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel explored the importance of bilingual models of education that have a global outlook while remaining rooted in cultural and linguistic identity.

Among the speakers was cognitive psychology and multilingualism expert Prof Roberto Filippi of UCL's Faculty of Education and Society, who is the director of the leading London-based university's Multilanguage and Cognition Lab. His session examined the question of what the outcome of seeing student languages as a resource for designing how they learn, rather than a challenge in need of managing, can be.

In his talk, 'Co-Creating Multilingual Futures: Learning to Thrive in a Rapidly Changing World', Prof Filippi explained that multilingualism supports flexible thinking and attentiveness, meaning that, in a school environment, it can increase students' sense of participation, wellbeing, achievement, and belonging.

"The real-life implications of being raised in a multilingual environment concern learning, because

children have more efficient attention control," said Prof Filippi. "Multilingualism can have a long-lasting effect on our cognition. The benefits can be not only linguistic, but also non-linguistic.

"Multilingualism is not an exception; it is the norm everywhere in the world."

However, Prof Filippi explained that potentially harmful misconceptions about multilingualism persist, saying: "Parents can be discouraged to raise their children as multilingual on the assumption that it can confuse the brain and delay development.

"These misconceptions don't just have a negative impact on education; they have a negative impact on culture, identity, confidence, family bonds, communication within the extended family, and future career development. Multilingualism is not a risk; it's an investment."

In a session titled 'Languages Matter: Guidance and Insights from the Gulf States Report on Multilingual Education', Farida Aboudan, head of education at Unesco's Regional Office for the Gulf States, outlined findings that examine the Gulf region's unique linguistic landscape, and policies and practices that can help to meet the dual challenge of safeguarding the Arabic language as a cultural cornerstone while ensuring students also have proficiency in other languages.

"Despite the world being home to nearly 7,000 spoken and signed languages, around 260mn students are still learning in a language they do not understand," said Aboudan. "Only a very limited

number of languages are used as languages of instruction globally, meaning that less than 10% of the world's linguistic diversity is reflected in our education systems."

The conference also saw representatives from QF's BilAraby initiative – which promotes and perpetuates the Arabic language by amplifying the global reach of ideas and stories from across the Arabic-speaking world – lead a session on the theme of 'Rooted Identity, Evolving Education', which opened by addressing the question of how contemporary education can draw on its cultural, linguistic, and human roots to shape an identity that preserves collective memory without confining it to a static past.

Dr Said Ismail, professor of genomics at QF's Hamad Bin Khalifa University, said: "Some have neglected history and heritage, blaming those who remain stuck in the past. This is what I mean by 'unfair correction'."

"Do not live in the past and forget the present, nor neglect history or blame those who glorify it. Every tree has roots that it cannot sever and without which it cannot live. Therefore, we must always remember what we did in our past."

Fidaa al-Din Yahya, a Yemeni social media influencer, highlighted the importance of identity in early childhood by saying: "A child discovers their identity and answers the question 'Who am I?' during their early years. A person who doesn't have an answer to this question is easily given an answer from the outside."

# ACS Doha International School

## The Best of American & IB Education for a Global Community

**A**CS Doha International School offers a well-rounded international education that combines the strengths of an American curriculum with the globally respected International Baccalaureate (IB) framework. Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), the school upholds internationally benchmarked standards of teaching and learning, alongside a strong commitment to continuous improvement.



Within this environment, a diverse international school community — with students representing over 70 nationalities — further enriches daily life, preparing students to engage confidently with the wider world.



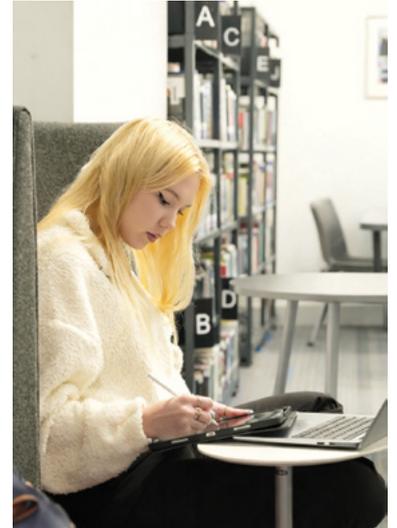
Serving students from Early Childhood through High School, ACS Doha provides families in Qatar with a clear and coherent learning journey grounded in an American educational framework and enriched by the principles of the International Baccalaureate. Our hybrid approach blends the structure and breadth of an American curriculum with the inquiry-based philosophy and global perspective of the IB, offering both consistency and flexibility throughout a student's academic experience.

In the Early Childhood and Lower School years, learning is centered on curiosity, foundational skill development, and fostering a genuine love of learning. As students progress into Middle School, they deepen their critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving

skills, making meaningful connections across disciplines.

In the High School years, students benefit from a flexible pathway model. They may pursue the full IB Diploma Programme, select individual IB courses, or follow an American High School Diploma pathway, with opportunities to combine elements of both. This hybrid structure ensures that each student can tailor their academic journey according to their strengths, aspirations, and university goals, while graduating with internationally recognized qualifications that open doors to leading universities worldwide.

Teaching and learning are led by experienced educators with strong international backgrounds.



*Admissions are currently open for families seeking a high-quality international education in Qatar. For more information, contact the Admissions Team at: [admissions@acsdoha.school](mailto:admissions@acsdoha.school)*

**ACS DOHA**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

**WHERE AMERICAN EDUCATION  
MEETS THE IB**

**BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS  
FOR LIFELONG LEARNING**

**ADMISSIONS ARE OPEN FOR FAMILIES SEEKING  
HIGH-QUALITY AMERICAN & IB EDUCATION  
DESIGNED FOR A GLOBAL FUTURE**



  
LEARN MORE





# HOW NEWS STRENGTHENS EDUCATION

**E**ducation does not only happen inside the classroom. While textbooks, lessons, and exams are important, learning also takes place when students understand what is happening in the world around them.

Reading newspapers, following reliable news websites, or watching age-appropriate news programs can play a powerful role in the educational process.

News connects classroom learning to real life. When students study geography, history, science, or economics, the news shows how these subjects appear in everyday events. A lesson about climate change becomes more meaningful when students read about environmental developments. A history topic becomes more relevant when linked to current global events. News helps students see that what they learn in school is not separate from the world—it is part of it.



Reading and watching the news also strengthens critical thinking skills. Not all information is presented in the same way, and different sources may have different perspectives. When students are encouraged to ask questions—Who wrote this? What is the evidence? Are there different viewpoints?—they begin to think more carefully. This ability to analyze information is an essential skill in today's digital age, where misinformation can spread quickly.

Another important benefit is vocabulary development. News articles introduce students to new words, formal language, and subject-specific terms. Regular exposure to well-written journalism improves reading comprehension and communication skills. Students who read frequently tend to express themselves more clearly, both in writing and speaking.

Following the news also builds general knowledge. Understanding current events helps students participate confidently in discussions, debates, and classroom activities. It prepares them for interviews, competitions, and future academic studies. A well-informed student is often more engaged and curious.

In addition, news encourages global awareness. Students learn about cultures, countries, scientific discoveries, social challenges, and achievements beyond their own communities. This exposure promotes empathy and respect for diversity. When young people understand different perspectives and challenges around the world, they develop a broader and more compassionate outlook.

For older students, staying informed supports civic responsibility. Understanding how governments, economies, and societies function prepares them to become responsible citizens. It helps them recognize the importance of participation, fairness, and ethical decision-making.

However, guidance is essential. Not all news content is suitable for every age group. Parents and teachers should help children choose reliable and age-appropriate sources. Discussions at home or in class allow students

to process what they read or watch. Talking about news events helps clarify misunderstandings and provides emotional support if topics are sensitive.

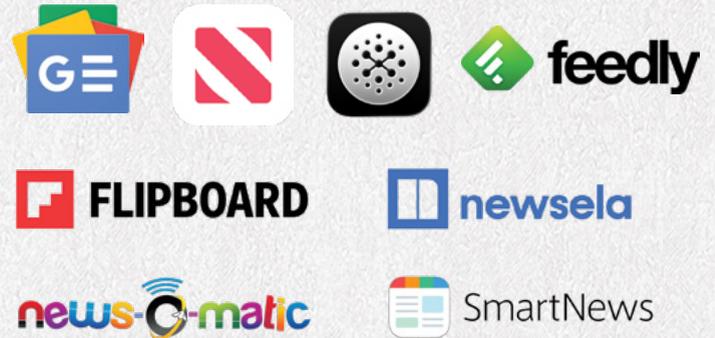
It is also important to teach students healthy media habits. Setting reasonable limits on screen time, avoiding sensational or unreliable sources, and encouraging balanced consumption are key. The goal is informed awareness, not anxiety or overload.

In today's fast-changing world, information is constantly evolving. Teaching students to follow credible news sources helps them adapt to change and stay informed throughout their lives. It transforms them from passive receivers of information into active learners who seek knowledge beyond the classroom.

Education is not only about passing exams; it is about understanding the world. Reading and watching the news bridges the gap between school learning and real-life experience. When students develop the habit of staying informed, they strengthen their thinking skills, broaden their perspectives, and prepare themselves for responsible participation in society.



## TOP 8 news apps for students to stay informed and learn every day



Using good news apps can make this both fun and safe — especially when the content is reliable, age-appropriate, and easy to use.

Here are eight great news apps that students can explore to get daily updates, develop awareness, and build reading and thinking skills:

### 1. Google News – Personalized, Easy, and Insightful

**Google News** curates news from thousands of trusted sources and organizes the most important stories in one place. It offers features like **"For You"** for customized updates and **"Full Coverage"** to see how different outlets report the same story — a great tool for academic research and balanced understanding.

### 2. Feedly – A Custom News Reader

Instead of visiting many websites one by one, **Feedly** brings all your favourite news sources into a single feed. Students can follow specific topics — like science, technology, world events, or sports — and explore them in one app. This helps build research skills and keeps reading organised.

### 3. Flipboard – News in Magazine Style

**Flipboard** presents articles, photos, and videos in a magazine-like format that's visually attractive and easy to browse. Students can select topics they care about and even create their own "magazines" to save stories they find interesting — ideal for project work or class discussions.

### 4. Apple News – Clean and Reliable Headlines

For students with Apple devices (iPhone, iPad, or Mac), **Apple News** provides curated news from respected publishers around the world. Students can follow trusted outlets and choose categories, such as science, education, and world news, making daily reading personalized and relevant.

### 5. SmartNews – Simple, Fast, and Focused

**SmartNews** gathers headlines from top sources and organizes them by topic — such as world news, local updates, or health — so students

get a quick, clear overview. Its clean interface and offline reading option make it convenient for daily study.

### 6. News-O-Matic – News Made for Younger Readers

Designed especially for children in elementary and middle school, **News-O-Matic** offers a small number of carefully written stories every day. Articles are created at the right reading level for younger students and often include maps, definitions, and audio narration to support understanding.

### 7. Newsela – News + Learning Tools

**Newsela** is especially popular in schools because it adapts real news articles to multiple reading levels. Teachers and parents can choose the right version for each student, and built-in questions help improve comprehension and critical thinking — turning news reading into a learning activity.

### 8. Particle – Summarized News Made Easy

For students who want quick overviews without reading long articles, **Particle** uses smart technology to summarize multiple sources into simple summaries. It can show different sides of a story and make complex topics more accessible, helping students stay informed even when they are short on time.

## Tips for Students Using News Apps

- **Choose trusted sources:** Not all news online is accurate. Apps that pull from respected publishers help ensure reliability.
- **Set interests:** Personalizing topics — like environment, science, or global events — makes reading more meaningful.
- **Balance screen time:** Use news apps as a learning tool rather than endless scrolling.
- **Discuss and reflect:** Talking about news with friends, teachers, or family deepens understanding.

# MISTAKES ARE PROOF YOU ARE LEARNING

**H**ave you ever felt upset after getting a question wrong on a test? Or embarrassed when you forgot your lines in a school play? Maybe you tried to solve a math problem and couldn't figure it out, no matter how hard you tried. Making mistakes can feel uncomfortable. Sometimes they make us feel disappointed, frustrated, or even worried that we are "not good enough."

But here is something important to remember: mistakes are not signs that you are failing. They are signs that you are learning.

Every time you try something new, your brain is working hard. It is building connections, solving problems, and figuring things out. When you make a mistake, your brain does not stop working. In fact, it works even harder. Scientists have discovered that when we make mistakes and then correct them, our brains grow stronger. It is like exercising a muscle. The more we challenge it, the more it develops.

Think about learning how to ride a bicycle. Almost no one gets it right the first time. There may be wobbles, falls, and scraped knees. But each fall teaches balance. Each attempt builds confidence. If you stopped after the first mistake, you would never experience the joy of riding freely. The same is true for schoolwork, sports, art, music, and even friendships.

