

**Triennial  
School  
Reviews  
ensure  
accountability  
and  
continuous  
improvement  
of Qatar's  
Educational  
System**

Qatar's Triennial School Review of the Independent School is part of a sophisticated evaluation system that goes beyond test scores and report cards. The review enables the Evaluation Institute and individual schools to identify both strengths and weaknesses at the institutions, so they may continue to develop and improve. The Institute evaluates individual institutions based on a variety of indicators, including some selected by the schools themselves.

The review provides a vital function. Not only does it identify weaknesses at individual schools, so they can improve and meet their educational goals, it also recognizes areas where schools are excelling. By awarding particularly exemplary schools with a "Review By Distinction," the Evaluation Institute provides other schools with a series of "best practices" that they can study and adopt where they see fit.

School principals provide the Supreme Education Council with a school vision, mission and goals. Then, after receiving their contracts, these principals have three years to implement their plans in the schools before The Evaluation Institute carries out its review

The Qatar school review examines each school's accomplishments, level of development, and student performance to identify where institutions are succeeding and where they are falling short. This process requires schools to be accountable for their own success or failure—a major effort of the reform.

The Evaluation Institute has identified twenty major factors that determine whether schools are effective. The Institute evaluates these indicators both on their educational merits as well as their adherence to Qatar's educational reform goals—variety, choice, autonomy and accountability. They fall into six major categories.

- Leadership and Management: school mission and ethos, school leadership and management, curriculum/academic leadership and management,

financial management, resource management and deployment, school self-monitoring, evaluation and review process.

- Teaching and Learning: teaching and pedagogy, quality of learning, and assessment practices.
- Standards and Achievement: student attainment and overall improvement, student learning outcomes, student behavior and discipline, expectations of students and staff, social outcomes of schooling.
- Curriculum and Environment: curriculum provisions and learning environment.
- Staff Deployment and Development: staff oversight and deployment and professional preparation of staff.
- Parents and the Community: parental involvement and community relationships

During the Qatar School Review, the Evaluation Institute examines four to seven areas for each school, including one key area of student academic outcomes; three or four key school outcome areas; and one or two important areas with particular relevance to the school involved. The Qatar School Review is intended to ensure measured and sound accountability while respecting the autonomous, independent, and individual nature of the schools themselves.

The Evaluation Institute studies schools' records, interviews principals, staff, students, teachers, and parents. It also conducts classrooms visits. Scores from the Scores from the Qatar Comprehensive Educational Assessment (QCEA) exam are also considered.

The results of these reviews are designed to provide the Independent schools with the foundation of an internally driven process of continuous evaluation and improvement.