



Letters to the Editor

We look forward to hearing from you

Our magazine strongly believes that a variety of opinion enriches the discussion about educational reform in Qatar, a reform that is overhauling the way the country's young people are taught. Each member of the educational community – students and teachers, principals and administrators, policy-makers and regulators, parents and the broader society -- plays a valuable part in developing a strong school system, and has a voice to be heard.

Therefore, we welcome letters to the editor as well as columns from outside contributors. We'd like to hear what you have to say. To submit a letter in response to an article published in this magazine, or in connection with other education-related issues, you may send an email to editor@sec.gov.qa. Alternatively, letters may be mailed to us at Communications Office, Supreme Education Council, P.O. Box 35111, Doha, Qatar or faxed to 465-9444. All letters should include the writer's name and phone number, although names may be withheld upon request at the time of publication. Published letters may be edited for length. We will attempt to reply to all letters sent to us.

To contribute a column, you may send an email to editor@sec.gov.qa containing a brief description of your idea for the column. Include your name and phone number in the email, and we will contact you to discuss the details of the submission process. We are looking for columns of approximately 500-800 words, and prefer pieces that have not been published elsewhere. We may edit columns for length, while respecting the essential content of the piece. All published columns become property of the Supreme Education Council.

Comments and views on education-related topics from the Web:

- "I call on the director of the Education Institute to make people aware of the policy of managing profits."

Samaar, writing about profits at Independent Schools

- "Frankly, the reason for the good standards of Independent Schools is that the students came from MoE schools."

Maha, on the QCEA results by Independent School students

- "You (the SEC) are like someone who believes his own lies. You announce the QCEA results and tell us that the Independent Schools perform better, compared to MoE schools. But the question is, "Where did Independent School students come from?" They are coming from the MoE and they had good standards before."

Abu Ahmed, on the same

- "Let me tell you that the students in Independent Schools come from various schools and different standards, so they performed well because of the education reform and not any other reason. As you know, registration at Independent Schools is not by selection but on a first-come, first-serve basis."

Faisal Mohajma, in response

- "The school evaluation is a healthy sign for the new education era. It makes the community connected to the school environment."

Essam Ahmed Foda, on evaluation

- "School Report Cards are a bridge to connect parents and school staff about the performance of students. With these School

Report Cards, we can solve any problems that our children face."

Fatima Al-Haddad, on School Report Cards

- "The idea of education reform in Qatar is very unique and strategic, but our problem is that we are very conservative and we resist new ideas even if they are in our benefit. Every new project will face some challenges and obstacles but we have to sit down and solve these problems. The education reform project is still in the beginning, and it needs time to produce results. As an educator, I believe problems in Independent Schools are the result of resistance and this is because this is a new project and because of a lack of qualified staff."

Abdullah Al-Shafee, on the reform initiative