This way of thinking is called a "growth mindset." A growth mindset means believing that abilities

**G** I can learn from my **MISTAKES**

**R** I can **IMPROVE** by **WORKING HARD**

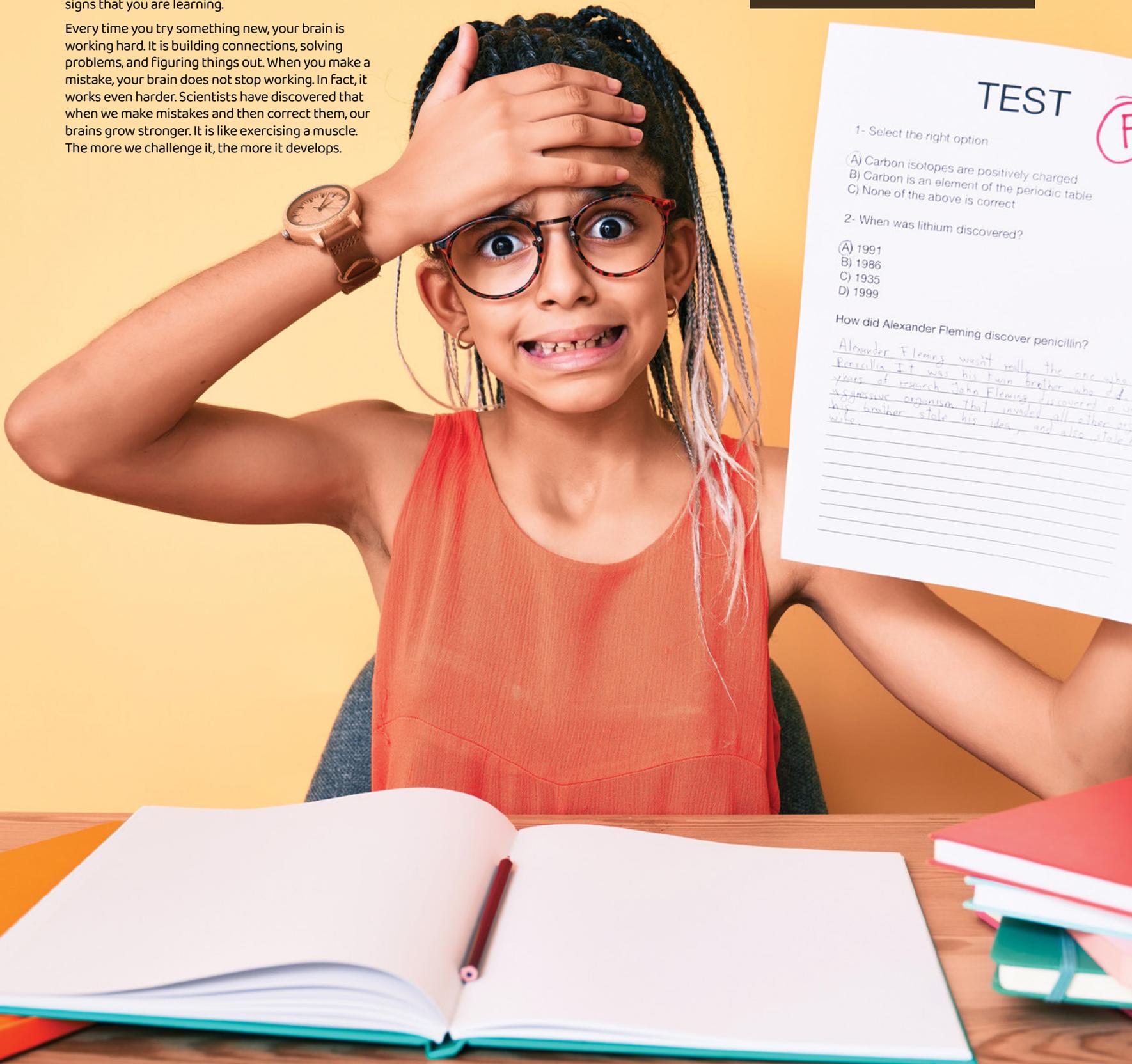
**O** I will **NEVER GIVE UP**

**W** I am **DETERMINED** to **DO MY BEST**

**T** **SELF-REFLECTION** will help me **SUCCEED**

**H** I can overcome challenges with **EFFORT**

**T** I can **TRAIN MY BRAIN**



## TEST

1- Select the right option

- (A) Carbon isotopes are positively charged
- (B) Carbon is an element of the periodic table
- (C) None of the above is correct

2- When was lithium discovered?

- (A) 1991
- (B) 1986
- (C) 1935
- (D) 1999

How did Alexander Fleming discover penicillin?

Alexander Fleming wasn't really the one who discovered penicillin. It was his twin brother who did. Years of research John Fleming discovered a very aggressive organism that invaded all other organisms. His brother stole his idea, and also stole his wife.

can improve with practice, effort, and learning. It means understanding that being good at something does not happen instantly. Skills grow over time. On the other hand, a "fixed mindset" is when someone believes they are either smart or not smart, talented or not talented, with no room for change. When people think this way, they may give up easily because they believe mistakes prove they cannot improve.

Imagine two students learning multiplication. One student gets answers wrong and thinks, "I'm just bad at math." The other student gets answers wrong and thinks, "I don't understand this yet, but I can learn." The small word "yet" makes a big difference. It leaves space for growth. It turns a mistake into a step forward.

Mistakes also teach us important life skills. They help us become patient. They teach us to try different strategies. They show us that success is not about never failing; it is about not giving up. Many famous inventors, athletes, and leaders made countless mistakes before achieving success. They kept going because they understood that failure is part of progress.

In school, mistakes can be helpful clues. If you spell a word incorrectly, you now know how to spell it correctly next time. If you misunderstand a science concept, your teacher can explain it in a new way. Each mistake points out exactly what needs more attention. Instead of hiding from errors, brave learners look at them closely and ask, "What can I learn from this?"

It is also important to remember that everyone makes mistakes. Your classmates, your teachers, your parents—everyone. No one is perfect. Comparing yourself to others can make mistakes feel bigger than they are. Focus instead on your own progress. Are you improving compared to last week or last month? That is what truly matters.



A STATIC MINDSET  
LIMITS  
YOUR CEILING.

Embracing  
the "puzzle"



"I AM WHAT I LEARN."

"I AM WHAT I AM."  
of learning  
TURNS EVERY CHALLENGE  
into a piece  
of your future  
success.

When you make a mistake, try these simple steps. First, take a deep breath. It is okay to feel disappointed. Second, ask yourself what went wrong and why. Third, try again using what you learned. Each time you repeat this process, you are building resilience—the ability to bounce back stronger.

Parents and teachers often say, "Practice makes perfect." But perhaps a better phrase is, "Practice makes progress." Perfection is not the goal. Growth is. Learning is not a straight path; it is full of twists,

turns, and occasional bumps. Those bumps are not obstacles—they are stepping stones.

So the next time you get something wrong, pause before you feel discouraged. Remind yourself that your brain is growing. You are becoming stronger, smarter, and more capable with every challenge you face. Mistakes are not something to fear. They are proof that you are trying, exploring, and learning.

And that is something to be proud of.

## From mistakes to mastery

### Supporting primary learners

**P**rietary school years are a powerful stage of development. Children between the ages of six and eleven are building academic skills, friendships, independence, and self-confidence. During this time, mistakes become more noticeable. A low test score, a spelling error, a forgotten homework assignment, or a disagreement with a friend can feel big and overwhelming to a young child.

For parents and teachers, these moments are not setbacks. They are opportunities. When guided properly, mistakes become valuable lessons that shape resilience, responsibility, and a healthy attitude toward learning.

At the primary level, children are beginning to compare themselves with classmates. They may feel embarrassed about getting answers wrong or anxious about disappointing adults. Because of this, the way adults respond to mistakes matters deeply. A harsh reaction can create fear of failure. A thoughtful response can build courage and persistence.

The first step in helping a primary child learn from mistakes is normalizing them. Children need to understand that mistakes are a natural and expected part of learning. When adults share their own small mistakes and how they fixed them, children see that imperfection is normal. This reduces shame and opens the door to growth.

It is important to separate the child from the mistake. Instead of saying, "You are careless," it is more helpful to say, "This work has a few careless mistakes. Let's look at them together." This distinction protects the child's self-esteem while still addressing the issue. Children must know that while actions can improve, their value as individuals remains constant.

Encouraging reflection is another powerful strategy. When a child makes a mistake on a test or assignment, instead of immediately correcting everything, adults can ask guiding questions. What do you think happened here? Which part was confusing? What could you try differently next time? Reflection develops critical thinking and helps children take ownership of their learning.

Primary-aged children also benefit from understanding that effort matters more than immediate results. Praising hard work, persistence, and improvement teaches children that success is built step by step. If a child struggles with reading but practices consistently, acknowledging that effort reinforces a growth mindset. Over time, children learn that skills develop through practice, not instant perfection.

Emotional support plays a key role during this stage. A child who feels upset about a poor grade needs reassurance before correction. Listening calmly and



acknowledging feelings—such as disappointment or frustration—helps children feel understood. Once emotions settle, constructive discussion becomes more effective.

Mistakes also offer opportunities to teach responsibility. If homework is forgotten, rather than rushing to fix the problem immediately, guiding the child to think about solutions builds accountability. Perhaps creating a checklist or setting reminders can help. The goal is not punishment but learning practical strategies for improvement.

At home, parents can create an environment where trying new things is encouraged. Activities such as learning a musical instrument, playing sports, or attempting challenging puzzles naturally involve mistakes. When children see that practice leads to progress, they begin to understand that errors are stepping stones rather than roadblocks.

It is equally important to avoid overprotecting children from failure. While it may be tempting to step in and correct every problem, allowing children to experience manageable setbacks builds resilience. Small failures in a safe environment prepare them to handle larger challenges later in life.

Consistency is essential. If adults respond calmly and constructively each time a mistake occurs, children gradually internalize that approach. Over time, they begin to self-correct without fear. They may even start saying, "I made a mistake, but I can fix it." That sentence reflects confidence and maturity.

Primary school is not just about mastering subjects like mathematics, science, and language. It is about developing attitudes toward learning that last a lifetime. Children who learn to view mistakes as opportunities grow into adolescents and adults who are adaptable, confident, and willing to take positive risks.

Mistakes are not signs of weakness. They are evidence of effort. When parents and teachers guide children with patience, empathy, and encouragement, they transform everyday errors into powerful lessons in growth. In doing so, they help children build not only academic success but also inner strength and resilience that will serve them far beyond the classroom.

# United School International, The Pearl

## Discover a high-quality British curriculum with world-class facilities, situated on The Pearl, Doha

Since opening in August 2022, United School International (USI) has quickly established itself as a major addition to the education landscape in Doha, and a vital part of the thriving community on The Pearl. The school's combination of high-quality teaching, academic excellence and world-class facilities has made it one of Doha's most sought-after schools.



The USI ethos rests on a set of core principles: excellence, respect, responsibility, integrity and compassion. The school is committed to delivering an ambitious, internationally acclaimed education, where students are supported and encouraged on their educational journey, through an enhanced British curriculum, to becoming valued global citizens. This outstanding education is delivered in a campus comprising of outstanding facilities, including two swimming pools, a 500-seat auditorium, full size football pitch, STEAM and Robotics studios, specialist Design & Technology and Food Technology rooms, and a multi-purpose sports hall.

USI's teachers are well-qualified, highly experienced professionals who have been chosen to provide students with the best possible education and pastoral care. The social and emotional development of students, at each stage of their education, is an essential aspect of the school community.

### A Pathway to IGCSE and A Level

Last summer, USI's first cohort of Year 11 students sat their IGCSEs, and their results were exceptional. The overall pass rate was 99% and 76% of students achieved at least one grade 7-9 (A-A\*). The majority of these students have remained with the school to become USI's first Sixth Form, and are currently settling into the exciting challenges of A Levels.



This academic year, a group of pupils were supported by the school to take their IGCSE Science and Mathematics exams early, demonstrating strong academic ambition by the students, and highlighting the strength of teaching and personalised support offered at USI. 100% of the students achieved a Grade 9 (A\*) in Maths, and 94% of the students achieved a Grade 9-7 (A\*-A) in Chemistry.

As students progress through the year groups at USI, they gain the critical thinking skills and social attributes that prepare them for the next stage of their education, guided by the school's expert teachers.

The curriculum at USI is well-balanced, providing time for core subjects as well as music, drama, art and sports. The curriculum encourages analytical and critical thinking, as well as creativity and innovation. It promotes social cohesion and respect for Qatari society's values and heritage, and builds a truly international community built on tolerance and understanding.



### Enrichment Opportunities

In addition to the school's exceptional core education, USI students of all ages are given enrichment opportunities to help them develop as fully-rounded young people – school musicals, choirs and orchestras, residential overseas trips and sporting competitions are just some of the opportunities available.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

At USI, the learning does not stop at the end of the school day. Students have access to an extensive extra-curricular programme, led by USI's own teachers as well as many of Doha's finest external activity providers. Not only does this help busy parents with the school pick-up, it also allows students to try new activities or enhance their participation in subjects and activities that inspire them.

To find out more about United School International or to book a school tour, contact [admissions@unitedschool.qa](mailto:admissions@unitedschool.qa) or visit [unitedschool.qa](http://unitedschool.qa) to submit an online enquiry.





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# SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE

In today's fast-evolving world, traditional academic achievement alone is no longer sufficient to ensure success. While excelling in mathematics, science, literature, or history provides a strong foundation, the demands of modern society extend far beyond classroom learning.



The challenges students will face in the coming decades—rapid technological change, globalization, environmental pressures, and social complexity—require a broader set of skills that prepare them not only to survive but to thrive.

The ability to think critically, solve complex problems, adapt to change, innovate creatively, and navigate human relationships with emotional intelligence has become just as important as academic knowledge. These skills collectively equip students to engage effectively with the world, to respond to uncertainty with confidence, and to transform challenges into opportunities.

## Critical thinking

Critical thinking is far more than simply learning facts or memorizing procedures; it is the capacity to analyze information, challenge assumptions, and make informed decisions. In an age dominated by information overload, students are constantly exposed to data, opinions, and news from a multitude of sources. The ability to sift through this vast sea of information, to separate reliable evidence from bias or misinformation, is indispensable.

