

Report on the First Annual Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education

The Impact of Promoting Quality Practices on Implementation in Early Childhood Education Institutions

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Honour Code for Pioneering Educational Training (HC), led by the CEO and quality educational consultant and accredited trainer Dr. Maha Noaman AlShorbaji, organized the First Annual Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education under the theme "The Impact of Promoting Quality Practices on Implementation in Early Education Institutions." The conference was attended by Dr. Fatima bint Mohammed Al-Balooshi, Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees of Bahrain Trust Foundation and former Minister of Social Development.

HC is known for its expertise in educational quality in the Kingdom of Bahrain, The conference coincided with the approval of the esteemed Cabinet of the Kingdom of the framework for reviewing kindergartens and the International Day of Education. It is worth noting that the conference included more than thirty papers that were characterized by the rigor of their scientific content and the effectiveness of the practices of the organizations, sectors, and associations presented from Bahrain and abroad.

Conference Goals:

- Achieve Sustainable Development Goal 4.2 and other related Sustainable Development Goals.
- Exchange of knowledge on key enabling factors, emerging research findings, good practices, and innovations to develop and enhance high-quality early childhood care and education policies and programmes.
- Increase and strengthen regional partnership and solidarity for the early childhood cause.

The conference, which achieved notable success, attracted the attention of institutions, decision-makers, ministries in the Kingdom, visual and audio media, and social media platforms, as it was the first of its kind in the Kingdom. Several countries participated, including Egypt, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait, in addition to the Kingdom of Bahrain. These countries were represented by the Ministry of Education of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Bahrain, as well as national and private universities, associations, private schools, and kindergartens. The role of SEN was also prominent through the participation of SEN institutes and related associations.

The conference also featured working papers from the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Interior, the Human Rights Foundation, the Children's Rights Commissioner, civil society organizations, private schools and quality specialists, the Legal Drafting and Opinion Authority, law professors, legal consulting firms, and health sector consultants.

Eleven training workshops were conducted in both Arabic and English by specialists in leadership and early childhood education, led by experts from

Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan. These workshops took place alongside the conference on the third day and received strong participation and engagement from the attendees. Notable examples of participants include representatives from Al-Eman Schools, Sheikha Hessa School, the Indian School, Al-Falah Schools, the Kindergarten Branch, and several representatives from both private and community kindergartens.

Examples of the workshops presented include: "Protecting Our Young Ones: Early Detection of Child Abuse in Early Education Institutions", "Teaching Methods and Strategies for Special Needs Groups in Early Childhood"; "AI in Education"; and "Psychological Security in Early Childhood for Special Education and Typical Children".

Dr. Al-Shorbaji recognized and honored distinguished pioneers in the field of childhood across a range of categories, including children's literature and short stories, media, theater, childhood research, child-centered initiatives, cybersecurity, and the longest-established kindergartens in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the GCC countries.

The First Conference on Early Childhood conference 2025 achieved an overall satisfaction rate of 93.3%, reflecting participants' positive evaluations of the quality and academic rigor of the papers presented, as well as the efficiency of the conference's organization, management, and planning.