Critical thinking allows students to evaluate arguments objectively, anticipate consequences, and approach problems with a rational, structured mindset.

Consider a student exploring climate change solutions. Critical thinking enables them to examine scientific studies, question statistical claims, and weigh the pros and cons of different policy options. It encourages curiosity, skepticism, and inquiry—the recognition that no single answer is always correct, and that understanding often lies in exploring multiple perspectives.

Schools that cultivate critical thinking often promote debates, research projects, and reflective discussions. These environments challenge students to defend their ideas, critique assumptions, and build well-reasoned conclusions. Over time, students who think critically are better prepared to make decisions not only in academic or professional settings but in their personal and civic lives as well.



## Creativity

Creativity is the ability to imagine, innovate, and see connections where others might see only boundaries. While academic subjects provide foundational knowledge, creativity transforms that knowledge into something new, valuable, and applicable. It is the spark that drives innovation in science, technology, art, business, and social development. Students who cultivate creativity can approach problems from novel angles, challenge conventional thinking, and develop solutions that are both original and practical.

Creativity is not reserved solely for the arts; it is equally essential in engineering, entrepreneurship, research, and policy-making. A student designing a new renewable energy system must combine technical expertise with imaginative problem-solving to create an efficient, cost-effective solution.

Similarly, a young entrepreneur developing a mobile application must envision a product that meets

user needs while standing out in a competitive marketplace. Educational environments that encourage experimentation, risk-taking, and curiosity foster creativity. By allowing students to test ideas without fear of failure, schools provide the conditions for creative thought to flourish. Creativity, therefore, becomes not just a skill but a mindset—an openness to possibilities and a willingness to explore the unknown.



## Emotional intelligence

While critical thinking and creativity focus on intellectual capacity, emotional intelligence addresses the human and social dimension of success. Emotional intelligence is the ability to understand, manage, and respond to one's own emotions while empathizing with and influencing the emotions of others.

In personal, academic, and professional contexts, emotional intelligence allows individuals to navigate relationships, resolve conflicts, and collaborate effectively.

Students with high emotional intelligence can recognize their own strengths and weaknesses, regulate stress, and maintain resilience in the face of setbacks. They are also attuned to the needs, feelings, and motivations of those around them, enabling them to work effectively in teams, communicate persuasively, and build trust.

In leadership roles, emotional intelligence often determines success more than technical skill alone. Leaders who can motivate, inspire, and empathize create environments that foster innovation and collaboration. Schools can nurture emotional intelligence by integrating activities that develop self-awareness, interpersonal communication,



empathy, and ethical reasoning. Mentorship programs, group projects, and reflective exercises encourage students to engage with their emotions and understand the perspectives of others, preparing them for the social complexities of modern life.



## Adaptability

In the 21st century, change is the only constant. Technological advancements, economic shifts, climate crises, and societal transformation are redefining the professional landscape at an unprecedented pace. Careers that exist today may be radically different in the next decade, and new professions will emerge that were unimaginable just a few years ago. In this context, adaptability—the ability to adjust, learn, and grow in response to change—is a vital skill for students.

Adaptable students are resilient. They view challenges as opportunities, embrace uncertainty, and are open to exploring new methods, ideas, and disciplines. For example, a student trained in traditional manufacturing may need to learn how to operate automated machinery or integrate digital monitoring systems.

An adaptable mindset allows them to transition smoothly, acquiring new skills and remaining relevant in evolving industries. Schools can cultivate adaptability by encouraging cross-disciplinary learning, problem-solving in unfamiliar contexts, and engagement with diverse experiences. International programs, project-based learning, and exposure to emerging technologies help students become flexible, resourceful, and confident in navigating a rapidly changing world. Adaptability is not merely a reactive skill; it is a proactive approach to growth, innovation, and opportunity.

## Problem-solving

Problem-solving is the practical manifestation of critical thinking, creativity, and adaptability. It is the



ability to identify challenges, analyze underlying causes, and develop actionable solutions. Modern problems are rarely simple; they are multifaceted, interdependent, and often unprecedented. Students who are skilled problem-solvers are able to dissect complexity, synthesize information, and implement strategies effectively.

Take, for example, a student designing a community sustainability initiative. They must identify environmental issues, engage stakeholders, analyze resources, anticipate obstacles, and implement solutions that balance practicality with impact. Problem-solving combines analytical skills, creative thinking, collaboration, and decision-making. Educational programs that incorporate real-world projects, interdisciplinary research, and collaborative problem-solving exercises prepare students to tackle challenges in professional, civic, and personal contexts. Importantly, problem-solving also instills confidence and initiative. Students learn that setbacks are not failures but opportunities to iterate, refine, and approach challenges with renewed strategies.

## Why these skills are essential

Critical thinking, creativity, emotional intelligence, adaptability, and problem-solving are more than desirable traits—they are essential tools for navigating a complex, unpredictable, and highly interconnected world. Academic knowledge forms the foundation, but these skills transform knowledge into action. They enable students to innovate, lead, and thrive in circumstances where information alone is insufficient. These competencies equip students to navigate careers that are technologically advanced, socially interconnected, and ethically complex.

Moreover, these skills foster lifelong learning. In a world where industries, technologies, and social norms are constantly shifting, students must continually update their knowledge and capabilities. Those who cultivate these skills early are better positioned to learn, unlearn, and relearn, ensuring their long-term relevance and impact.

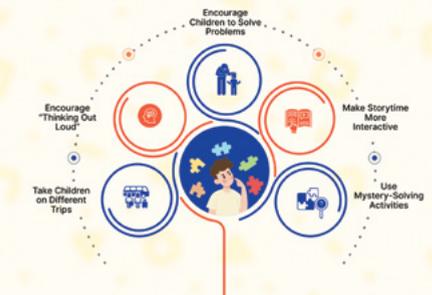
## How students can cultivate these skills

Developing these competencies requires intentional effort and practice. Critical thinking grows through

debate, reflection, and analysis of complex case studies. Creativity flourishes in environments that encourage experimentation, interdisciplinary exploration, and risk-taking. Emotional intelligence develops through collaborative projects, mentorship, and self-reflection, allowing students to understand themselves and others more deeply. Adaptability strengthens through exposure to new experiences, challenges, and technologies, while problem-solving is honed through project-based learning, real-world scenarios, and teamwork.

Parents, educators, and mentors play a crucial role in providing opportunities that challenge students while supporting their growth. By creating environments that balance structure with freedom, guidance with exploration, and feedback with encouragement, students can cultivate these essential skills alongside traditional academic learning.

### How Can Schools and Parents Support the Development of Critical Thinking Skills?



The future will not be defined solely by knowledge but by the application of knowledge through the lens of critical thinking, creativity, emotional intelligence, adaptability, and problem-solving. Students equipped with these skills are not only prepared for professional success but also for meaningful participation in society. They become innovators, leaders, and changemakers capable of addressing the challenges of a rapidly evolving world.

Education that goes beyond textbooks, exams, and rote memorization ensures that students are ready to embrace uncertainty, seize opportunities, and make a tangible impact. In cultivating these skills, we prepare students not just for the jobs of tomorrow but for the complex, interconnected, and dynamic world in which they will live, work, and lead.

# Arab International Academy

## A New Era of Educational Excellence



LUSAIL - لوسيل



DOHA - الدوحة

الأكاديمية العربية الدولية  
ARAB INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

Founded in 2016, the Arab International Academy (AIA) has rapidly emerged as a leader in Qatar's educational landscape. The school is dedicated to creating a nurturing environment where students achieve academic excellence while maintaining a strong connection to their cultural roots.

With the opening of its new branch in Lusail, AIA continues this legacy by embracing innovative educational practices that prepare students for the future while remaining grounded in its core values.

### Inquiry lies at the heart of teaching and learning at AIA

Students are encouraged to learn through curiosity, engaging in meaningful dialogue and collaborative exploration that extends beyond traditional academic boundaries. This holistic approach develops strong academic skills, as well as resilience, critical thinking, empathy, and cultural awareness. AIA's goal is to strengthen students' academic foundations while motivating them to become ambitious, lifelong learners, supported by comprehensive resources, qualified staff, and modern facilities.



### AIA is authorized to offer all International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes:

The Primary Years Programme (PYP), Middle Years Programme (MYP), Diploma Programme (DP), and Career-related Programme (CP). This reflects the academy's commitment to maintaining high educational standards while promoting the values that define its identity. The Lusail branch also offers the American High School Diploma, expanding pathways for student success.



### Bilingual education is a cornerstone of AIA's philosophy

At AIA, students are immersed in Arabic and English from an early age through a rigorous bilingual primary programme that integrates both languages across subjects. This model fosters academic achievement while cultivating cultural understanding and global citizenship. Students may also study French or Spanish, further enriching their linguistic and cultural perspectives.

### Sustainability education is embedded in AIA's culture

Through hands-on projects, renewable energy initiatives, and discussions



on ethical consumerism and global responsibility, students develop the knowledge and values needed to address challenges such as climate change and social inequality.

AIA also fosters "cultures of thinking," empowering students to question, reflect, and take ownership of their learning. Diverse indoor and outdoor learning spaces support collaboration, creativity, and independent inquiry, preparing students not only for academic success but also for a lifetime of discovery.

## GROWING TOGETHER IN A MULTICULTURAL WORLD

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# How small responsible actions build strong character

When children learn to take responsibility for their actions, they begin to understand that their choices matter

**R**esponsibility is a word we hear often at school and at home. Teachers remind students to be responsible with homework. Parents encourage responsibility in chores and daily routines. But responsibility is more than completing tasks. It is a habit of character. It is the quiet decision to do what is right, even when no one is watching.

Strong character is not built in one big moment. It grows through small, everyday actions. Making your bed in the morning, packing your school bag the night before, telling the truth even when it is difficult—these may seem like simple acts, but they shape who you become.



When children learn to take responsibility for their actions, they begin to understand that their choices matter. If homework is forgotten, blaming others may feel easier at first. But accepting responsibility teaches honesty and maturity. Saying, "I forgot, and I will do better tomorrow," shows courage. Over time, this courage strengthens confidence.

Another important part of responsibility is keeping promises. If you promise to help a friend with a project or to feed a pet at home, following through shows reliability. When people know they can depend on you, trust grows. Trust is the foundation of strong friendships and healthy relationships.

Parents and teachers play a key role in guiding children toward responsibility. Giving age-appropriate tasks at home, encouraging independent problem-solving, and praising effort help children feel capable. When adults trust children with small responsibilities, children learn to trust themselves.

Technology use is another area where responsibility matters. Using devices for learning rather than distraction, respecting screen-time limits, and practicing online safety reflect good judgment. Responsible digital habits are just as important as responsible behavior offline.



Responsibility also means caring for your environment. Throwing trash in the bin, keeping your classroom tidy, and respecting shared spaces may seem small, but they show consideration for others. These actions build awareness that we are part of a community. Responsible individuals think not only about themselves but also about how their behavior affects those around them.

Being responsible includes managing time wisely. Completing assignments before playing, arriving on time, and preparing for exams gradually build discipline. Discipline is not about strict rules; it is about self-control. Children who practice self-control learn to prioritize tasks and make thoughtful decisions. These habits support success both in school and later in life.

Mistakes are also part of responsibility. Everyone makes errors. The difference lies in how we respond. Responsible individuals admit their mistakes and try to fix them. This builds integrity. Integrity means doing the right thing even when it is uncomfortable. It is a quality that earns respect from teachers, peers, and family members.

Responsibility extends to emotions as well. Learning to manage anger, frustration, or disappointment without hurting others is a sign of emotional maturity. Instead of reacting immediately, responsible children learn to pause, think, and choose respectful words. This self-awareness strengthens character and improves communication.

## Some Pretty Good Reasons to be RESPONSIBLE

### GET MORE FREEDOM

When you show you're responsible, your parents trust you more, which means you get more freedom to do the things you love.

### HAVE MORE FUN

When you take care of your chores or homework quick and well, you have more free time to play, hang out with friends, or do fun activities.

### EARN MORE PRIVILEGES

Being responsible can earn you more privileges, like staying up a bit later or getting extra screen time.



### BE A LEADER

Being responsible shows others that you're a leader and someone they can count on. This can help you become team captain or get picked for special roles.



### LEARN NEW SKILLS

Taking on responsibilities helps you learn new skills and become more independent, like cooking a meal or managing your own money.



It is important to remember that responsibility is not about being perfect. It is about trying your best and learning from experience. Some days may go smoothly; other days may bring challenges. What matters is the willingness to keep improving.

Over time, small responsible actions create powerful results. A child who learns to organize schoolwork becomes an adult who manages responsibilities effectively. A student who practices honesty becomes a leader others respect. A young person who helps at home grows into a caring and dependable member of society.

Responsibility truly begins with you. It begins with simple choices made each day. Each time you choose to act with honesty, effort, and care, you strengthen your character. And strong character is one of the most valuable qualities a person can possess.

In the end, responsibility is not just about tasks. It is about becoming someone others can trust, depend on, and admire. And that journey starts with small steps taken today.



## The idea that “one size fits all” in education is steadily giving way to a more personalized, flexible, and student-centered approach

**F**or generations, education operated on a simple model: one teacher, one curriculum, one classroom, and one pace of learning. Students were expected to absorb the same content at the same speed, regardless of their individual strengths, interests, or learning styles.

While this system worked for some, many others struggled to keep up—or felt unchallenged and disengaged.

Today, however, the rapid advancement of technology is reshaping this traditional framework. The idea that “one size fits all” in education is steadily giving way to a more personalized, flexible, and student-centered approach.

Personalized education recognizes a fundamental truth: every student is unique. Each learner possesses distinct abilities, interests, motivations,

and cognitive styles. Some grasp mathematical concepts quickly but require more time to develop writing skills. Others thrive in visual learning environments, while some learn best through hands-on experimentation or discussion. Technology now provides the tools to respond to these differences in ways that were previously impossible in conventional classrooms.

At the heart of personalized learning is data. Digital learning platforms can track a student’s progress in real time, identifying areas of strength and areas that require additional support. Rather than waiting for end-of-term examinations to assess performance, educators can access continuous feedback that allows them to intervene early and adjust instruction accordingly. This dynamic process transforms assessment from a one-time evaluation into an ongoing guide for learning improvement.

Artificial intelligence plays a particularly transformative role in this evolution. Advanced AI systems, developed by organizations such as OpenAI and integrated into platforms offered by companies like Microsoft and Google, can analyze patterns in student performance and recommend customized learning pathways. If a student struggles with algebraic equations, the system can provide additional exercises, alternative explanations, or interactive simulations to reinforce understanding. Conversely, if a student masters a topic quickly, the platform can introduce more advanced material to maintain engagement and challenge.

This adaptability ensures that learning is neither too slow nor too overwhelming. In traditional settings, students who fall behind may lose confidence, while high-achieving students may feel



bored. Personalized technology-driven education addresses both scenarios by adjusting the pace to match individual readiness. Learning becomes a continuous, responsive process rather than a rigid timetable.

Beyond pacing, technology also enhances the way content is delivered. Multimedia tools, interactive simulations, and virtual reality experiences allow students to engage with subjects in immersive ways. A biology student can explore the human body through a 3D interactive model. A history student



can virtually "visit" ancient civilizations. A physics learner can conduct simulated experiments that would be difficult or costly to replicate in a physical lab. This diversity of delivery methods caters to varied learning styles, ensuring that students can absorb information in ways that resonate most effectively with them.

Another significant advantage of technology-enabled personalization is student autonomy. Digital platforms empower learners to take greater ownership of their education. They can review lessons, revisit complex topics, and progress at their own pace. This fosters independence, responsibility, and self-motivation—qualities essential for lifelong learning. When students have a say in their learning journey, they often become more engaged and invested in their progress.

Importantly, personalized education does not diminish the role of teachers. On the contrary, it enhances it. Technology handles routine tasks such as grading quizzes or tracking performance metrics, freeing educators to focus on mentorship, guidance, and deeper interaction with students. Teachers can spend more time addressing individual concerns, facilitating discussions, and nurturing critical thinking. In this blended model, technology becomes a powerful assistant rather than a replacement.

Globally, educational institutions are embracing digital transformation to enhance personalization. Innovative learning environments such as those developed within Qatar Foundation demonstrate how advanced technologies can be integrated into



curricula to support diverse learners. Institutions located in Education City, for example, increasingly combine digital tools with research-based teaching strategies to create adaptive and flexible educational ecosystems.

Personalized learning also supports inclusivity. Students with learning differences, language barriers, or varying academic backgrounds can benefit significantly from adaptive systems that cater to their specific needs. Assistive technologies, including speech-to-text tools, language translation applications, and interactive learning modules, make education more accessible. Technology reduces barriers and opens opportunities for students who might otherwise struggle in standardized environments. Moreover, personalization prepares students for the modern workforce. Today's professional landscape values initiative, adaptability, and self-directed learning. By engaging in customized educational pathways, students develop the ability to manage their own progress, set goals, and reflect on outcomes. These competencies mirror the demands of contemporary workplaces, where continuous upskilling and adaptability are essential.

However, successful personalization requires thoughtful implementation. Technology must be integrated strategically, supported by teacher training and strong digital infrastructure. It should complement human interaction rather than replace it. The goal is not to create isolated learners interacting solely with screens, but to blend technological efficiency with human empathy and mentorship.

As we look toward the future, the concept of education as a standardized system appears increasingly outdated. Students are diverse, dynamic individuals with varying aspirations and talents. Technology now offers the capacity to recognize and nurture this diversity. By allowing learning to adapt to each student's pace, strengths, and interests, education becomes more meaningful, equitable, and effective.

The shift away from "one size fits all" marks a profound transformation in educational philosophy. It acknowledges that success is not defined by uniform achievement but by individual growth. In embracing personalized learning powered by technology, we move closer to an education system that truly serves every student—empowering them not only to succeed academically but to reach their fullest potential.

# Partners in learning

The rapid integration of technology into education has transformed not only classrooms but also homes. Learning is no longer confined to school hours or physical spaces. With digital platforms, interactive tools, and adaptive learning systems, students can now progress at their own pace, revisit complex topics, and explore subjects beyond the curriculum. This shift toward self-paced and technology-driven education offers tremendous opportunities—but it also places new responsibilities on parents.

In this evolving educational landscape, parents are no longer just supervisors of homework; they are partners in learning. Their role is not to replace teachers or become technology experts, but to create an environment that supports independence, discipline, curiosity, and balanced digital engagement.

## Understanding self-paced learning

Self-paced learning allows students to move through lessons according to their readiness and comprehension rather than adhering strictly to a fixed schedule. If a child needs more time to understand algebra or grammar concepts, digital platforms often provide additional exercises and explanations. Conversely, if a student quickly grasps a topic, they can advance without waiting for the rest of the class.

For parents, the first step is understanding that progress may not always look uniform. Some days may involve deep engagement with one subject, while others may focus on revising previous material. The goal is mastery, not speed. Supporting this approach requires patience and trust in the learning process.

## Creating a structured yet flexible environment

Although self-paced learning emphasizes flexibility, structure remains essential. Children thrive in environments where expectations are clear. Parents can establish consistent daily routines that allocate time for study, breaks, physical activity, and leisure. A designated learning space—quiet, well-lit, and free from distractions—helps students focus and develop discipline.

At the same time, flexibility should be maintained. If a child is deeply engaged in solving a problem or exploring a topic, allowing extra time can reinforce intrinsic motivation. Balancing routine with adaptability fosters both responsibility and enthusiasm for learning.

## Encouraging digital responsibility

Technology-driven education often involves laptops, tablets, and online platforms. While these tools enhance learning, they can also introduce distractions. Parents play a crucial role in guiding responsible digital behavior. This includes setting boundaries around screen time, distinguishing between productive learning and passive consumption, and encouraging mindful use of devices.

Open communication is key. Rather than imposing strict controls without explanation, parents can discuss the purpose of digital tools and the importance of focus. Teaching children how to manage notifications, organize digital files, and

prioritize tasks builds essential digital literacy skills that extend beyond school.

## Fostering independence and accountability

Self-paced learning encourages autonomy. However, independence does not mean isolation. Parents can support accountability by regularly discussing goals and progress. Simple questions such as “What did you learn today?” or “What challenges did you face?” promote reflection and self-awareness.

Rather than immediately solving problems for their children, parents can guide them to think critically. Asking questions that prompt analysis and exploration empowers students to find solutions independently. This approach builds resilience, confidence, and problem-solving abilities.

## Supporting emotional wellbeing

Technology-driven education can sometimes feel isolating, particularly if students spend significant time learning independently. Parents should remain attentive to their child's emotional wellbeing. Signs of frustration, fatigue, or disengagement may indicate the need for adjustments in workload or approach.

Encouraging regular breaks, physical exercise, and social interaction helps maintain balance. Conversations about challenges and achievements strengthen emotional connection and reinforce the idea that learning is a journey with ups and downs. Emotional support is often as important as academic guidance.

## Promoting curiosity beyond the curriculum

One of the greatest advantages of technology-based education is access to vast knowledge resources. Online courses, virtual museum tours, educational videos, and interactive simulations open doors to global learning experiences. Parents can nurture curiosity by encouraging exploration beyond mandatory assignments.

If a child expresses interest in astronomy, coding, art, or environmental science, parents can help them find credible digital resources or projects aligned with those interests. This not only deepens knowledge but also fosters intrinsic motivation and passion-driven learning.

## Balancing screen time with real-world experiences

While digital tools are powerful, real-world experiences remain irreplaceable. Parents should ensure that technology complements rather than dominates learning. Hands-on activities, reading physical books, conducting simple science experiments at home, or engaging in creative arts provide valuable tactile and sensory experiences.

Encouraging children to apply digital learning in practical contexts reinforces understanding. For example, a child studying environmental sustainability online can participate in a local recycling initiative or gardening project. Blending digital knowledge with real-world action enhances retention and relevance.

## Staying engaged with educators

Parents supporting self-paced education at home should maintain regular communication with teachers and schools. Understanding curriculum expectations, assessment methods, and available support resources ensures alignment between home and school learning.

Constructive collaboration between parents and educators helps identify strengths and address challenges early. This partnership creates a cohesive support system around the student.



## Modeling lifelong learning

Perhaps the most powerful way parents can support self-paced education is by modeling a growth mindset. When children see parents reading, learning new skills, or exploring digital tools constructively, they internalize the value of continuous learning. Demonstrating curiosity, adaptability, and perseverance sets a powerful example.

Learning in the digital age is not static; it evolves continuously. Parents who embrace this evolution alongside their children reinforce the idea that education is a lifelong endeavor.

Self-paced and technology-driven education represents a significant shift in how learning occurs. It offers personalized pathways, greater flexibility, and access to global resources. However, its success depends not only on advanced digital platforms but also on strong support systems at home.

Parents serve as facilitators, mentors, and emotional anchors in this journey. By creating structured yet flexible environments, encouraging responsible technology use, fostering independence, supporting emotional wellbeing, and nurturing curiosity, parents can help their children thrive in a personalized learning ecosystem.

In an era where education extends beyond the classroom walls, the home becomes an integral learning space. With thoughtful guidance and partnership, parents can ensure that technology enhances—not replaces—the human connection at the heart of education.

# Queen's International School British Excellence in Central Doha

**Q**ueen's International School in Qatar delivers the English National Curriculum through a structured and academically rigorous approach. It combines the strengths of The Artemis Promise with an inclusive mindset that reflects the needs of a diverse, international community. Learning is guided by high academic standards, clear progression, and a focus on developing confident, well-rounded students.



From the Early Years Foundation Stage through to Secondary school, students follow a broad and balanced curriculum designed to build strong academic foundations. Each stage is carefully sequenced to provide continuity and depth, helping learners grow their knowledge and skills over time. In Secondary, students' progress towards internationally recognised IGCSE and A Level qualifications, preparing them for future study and success.

Teaching at Queen's Qatar is led by highly experienced teachers who combine UK and international teaching experience with strong local insight. In every classroom, students are encouraged to think independently, work collaboratively, and engage deeply with their learning. British values—respect, responsibility, resilience, and kindness—are woven throughout school life, shaping both academic and personal development. Beyond the academic day, a rich co-curricular programme in Sports, the Arts, leadership, and Community Outreach further support the development of the whole child.



performance areas, and sports facilities provide students with opportunities to explore interests and apply learning in practical and meaningful ways.

Queen's Qatar is a member of the Council of British International Schools (COBIS) and Educational Collaborative for International Schools (ECIS), a Pearson Edexcel Test Centre, and a White Rose Maths Champion School, reflecting its commitment to delivering high-quality British education with a global mindset.

Families interested in a British education at Queen's Qatar are invited to contact the Admissions Team for further information and guidance on the application process at [admissions@queensqatar.school](mailto:admissions@queensqatar.school) or on +974 4458 9000.



The school's facilities are designed to enhance learning across the curriculum. Modern classrooms, science and technology spaces, creative and



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# Becoming a problem solver

Teaching children how to think through challenges instead of giving up

**E**very child faces challenges. A difficult math question, a disagreement with a friend, a science project that does not work as planned, or even learning to ride a bicycle can feel overwhelming at first. In these moments, children often experience frustration and may say, "I can't do it." The difference between giving up and growing stronger lies in one essential life skill: problem-solving.

Problem-solving is not about always knowing the right answer. It is about learning how to think, how to try different approaches, and how to stay calm when things do not go as expected. Teaching children to become problem solvers prepares them not only

for academic success but also for real-life challenges they will encounter as they grow.

The first step in developing problem-solving skills is helping children understand that challenges are normal. Many children believe that if something feels hard, it means they are not smart enough. Adults can change this belief by explaining that difficulty is often a sign that the brain is learning. When something feels challenging, the brain is working harder and building new connections. This understanding reduces fear and builds confidence.

Encouraging children to pause and think before reacting is another powerful strategy. When faced with a problem, children often



respond emotionally. They may become upset, frustrated, or anxious. Teaching them to take a deep breath and calmly look at the situation helps them move from emotion to reasoning. A calm mind makes better decisions.

Breaking a problem into smaller steps makes it more manageable. For example, if a child struggles with a long word problem in mathematics, guiding them to read it sentence by sentence can make it less intimidating. If they have a large school project, helping them divide it into smaller tasks with deadlines prevents overwhelm. Small successes build momentum and confidence.

Asking guiding questions instead of giving immediate answers strengthens independent thinking. When a child says, "I don't understand this," instead of explaining everything at once, adults can ask, "What part is confusing?" or "What do you already know about this topic?" These questions encourage children to use what they already understand as a starting point. Over time, they learn to ask themselves similar questions.



It is also important to teach children that there is often more than one solution to a problem. In creative subjects such as art and writing, multiple answers may be correct. Even in mathematics and science, different methods can lead to the same result. Encouraging flexible thinking helps children see that challenges are opportunities to explore, not obstacles to fear.

Failure plays an important role in becoming a problem solver. When something does not work, it provides valuable information. Instead of viewing failure as the end, children should learn to ask, "What can I do differently next time?" This shift in perspective builds resilience. Many great inventors and scientists achieved success only after many attempts. They succeeded because they did not stop trying.

Real-life situations provide excellent opportunities for practice. If siblings argue over a toy, instead of solving the issue immediately, adults can guide them through the process. Asking, "What solutions can you think of?" helps children learn negotiation and compromise. If a child forgets homework, discussing strategies to prevent it next time builds responsibility rather than blame.

Celebrating effort is equally important. When children attempt to solve a problem, even if they do not succeed immediately, acknowledging their persistence reinforces positive behavior. Statements such as "I like how you kept trying different ways" focus on effort rather than outcome. Over time, children begin to value persistence more than quick success.

# Teach Problem-Solving Skills by Age



## 3-6 Years Old

- **Help them name emotions:**  
"Are you feeling sad?  
How can we make you feel better?"
- **Introduce simple solutions:**  
"How about we try this...  
Do you want to try that?"
- **Encourage trial and error:**  
"It's okay if it doesn't work for the first time. Let's try again!"



## 7-10 Years Old

- **Ask specific "what if" questions:**  
"What if this happened?  
What might happen next?"
- **Make a plan together:**  
"Let's write down some steps  
we can try. What should we do first?"
- **Celebrate small wins:**  
"That was a great idea!  
Let's keep going!"

**Activities:** Strategy games, science experiments, creative building!



## 11-14 Years Old

- **Teach how to research:**  
"Where can we find information about this? What resources can we use?"
- **Encourage them to break it down:**  
"Let's list all the parts of the problem.  
What should we tackle first?"
- **Discuss different options:**  
"What are the pros and cons of this idea?  
How about the other options?"

**Activities:** Online research, coding projects, escape room games.



- **Analyze long-term outcomes:**  
What might happen if we do this?  
How about in a year from now?"
- **Let them lead problem-solving:**  
"What's your plan for tackling this?"  
How do you think we should start?"
- **Support independent thinking:**  
"I trust you to make the best decision.  
I'm here if you need advice."

Technology can also support problem-solving skills when used wisely. Educational games, puzzles, coding activities, and strategy-based tasks encourage logical thinking. However, children should also experience real-world challenges such as building with blocks, solving riddles, or completing hands-on experiments. These experiences strengthen practical reasoning and creativity.

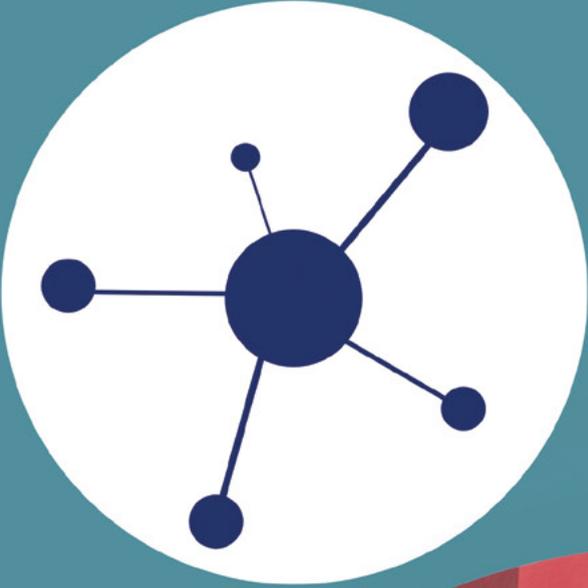
Parents and teachers serve as powerful role models. When adults encounter problems and speak aloud about their thinking process—such as planning steps, weighing options, or adjusting strategies—children observe how effective problem-solving works. Modeling calm and thoughtful behavior during difficulties teaches more than words alone.

Becoming a problem solver is not about eliminating frustration. It is about learning how to manage it. Children who develop this skill become more

confident learners. They are willing to try new activities, ask questions, and take healthy risks. They understand that challenges are part of growth, not proof of inability.

In a world that is constantly changing, the ability to think critically and adapt is more valuable than memorizing facts. Teaching children how to approach challenges thoughtfully prepares them for school, relationships, and future careers. Most importantly, it empowers them to believe in their own ability to overcome obstacles.

When children learn to face difficulties with patience and persistence, they do more than solve problems. They build strength of character. They discover that they are capable of more than they imagined. And with every challenge they overcome, they grow into confident, independent thinkers ready to shape their future.



# Using technology wisely to build problem-solving skills

LINK IT!



**T**echnology is an important part of children's lives today. From tablets and laptops to educational apps and interactive games, digital tools are now common in both homes and classrooms.

While some people worry that technology may distract children, it can also be a powerful tool for

learning when used thoughtfully. In fact, when guided properly, technology can help children develop strong problem-solving skills.

Problem-solving is the ability to think through challenges, test ideas, learn from mistakes, and find solutions. Technology offers many opportunities for children to practice these skills in engaging

and meaningful ways. The key is not simply using devices, but using them with purpose.

Educational games, for example, often require children to think logically and strategically. Puzzle-based apps encourage players to analyze patterns, plan moves, and adjust strategies when something does not work. Instead of giving up, children learn



to try different approaches until they succeed. This process strengthens persistence and flexible thinking.

Coding activities are another powerful way technology builds problem-solving skills. When children learn basic programming concepts, they begin to understand how instructions work step by step. If a program does not function correctly, they must identify the error and correct it. This teaches careful thinking, attention to detail, and the ability to troubleshoot. Coding also shows children that mistakes are not failures—they are clues that guide improvement.

Interactive simulations and virtual experiments can also support deeper understanding. In science-based programs, students may test hypotheses in a digital environment, adjust variables, and observe results. These experiences encourage inquiry and analytical thinking. Rather than memorizing information, children actively explore and discover solutions.

Technology can also promote creative problem-solving. Digital drawing tools, storytelling platforms, and video-editing software allow children to express ideas in new ways. When creating a digital project, they must make decisions, organize information, and solve technical challenges. These experiences combine creativity with logical reasoning.

However, for technology to truly support learning, guidance is essential. Passive screen time—such as endless scrolling or watching videos without reflection—does not build strong thinking skills. Adults should encourage active engagement. Asking questions like “What strategy are you using?” or

“What will you try next?” helps children reflect on their thinking process.

Setting clear boundaries is also important. Balanced screen time ensures that technology complements, rather than replaces, real-world experiences. Hands-on activities such as building with blocks, conducting simple experiments, or solving puzzles without screens remain valuable for cognitive development. The goal is not to choose between digital and traditional learning, but to combine both effectively.

Parents and teachers can further strengthen technology’s benefits by modeling thoughtful use. When adults use devices for research, planning, or learning new skills, children observe that technology is a tool for growth rather than just entertainment. This shapes responsible digital habits.

Collaboration through technology can also enhance problem-solving. Online group projects, educational platforms, and interactive challenges allow children to share ideas and work together. Discussing solutions with peers exposes them to different perspectives and encourages teamwork.

It is equally important to teach digital responsibility. Children should learn to evaluate information carefully, think critically about online sources, and protect their privacy. These skills are part of modern



problem-solving, as navigating the digital world requires careful judgment.

When used wisely, technology becomes more than a device. It becomes a learning partner. It provides safe spaces to experiment, fail, adjust, and try again. It encourages curiosity and persistence. It allows children to approach challenges from multiple angles.

In today’s rapidly changing world, problem-solving is one of the most valuable skills a child can develop. Technology, when guided with intention and balance, can play a powerful role in nurturing that skill. By encouraging purposeful use and thoughtful engagement, parents and educators can ensure that digital tools help children grow into confident, capable thinkers prepared to face the challenges of the future.

# Caring for our planet what students can do

**T**he Earth is the only home we have. It gives us air to breathe, water to drink, food to eat, and beautiful places to explore. From oceans and forests to deserts and mountains, our planet is full of life and wonder.

But today, the environment faces serious challenges such as pollution, climate change, and the loss of wildlife habitats. While these problems may seem big, students—no matter their age—have the power to make a real difference.

Protecting the environment does not always require grand gestures. In fact, small daily actions, when practiced by many people, can create powerful change. Students can begin by understanding that every choice they make matters.

One of the simplest and most effective ways students can help the planet is by reducing waste. Many everyday items, such as plastic bottles, snack wrappers, and disposable bags, end up in landfills or oceans. Students can carry reusable water bottles instead of buying plastic ones. They can use lunchboxes instead of single-use packaging and choose cloth bags when shopping with their families. At school, they can use both sides of paper and recycle whenever possible. These small habits reduce the amount of trash that harms the environment.

Another important action is saving energy. Electricity is often produced using fuels that release harmful gases into the atmosphere. Students can develop the habit of

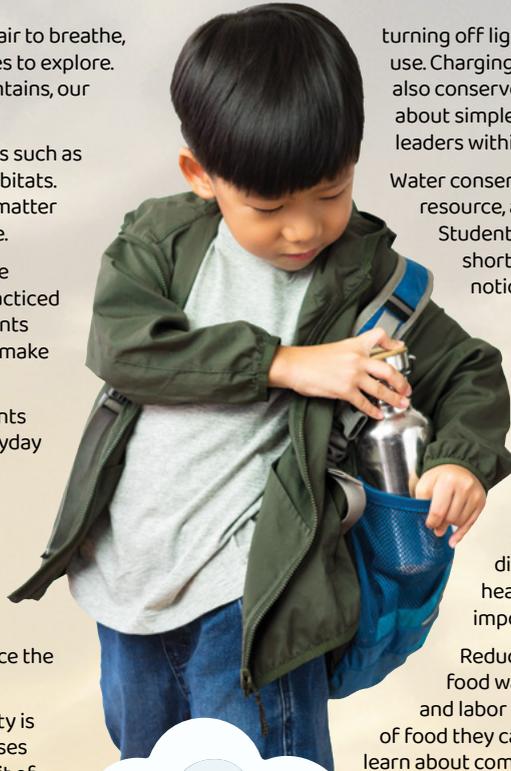
turning off lights, fans, and electronic devices when they are not in use. Charging devices only when needed and unplugging chargers can also conserve energy. At home, students can remind family members about simple energy-saving practices, becoming environmental leaders within their households.

Water conservation is equally important. Clean water is a precious resource, and not everyone in the world has easy access to it.

Students can turn off the tap while brushing their teeth, take shorter showers, and ensure taps are tightly closed. If they notice leaks at school or home, informing an adult can prevent unnecessary water waste. Learning to value water teaches responsibility and respect for natural resources.

Students can also protect the planet by caring for green spaces. Planting trees, flowers, or even small plants at home contributes to cleaner air and supports wildlife. Participating in school gardening projects or community clean-up activities builds a sense of shared responsibility. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and provide shade, making cities cooler and healthier. Even caring for a small plant teaches students the importance of nurturing life.

Reducing food waste is another practical step. Throwing away food wastes not only the food itself but also the water, energy, and labor used to produce it. Students can take only the amount of food they can finish and save leftovers when possible. They can also learn about composting, which turns food scraps into natural fertilizer for plants instead of sending them to landfills.



Transportation choices also affect the environment. Whenever possible, walking, cycling, or using public transport reduces air pollution. Carpooling with classmates is another effective way to reduce emissions. While students may not always control transportation decisions, they can discuss eco-friendly options with their families and encourage greener choices.

Beyond physical actions, students can use their voices. Talking about environmental protection with friends and family spreads awareness. Creating posters, participating in school environmental clubs, or organizing small campaigns can inspire others to act. Knowledge is powerful, and informed students can influence entire communities.



Technology can also be used wisely to protect the planet. Students can research environmental topics, watch educational documentaries, and learn about sustainable practices around the world. However, they should also remember to balance screen time with outdoor activities, developing a personal connection to nature. Spending time outside—observing birds, feeling the breeze, or caring for plants—strengthens appreciation for the environment.

Most importantly, students should understand that protecting the planet is not about being perfect. It is about making consistent, thoughtful choices. Every reusable bottle, every switched-off light, every planted seed matters. When millions of young people take small steps, those steps combine into meaningful change.

Caring for the Earth is a shared responsibility across generations. Today's students are tomorrow's leaders, scientists, teachers, and decision-makers. By developing environmentally responsible habits now, they prepare themselves to build a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable world.



The planet does not need a few people doing everything perfectly. It needs many people doing what they can. And students, with their energy, creativity, and determination, are more than capable of leading the way.





# Volunteering ideas for teenagers

**V**olunteering has many benefits for teens. Helping others certainly open their eyes to many of the needs that exist in today's world. Community service projects can also teach valuable skills that will be helpful to a teen in college or during future employment.

## Opportunities online

There are many online resources that can help you locate local volunteer opportunities. If you're not sure where to begin, try checking websites that are specifically geared toward helping students and teens locate volunteer opportunities.

## Local opportunities

You can also locate volunteer opportunities for teens by contacting local groups and organizations. Inquire about which groups accept young volunteers and ask questions that will help you determine if a specific opportunity is a good match for your child. Here are some suggestions about where and how to locate volunteer opportunities:



### 1. Animal shelters

Your local animal shelter may need help cleaning, walking dogs, petting cats, or even fundraising. Animal shelters may have age requirements that prevent younger teens from volunteering without an adult present.

### 2. Libraries

Libraries often welcome volunteers of all ages to put books on shelves, organize displays, or read to children.

### 3. School clubs

If your teen isn't likely to follow through with volunteering independently, a school club can be a great alternative. Many high schools offer key clubs that get teens involved in giving back to the local community.



### 4. Nursing homes

Nursing homes, boarding homes, or other facilities that serve the elderly often need volunteers. A teen who volunteers with the elderly may be able to do anything from assisting people with making crafts to providing them with musical entertainment.

### 5. Environmental organizations

Many environmental causes are always looking for eager volunteers. Teens can formally assist an organization with cleaning up trails or neighborhoods, or simply provide clean-up services on an informal basis. Get a group of teens together and volunteer to clean a local beach or park.

### 8. Homeless shelters

Soup kitchens and homeless shelters often rely on

volunteers. Teens may be able to serve food, donate toiletries, or assist staff with various projects.

### 6. Red Cross

The Red Cross has many activities and service projects designed specifically for youth. Volunteer opportunities can range from fundraising to disaster response. Check with your local Red Cross about current volunteer needs and opportunities.

### 7. Hospitals

Hospitals often depend on volunteers to help with anything from printing pamphlets to giving directions. Teens who are interested in a future career in the healthcare field may especially benefit from volunteering in a medical setting.

### 8. Fundraising

Many community service agencies need help with fundraising. Teens who aren't able to commit to regular volunteer work may be able to get involved with an organization's fundraising events.



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# VCUarts Qatar: Shaping creative career paths for more than 25 years



For more than twenty-five years, Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar (VCUarts Qatar) has grown and adapted alongside the region, embracing new ideas and new ways of thinking. The School's programs and partnerships have helped shape Qatar's emerging creative economy, bringing global perspectives into a uniquely local context. Today, VCUarts Qatar is not only a place where artists and designers learn their craft, but a community that sparks experimentation, supports collaboration, and continually pushes the creative conversation forward.

The School attracts students to transform their talents and passions into meaningful careers, making the Doha campus a home base for artists, designers, scholars and researchers who are driven by exploration, experimentation, and authentic expression.

VCUQ Graduates gain contemporary skills and global exposure: Studying, exhibiting, and working in exciting design hubs like Paris, Tokyo, and London.



This success stems from the School's unique ecosystem: an academic environment that was grown within the rich learning environment of Qatar's Education City.

VCUarts Qatar offers undergraduate degrees in Graphic Design, Interior Design, Kinetic Imaging, Painting + Printmaking, and Art History, as well as an MFA in Design. Its newest program is the BFA in Kinetic Imaging. This exciting new option invites students to explore the intersections of creativity and technology using robotics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and coding.

A core strength of VCUarts Qatar is its specialized resources and facilities. In addition to an extensive art and design library, VCUarts Qatar houses the region's only Materials Library within an academic institution, featuring more than 10,000 material samples from around the world. This interdisciplinary hub brings together students, faculty, engineers, and entrepreneurs to explore unconventional material applications.

Beyond the classroom, VCUarts Qatar is an active contributor to Qatar National Vision 2030, advancing culture, education, sustainability, and



economic diversification. Through research initiatives such as the Institute for Creative Research, and partnerships throughout Qatar's creative and design community – including M7, Doha Design District, Qatar Museums, and the Arab Engineering Bureau, among many others – the university fosters innovation and entrepreneurship.

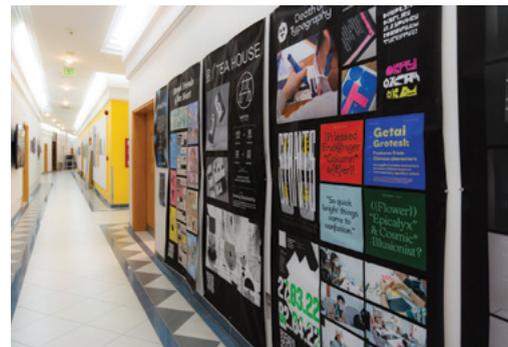


VCUarts Qatar's involvement in internationally recognized platforms such as the London Design Biennale and Ars Electronica demonstrates how the university extends its creative influence beyond national borders while amplifying Qatar's global cultural identity. These exhibitions allow faculty, alumni and students to present research and projects that engage with timely global issues, ranging from technological ethics to environmental sustainability. By contributing original work that reflects both regional sensibilities and international standards, VCUarts Qatar enhances the visibility of Qatar's commitment to creative innovation.

In November 2025, VCUarts Qatar once again hosted its flagship event, The Biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Symposium on Islamic Art, gathering leading thinkers and scholars to Doha to explore the theme: "Islam and Visual Culture in Contemporary Asia." The Symposium, widely recognized as a global platform for meaningful arts scholarship, highlighted how Muslim communities throughout South, Southeast, and East Asia engage with Islamic art in diverse cultural settings. This year's edition pushed the boundaries of traditional Islamic art discourse by decentering West Asian narratives and amplifying practices often overlooked in the field.



VCUarts Qatar has cultivated a generation of internationally recognized artists, designers, and creative leaders, recognized by institutions including the Red Dot Award and the International Property Awards.



Every year, VCUarts Qatar welcomes new students into the thriving network of over 1,000 alumni and the broader global community connected to its Richmond main campus, where more than 30,000 students from 140 countries study.

Rooted in originality and driven by experimentation, VCUarts Qatar remains committed to nurturing creativity without limits, preparing a new generation of artists, designers, and innovators ready to make their mark on the world.

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# EMERGING CAREER FIELDS

## What students should prepare for

The world is entering an era defined by unprecedented technological advancement, environmental urgency, and global interconnectedness. For students today, choosing a career is no longer simply about selecting a stable profession; it is about preparing for a future that is continuously evolving.

Entire industries are being transformed, and new professions are emerging at a pace never seen before. Many of the careers that will dominate the next two decades did not exist a generation ago, and many traditional roles are being reshaped by automation, digitalization, and scientific innovation. In this dynamic environment, students must prepare not only for specific careers but also for a lifetime of learning, adaptability, and growth.

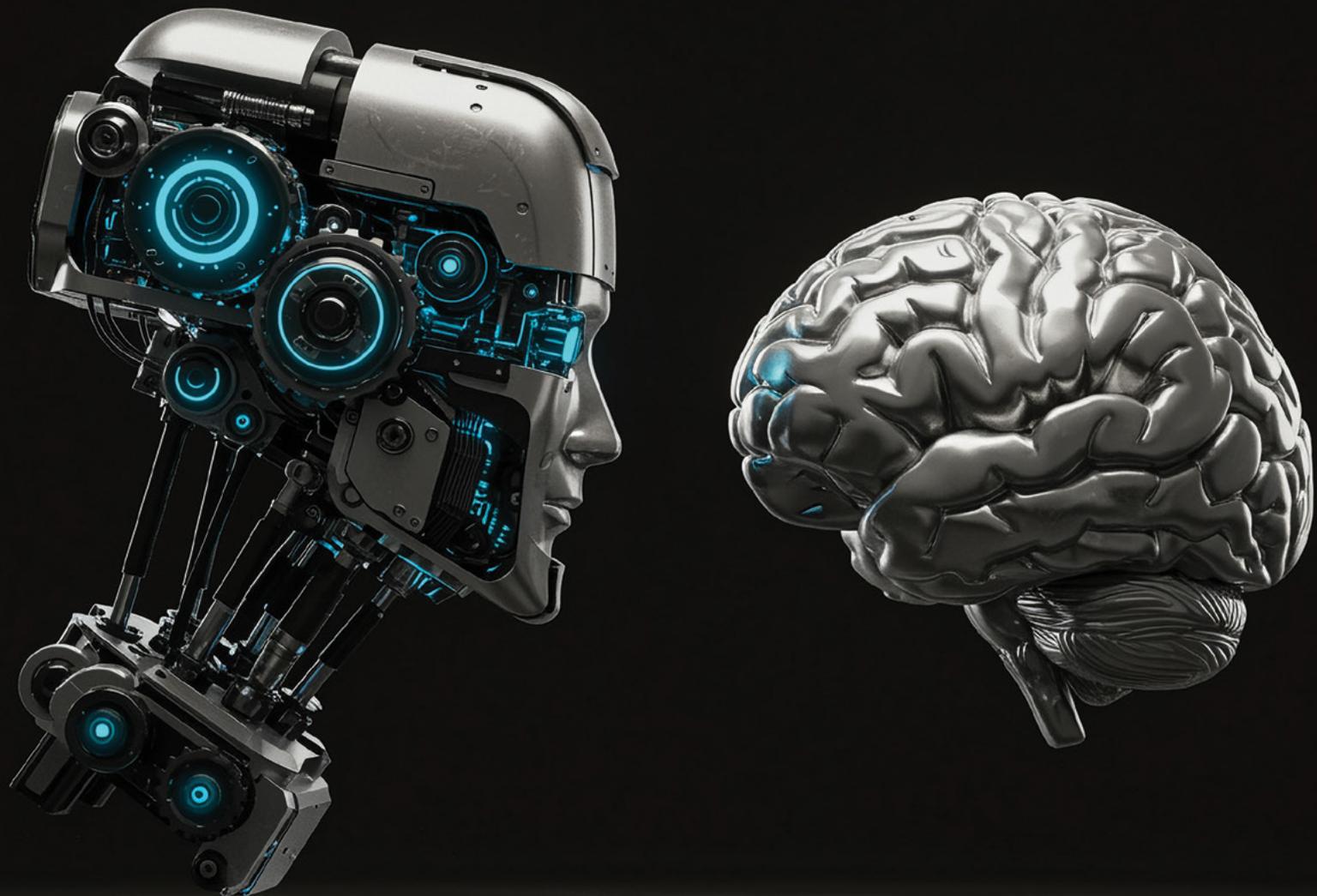
One of the most influential forces shaping the future of work is artificial intelligence. AI has

already moved beyond research laboratories and into everyday life, powering voice assistants, recommendation systems, medical diagnostics, financial forecasting, and autonomous technologies. Global technology leaders such as OpenAI, Google, and Microsoft are investing billions of dollars into developing AI systems that can learn, reason, and assist humans in complex decision-making processes.

As AI becomes integrated into healthcare, education, transportation, finance, and governance, there is a rapidly growing demand for professionals who understand how to design, manage, and improve intelligent systems. Students interested in this field must develop strong foundations in mathematics, logic, computer science, and analytical thinking. However, beyond technical expertise, AI professionals must also understand ethical

considerations, human behavior, and the societal implications of intelligent machines. Artificial intelligence will not only create new professions but also transform existing roles, making AI literacy an essential skill across multiple disciplines.

Closely connected to artificial intelligence is the expanding field of data science and big data analytics. In today's digital economy, data has become one of the most valuable assets. Every interaction conducted online—whether through social media, digital payments, healthcare systems, or smart devices—generates enormous amounts of information. Organizations rely on this data to understand patterns, predict trends, and make strategic decisions. Companies such as NVIDIA, which develops advanced computing technologies, play a critical role in enabling data processing at unprecedented speeds.





Data scientists analyze complex datasets to uncover insights that improve efficiency, enhance customer experiences, and drive innovation. This field requires students to develop a combination of technical and intellectual skills, including statistical reasoning, programming, critical thinking, and the ability to interpret complex information. What makes data science particularly powerful is its universal relevance; it is not limited to one industry but is essential in healthcare, finance, logistics, education, environmental science, and public policy.

Another rapidly expanding career field is cybersecurity. As societies become increasingly dependent on digital infrastructure, protecting sensitive information has become a top priority for governments, corporations, and institutions.

Cyber threats are growing not only in number but also in sophistication, targeting financial systems, healthcare records, national security infrastructure, and personal data. Cybersecurity professionals serve as the guardians of the digital world, identifying vulnerabilities, preventing cyberattacks,

and responding to security breaches. This field offers exceptional career stability because cybersecurity threats are unlikely to diminish; instead, they are expected to increase as digital systems become more complex.

## CYBER THREATS

### Industry Breakdown 2025 Who Are the Biggest Targets?

A data-driven comparison of breach cost, attack frequency, and risk posture across key sectors.

#### Healthcare—Highest Cost, Longest Breach Lifecycle



#### Average breach cost

**Mega breaches:** 2% of incidents → 76% of exposed records (insurance networks, large providers)

**Smaller hospitals pay more often** (upto 67%), large systems less (38-50%)

**Critical systems** = life-and-death operations → operational pressure

**Insight:** Most expensive; high-value PHI + critical operations  
→ resilience focus required

#### Financial Services—High Value Targets with High Stakes



#### Average breach cost

**10% of all breaches** happen via financial web portal/APIs

**Threat include:** banking fraud, account takeover, insider schemes

**Critical systems** = life-and-death operations → operational pressure

**Insight:** Monetizable data; must focus on authentication, anti-fraud AI, and API hardening.

#### Manufacturing—Highest Volume of Ransomware Attacks



#### Surge in ransomware attacks (2025)

**IT/OT convergence creates attack paths; downtime is catastrophic**

Factories lose millions/day if halted; attackers exploit this leverage

**Ripple effects:** one supplier breach → multiple assembly plants impacted

**Larger manufacturers improving segmentation;** small factories remain vulnerable.

**Insight:** Monetizable data; must focus on authentication, anti-fraud AI, and API hardening.



Students who pursue cybersecurity must develop technical expertise in computer systems and networks while also cultivating problem-solving abilities, strategic thinking, and a deep understanding of emerging technologies.

While digital technology dominates much of the discussion about future careers, environmental sustainability has emerged as an equally important and urgent field. Climate change, resource depletion, and environmental degradation are among the most pressing challenges facing humanity. As a result, countries and corporations are investing heavily in renewable energy, sustainable infrastructure, and environmental protection.



Companies such as Tesla have demonstrated how innovation can transform entire industries by advancing electric vehicles and clean energy solutions. Careers in renewable energy, environmental science, and sustainability are becoming increasingly vital, offering students the opportunity to contribute to global solutions while building meaningful and impactful careers. These professions require a multidisciplinary approach

that combines scientific knowledge, engineering expertise, environmental awareness, and policy understanding.

Healthcare is another sector undergoing a profound transformation, driven by advances in biotechnology, digital health, and medical innovation. Technologies such as telemedicine, robotic surgery, wearable health monitoring devices, and genetic engineering are revolutionizing how

healthcare is delivered and managed. Institutions such as the World Health Organization emphasize the importance of integrating technology with healthcare to improve global health outcomes and accessibility.



The future of healthcare will require professionals who can bridge the gap between medicine and technology, combining scientific knowledge with digital expertise. This includes specialists who can analyze medical data, develop new treatments, design medical devices, and improve healthcare systems through technological innovation. Healthcare careers offer not only job security but also the opportunity to make a direct and meaningful impact on human wellbeing.

Automation and robotics are also reshaping industries across the world. Machines are increasingly capable of performing tasks that





require precision, consistency, and efficiency. Robotics is transforming manufacturing, logistics, healthcare, and even agriculture. Rather than eliminating human involvement, automation is shifting the nature of work. New roles are emerging that focus on designing, programming, managing, and maintaining automated systems. Students who pursue careers in robotics must combine technical skills with creativity and innovation, as robotics involves not only engineering but also problem-solving and system design.

The financial sector is experiencing its own revolution through financial technology, commonly known as fintech. Traditional banking systems are being transformed by digital payment platforms, blockchain technology, mobile banking, and digital currencies. Financial transactions that once required physical banks can now be completed instantly through smartphones and digital platforms. This transformation is creating demand for professionals who understand both finance and technology.

The fintech sector offers opportunities for students interested in economics, business, programming, and innovation. As digital finance continues to expand globally, professionals in this field will play a crucial role in shaping the future of economic systems.

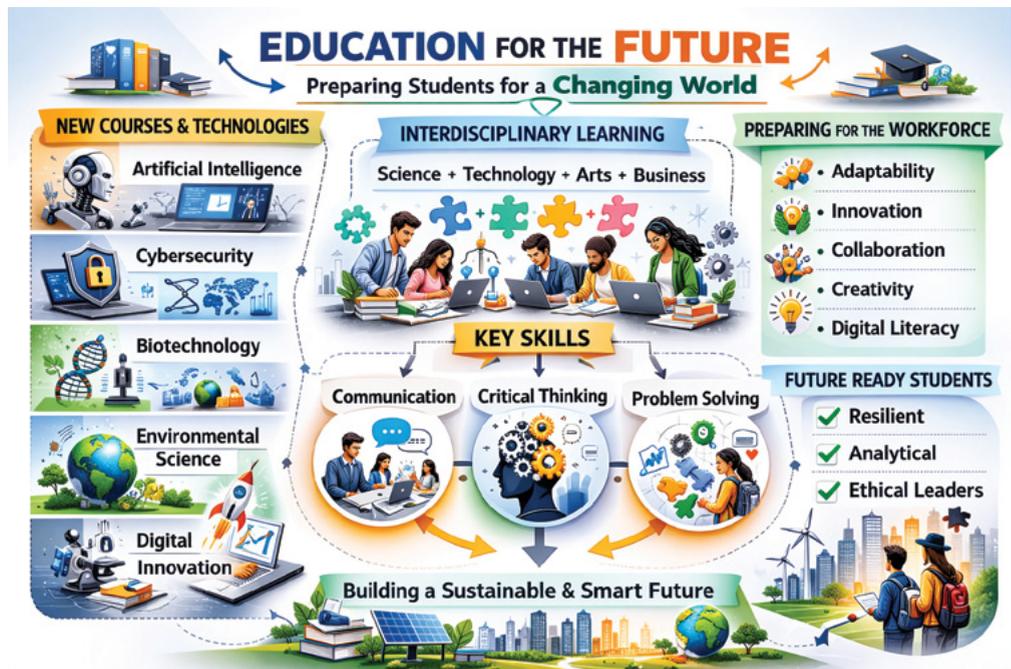
**The careers of the future will be shaped not just by academic qualifications, but by a student's ability to blend technical expertise with creativity, ethical responsibility, and a commitment to lifelong learning. As industries rapidly evolve through artificial intelligence, sustainability initiatives, digital transformation, and scientific breakthroughs, adaptability and continuous skill development will emerge as the most valuable assets in the modern workforce.**

In addition to these highly technical fields, the digital media and creative industries are expanding rapidly. The rise of social media, streaming platforms, digital marketing, and online content creation has created entirely new career paths that combine creativity with technology. Digital communication has become essential for businesses, governments, and organizations seeking to connect with global audiences.

and quality of life. Smart cities use sensors, data analytics, and digital systems to manage resources efficiently and enhance sustainability. Research and innovation initiatives led by institutions such as Qatar Foundation and academic institutions based in Education City are contributing to the development of smart infrastructure and advanced urban systems. These initiatives are preparing students to participate in building the cities of the future, where technology and sustainability work together to improve living standards.

As these emerging career fields demonstrate, the future workforce will be shaped by the intersection of technology, science, creativity, and human-centered thinking. However, preparing for these careers requires more than simply choosing the right academic subject. Students must cultivate adaptability, curiosity, and a willingness to learn continuously. The pace of change means that many professionals will need to update their skills multiple times throughout their careers. Lifelong learning will become the foundation of professional success.

Educational institutions are increasingly recognizing this reality and adapting their programs accordingly. Universities and schools are introducing new courses in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, biotechnology, environmental science, and digital innovation. They are also emphasizing interdisciplinary education, encouraging students to combine technical knowledge with communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. This holistic approach prepares students not only for specific jobs but also for the broader challenges of the future workforce.



Students who possess creative thinking, storytelling abilities, and digital skills can pursue careers in multimedia production, digital marketing, content creation, and communication strategy. These careers highlight the fact that the future workforce will require not only technical expertise but also creativity, emotional intelligence, and cultural awareness.

Another emerging area of opportunity lies in smart cities and urban innovation. As cities grow and populations increase, governments are adopting advanced technologies to improve urban infrastructure, transportation, energy efficiency,

Ultimately, the careers of tomorrow will belong to those who are prepared to embrace change and innovation. The future will reward individuals who are not only knowledgeable but also adaptable, creative, and forward-thinking. Students who invest in developing relevant skills, exploring new technologies, and cultivating intellectual curiosity will find themselves well-positioned to thrive in a rapidly evolving world. The emerging career fields of today represent not only opportunities for employment but also opportunities to shape the future of society itself.

# Northwestern Qatar showcases excellence and expertise at Web Summit 2026, with a deeper, more dynamic presence



Northwestern Qatar marked its third year at Web Summit Qatar with a larger pavilion and expanded programming, delivering more than 60 sessions on media, technology, and AI

From live podcasts and micro-classes to immersive exhibitions and policy conversations, Northwestern University in Qatar showcased the breadth of community excellence and expertise at Web Summit Qatar 2026 (WSQ) through a deeper, more dynamic presence at the intersection of media, technology, and artificial intelligence.

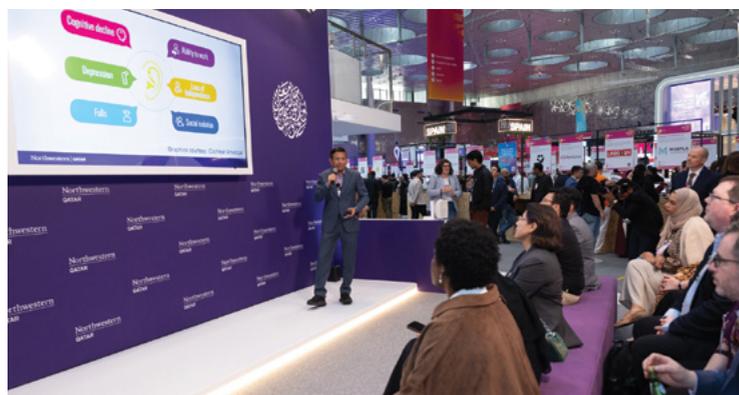
Marking its third consecutive year at the Summit, the University brought together research, teaching, and creative practice through a larger pavilion and broader programming, creating multiple points of engagement with its academic programs and strategic initiatives, including the Institute for Advanced Study in the Global South (#IAS\_NUQ) and the Artificial Intelligence and Media (AIM) Lab to the Media Majlis Museum.

**"Being at Web Summit Qatar gives us a chance to share the excellent work we do across the campus," said Marwan M. Kraidy, dean and CEO of Northwestern Qatar. "It's not just faculty research or student projects; it's the full range of expertise we cultivate here. Being able to show how our work connects media, communication, and technology in real ways to the broader world is what makes this presence meaningful."**

At the forefront of this year's Web Summit presence was the WSQ Committee, chaired by Assistant Dean for Communications and Public Affairs Nisar Keshvani, which brought together faculty, students, and staff from across academic and research programs. "Our goal was to expand both the scale and the depth of engagement, offering participants multiple ways to engage with the work of NU-Q and connect with our faculty and students," noted Keshvani.

## A two-story hub for dialogue and discovery

Located at #E428, the pavilion spanned 14 by 10.5 meters, expanding from last year's 12 by 9 meters. Its 360-degree entry points welcomed visitors from every direction, while digital screens displayed content from #IAS\_NUQ, student-led film club Studio 20Q, student projects, and faculty trailers. Graphical totems



From the classroom to the global platform, faculty, scholars, student researchers, and Northwestern researchers, including Sumitrajit (Sumit) Dhar (in the photo), Associate Provost for Faculty at Northwestern University, showcased their work across academic programs and initiatives

emphasized the University's core values, and the open layout encouraged interaction, connecting visitors directly with faculty, students, and the ideas shaping community work.

**"We reimagined the pavilion as a two-story hub, with a dedicated stage for presentations and a podcast studio, while keeping the environment open and inviting. We wanted to create a place where dialogue, collaboration, and real-time learning could happen naturally," said Keshvani. "Our aim was to create a space that sparks conversation, encourages exploration, and lets people experience our work first hand," he added.**

Within this redesigned space, programming was anchored around four pathways, each offering a unique mode of engagement. "The four pathways allowed us to showcase our community's work from multiple angles," said Clovis

Bergère, director of #IAS\_NUQ and member of the Organizing Committee. "Dialogues of Impact brought global thinkers into conversation with NU-Q leadership; Learning in Motion translated academic insight into fast, practical sessions; the Innovation & Immersion Hub offered demonstrations and exhibition experiences; and the Podcast Studio & Live Conversations extended the dialogue beyond the pavilion."

Across these pathways, the expanded pavilion hosted around 60 presentations and podcast sessions, two live demos, a high-level networking gathering, and special programming, engaging more than 60 presenters and speakers and giving visitors the platform to engage directly with faculty, students, and research initiatives.

## Twenty minutes to insight

The main stage held around 25 sessions under the theme "Learning in Motion." The twenty-minute micro-classes and presentations were led by faculty, students, and alumni, translating academic research into practical, real-world applications. "These sessions gave participants the opportunity to engage with the content directly, applying academic concepts to tangible scenarios, which enhanced understanding and connection," said Bergère.



The Podcast Studio turned faculty, students, and researchers' ideas into live conversations with global voices, including industry leaders like WISE CEO Dr. Asyia Kazmi, OBE, connecting research, education, and innovation

## Conversations in real time and beyond

On the upper deck, the Podcast Studio hosted around 30 live and recorded episodes featuring faculty, visiting speakers, and industry professionals. "The studio allowed for both real-time engagement and post-event distribution, extending the reach of our discussions on media, technology, and AI," noted Rami Al-Badry, director of production and digital media and member of the Organizing Committee. "Attendees could watch content creation in action, interact with hosts, and engage in multimedia storytelling, providing a richer experience than a traditional stage or lecture setting."

## Experiencing media futures

The pavilion also featured an experiential corner powered by the Media Majlis Museum, showcasing "Media Futures: Memes, Machines & New Realities." This immersive exhibition invited visitors to engage with the ways media, technology, and storytelling, from memes and algorithms to AI-generated content, are shaping culture, public discourse, and imagined futures.

Alongside the exhibition, the Museum hosted hands-on workshops and interactive experiences that prompted visitors to explore and reflect on the intersections of creativity, research, and emerging technologies. "This off-site exhibition reflected NU-Q's commitment to research-led cultural practice, showing how scholarly inquiry and creative experimentation can come together to examine the social and ethical implications of emerging media and technologies," said Alfredo Cramerotti, director of the Media Majlis Museum and member of the Organizing Committee.

## Expanding connections with students and professionals

On the ground floor, the pavilion also functioned as a hub for direct engagement with six University departments: #IAS\_NUQ, Admissions, the AIM Lab, Media Majlis Museum, Executive Education, and the Dean's Office.

Prospective students connected with Admissions representatives to learn about programs and requirements, while professionals explored open-enrollment courses, masterclasses, and tailored training solutions. "We designed the space so that every visitor, whether a prospective student or a professional participant, could engage meaningfully with us, exploring programs and



The Media Majlis Museum engaged global audiences through an immersive exhibit and a series of workshops and podcasts that examined the evolving relationship among media, technology, and storytelling

initiatives that align with their interests and goals," said Alex Schultes, assistant dean for the student experience and member of the Organizing Committee.

## Examining the future of government communication

Also as part of this year's programming, Dean Kraidy hosted His Excellency Sheikh Jassim bin Mansour bin Jabor Al Thani, director of the Government Communication Office and chairman of the Permanent Web Summit Organising Committee, in a special Dean's Global Forum. The session, titled "AI, Media, and Tech: The Future of Government Communication," examined how emerging technologies are reshaping the way governments communicate with the public, offering attendees insights into the intersection of media innovation, policy, and societal impact.

"This year at Web Summit Qatar, our goal wasn't just to be seen; it was to be experienced," said Professor S. Venus Jin, associate dean for education, founding director of the Artificial Intelligence and Media (AIM) Lab, and vice chair of the Organizing Committee. "From micro-classes and live podcasts to immersive exhibits and hands-on workshops, every moment was designed to spark curiosity, challenge assumptions, and turn ideas into action."

She continued, "We wanted participants to leave not just with information, but with insight, seeing firsthand how Northwestern Qatar integrates research, creativity, and technology to tackle real-world challenges. Whether it was through the AIM Lab, #IAS\_NUQ projects, Media Majlis exhibitions, or our student initiatives, every element of the pavilion was a touchpoint for learning, dialogue, and collaboration."

With a deeper, more dynamic presence, Northwestern Qatar showcased the breadth of community excellence and expertise at Web Summit Qatar 2026, reinforcing the University's positioning as both a thought leader and a practical innovator.



Joining Dean Kraidy in a special edition of the Dean's Global Forum hosted at the University pavilion, GCO director H.E. Sheikh Jassim bin Mansour bin Jabor Al Thani discussed the evolving role of government communication

# Why vocational education is gaining momentum



**F**or decades, academic university education was widely viewed as the primary pathway to professional success. Societies often placed greater prestige on traditional academic degrees, while vocational and technical education was seen as a secondary option. However, this perception is rapidly changing.

In today's fast-evolving global economy, vocational and technical education has emerged as one of the most important pillars of workforce development, economic growth, and social progress. As industries become more specialized and technology-driven, there is an increasing demand for skilled professionals who possess practical expertise and

job-ready competencies.

Vocational and technical education, often referred to as Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), focuses on equipping students with hands-on skills and practical knowledge that prepare them directly for specific careers.

Unlike traditional academic programs that emphasize theoretical learning, vocational education emphasizes applied learning, allowing students to develop real-world competencies in fields such as engineering, healthcare, information technology, construction, automotive technology, hospitality, and advanced manufacturing.

One of the key reasons for the growing importance of vocational education is the changing nature of the global workforce. Industries today require highly skilled technicians, technologists, and specialists who can operate advanced machinery, manage complex systems, and support modern infrastructure.

As technology continues to transform industries, the demand for technically skilled workers has increased significantly. From renewable energy technicians and cybersecurity specialists to aviation maintenance engineers and healthcare technologists, vocational careers are now at the forefront of economic development.

Organizations such as the International Labour Organization emphasize that skills development through vocational training is essential for improving employment opportunities, enhancing productivity, and supporting sustainable economic growth. Technical education enables individuals to acquire the precise skills needed by industries, reducing the gap between education and employment. This alignment between training and labor market needs is one of the greatest strengths of vocational education.

Another important factor contributing to the rise of vocational education is the rapid advancement of technology. Modern industries rely on automation, robotics, artificial intelligence, and digital systems, all of which require specialized technical skills. These technologies must be installed, operated, maintained, and repaired by trained professionals. Vocational education provides students with the opportunity to work directly with advanced equipment and technologies, ensuring that they are fully prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation.

In many countries, vocational education is playing a crucial role in supporting national development strategies. Nations that invest in technical education are better equipped to build strong infrastructure, develop advanced industries, and attract global investment.

Skilled technicians and technical professionals form the backbone of sectors such as construction, transportation, energy, telecommunications, and manufacturing. Without a well-trained



technical workforce, economic progress would be significantly limited.

In rapidly developing countries such as Qatar, vocational education is becoming increasingly important as part of the transition toward a diversified and knowledge-based economy. National initiatives led by institutions such as Qatar Foundation aim to promote skills development, technical innovation, and workforce readiness. Educational and research institutions located within Education City are helping to prepare students for careers that combine technical expertise with innovation and practical application. These efforts align with national goals to develop local talent capable of supporting advanced industries, infrastructure projects, and technological development.

Vocational education also offers significant advantages for students in terms of career



recognizing and supporting different forms of talent, vocational education promotes inclusivity and ensures that individuals can pursue careers aligned with their strengths and interests.

Globally, governments and educational institutions are increasingly recognizing the importance of vocational education and investing in its expansion and modernization. Many countries are establishing technical training centers, upgrading equipment and facilities, and developing partnerships between educational institutions and industry. These partnerships ensure that vocational programs remain relevant and responsive to changing industry needs. International organizations such as the UNESCO have highlighted vocational education as a key component of sustainable development, emphasizing its role in promoting economic resilience, innovation, and social mobility.

The integration of vocational education with emerging technologies is also creating new opportunities. Modern vocational programs now include training in areas such as robotics, renewable energy systems, digital technologies, and advanced manufacturing. These programs prepare students for careers that did not exist in the past and ensure that they are equipped to work in technologically advanced environments. This evolution reflects the growing recognition that vocational education is not limited to traditional trades but is essential for supporting the industries of the future.

Furthermore, vocational education helps address one of the most significant challenges facing many economies: the skills gap. Employers often struggle to find workers with the technical skills required to operate modern equipment and systems. Vocational education helps bridge this gap by producing graduates who are ready to contribute immediately to the workforce. This benefits both employers and employees, improving productivity and reducing unemployment.

It is also important to recognize that vocational education does not limit future opportunities. On the contrary, it provides a strong foundation for lifelong learning and career advancement. Many vocational graduates continue their education, pursuing advanced technical certifications, diplomas, and even university degrees. Vocational education can serve as a stepping stone to higher education, leadership roles, and specialized expertise.

readiness and employment opportunities. One of its greatest strengths is its direct connection to the job market. Vocational programs are often developed in collaboration with industry partners, ensuring that the skills taught are relevant and up to date.

Students gain practical experience through workshops, laboratories, apprenticeships, and internships, allowing them to develop confidence and competence in their chosen fields. As a result, vocational graduates are often able to enter the workforce more quickly than traditional academic graduates.

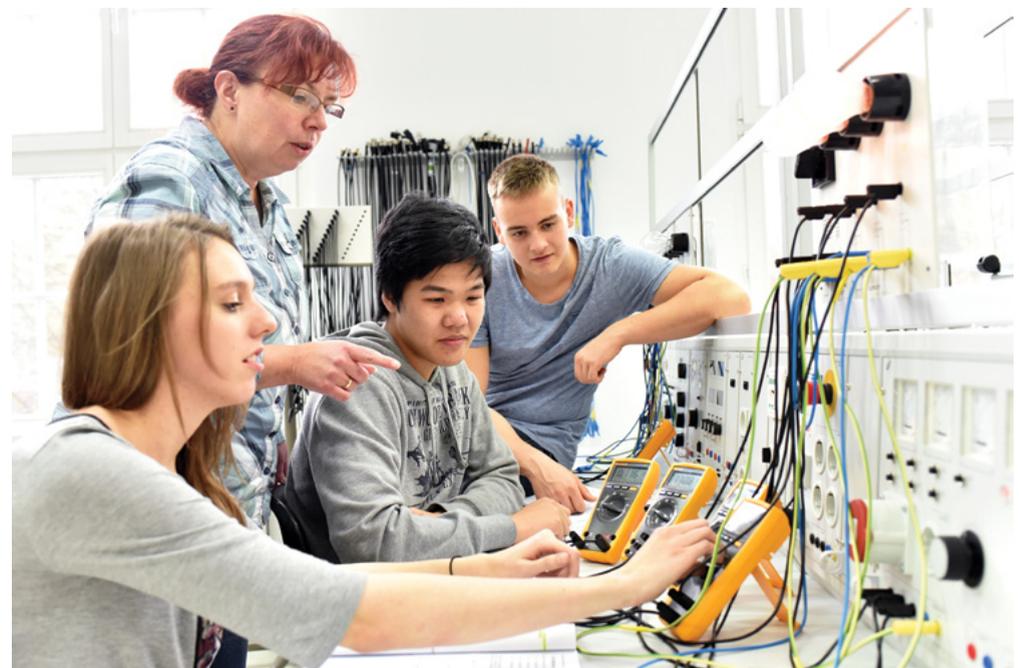
technical repairs, construction, IT support, design, and specialized consulting. These entrepreneurial activities contribute to economic growth, job creation, and innovation. Technical skills empower individuals to become self-reliant and create opportunities not only for themselves but also for others.

In addition to economic benefits, vocational education contributes to social development and inclusion. It provides opportunities for students with diverse interests, talents, and learning styles. Not all students thrive in purely academic environments, and vocational education offers an alternative pathway that values practical intelligence, creativity, and technical ability. By



Another important advantage is the diversity of career opportunities available through vocational education. Students can pursue careers in a wide range of sectors, including aviation, healthcare, information technology, hospitality, renewable energy, automotive engineering, and industrial maintenance. Many of these careers offer excellent salaries, job stability, and opportunities for career advancement. Skilled technicians and technical professionals are highly valued by employers because of their specialized expertise and practical abilities.

Vocational education also plays a crucial role in promoting entrepreneurship. Students who acquire technical skills often have the opportunity to start their own businesses, providing services such as



# FUTURE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING

## DIGITAL INTEGRATION

Vocational training will leverage technology for interactive learning, boosting accessibility and practicality.

## RESKILLING & UPSKILLING

Vocational training will focus on ongoing skill updates, supporting career growth in evolving industries.



## HYBRID LEARNING MODELS

Vocational training will leverage technology for interactive learning, boosting accessibility and practicality.

## GLOBAL COLLABORATION

Collaborative programs will provide insights, enhancing vocational training's effectiveness on a global scale.

The changing perception of vocational education reflects a broader shift in how societies value skills and expertise. Today, technical professionals



are recognized as essential contributors to economic progress, technological innovation, and infrastructure development. The future workforce will require not only engineers, scientists, and managers but also skilled technicians, technologists, and specialists who can turn ideas into reality.

In conclusion, vocational and technical education has become a cornerstone of modern education systems and economic development. It provides

students with practical skills, enhances employability, supports entrepreneurship, and contributes to national growth. As industries continue to evolve and technology advances, the importance of vocational education will only increase. By investing in vocational training and recognizing its value, societies can empower individuals, strengthen economies, and build a more sustainable and inclusive future.



# Empowering Talent. Enabling Success. Shaping Qatar's Workforce



## Industry-Aligned Learning for Real-World Results

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- Supporting individuals and organisations across sectors with practical, measurable, and impactful learning.
- Focused on enhancing job-relevant skills and driving performance.
- Aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030.

In a step reflecting its ongoing commitment to delivering modern, globally recognised training solutions, Qatar Skills Training Centre has begun issuing Credly digital badges a trusted way to showcase verified skills, competencies, and professional achievements aligned with international standards.

Credly badges are secure, shareable digital credentials that enable learners to professionally display their expertise on platforms such as LinkedIn, CVs, and digital portfolios, strengthening their competitiveness in the job market and supporting their career progression with credibility.

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- An innovative, forward-thinking learning environment

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# CAREER FOCUSED LEARNING FOR A CHANGING WORLD



City University Qatar (CUQ) continues to strengthen its role as a career focused university in Qatar, delivering UK degree programmes in its state of the art campus in Lusail. With a clear focus on academic quality, practical learning, and strong student support, the university helps learners build capability, confidence, and a path to success. From the first day, the City University Qatar experience is designed around outcomes. Students are supported to learn with purpose, develop professional skills, and graduate with the readiness needed for today's competitive job market. With a diverse campus community and a strong emphasis on student development, City University Qatar supports both academic progress and personal growth, preparing students to contribute with confidence in a world that is constantly evolving.

## WHAT SETS CUQ APART

City University Qatar combines internationally recognised UK qualifications with a learning model designed for real life. Teaching connects classroom learning to application, and students benefit from a campus structure that supports progress at every stage.

### Key strengths include:

- ✔ UK degrees delivered in Qatar through the academic partnership with Ulster University
- ✔ Career focused programmes aligned with market needs and modern skill requirements
- ✔ A Lusail campus designed for collaboration, engagement, and hands on learning
- ✔ Student centred support including academic guidance, wellbeing support, and student services
- ✔ A diverse community and an active campus environment that strengthens confidence and belonging



## CUQ AT WEB SUMMIT



City University Qatar participated in Web Summit Qatar 2026 at DECC, engaging with the innovation ecosystem through four days of discussions and collaboration. CUQ met founders, entrepreneurs, investors, and industry leaders while showcasing its commitment to future-ready education. During the event, CUQ signed an MoU with Cisco, launching a strategic partnership to enhance digital infrastructure, industry-aligned learning, and student and faculty development. Overall, CUQ's involvement highlighted its belief in staying connected to global platforms that create opportunity, collaboration, and impact.

TEDx  
CUQ Ulster University

Built by Choice

City University Qatar hosted the second TEDxCUQ Ulster University event under the theme Built by Choice, creating a space for dialogue, discovery, and bold ideas on campus. The event explored the decisions shaping our systems, careers, and future, bringing together perspectives on leadership, innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, and human-centered progress. It reinforced CUQ's role as a hub for ideas beyond the classroom and strengthened its connection with the community, encouraging meaningful conversations that inspire action.



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