

## Qatar Academy Sidra Strives to Become an International Baccalaureate World School

**Doha, Qatar, 26 April 2014:** In Qatar Academy Sidra's (QA Sidra) pursuit to be recognised as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, its faculty members have taken part in essential online training for the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) and Middle Years Programme (MYP).

Its Primary school teachers focused on an introductory course to the PYP curriculum, while the Middle school teachers took subject-specific courses relating to the implementation of the respective MYP curriculum.

Qatar Academy Sidra, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, aims to be officially recognised as an IB World School in the near future.

There are currently 10 IB World Schools in Qatar. Once fully authorised, QA Sidra will be one of three schools to offer the PYP, MYP and Diploma Programmes (DP).

The IB way of teaching aims to develop a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

When a school embraces the IB philosophy, which is increasing in popularity around the world, it provides students with tools required to interact in the world and encourages them to become active and compassionate lifelong learners.



All authorised IB World Schools have to successfully complete an intensive, globally consistent process that enables them to deliver an outstanding IB education to its students.

This challenging process requires commitment, time and dedication from all sections of the school community. QA Sidra's efforts of becoming an authorised IB World School began in September 2013.

Once information forms were submitted, the school administration familiarised itself with the IB's programmes, philosophy and the authorisation process through several workshops.

The structure of the school was also compared with IB requirements to ensure compatibility. During the recruitment process, faculty members were brought in to coordinate the respective programmes, after which applications for candidacy were compiled and submitted.

Bengt J. Rosberg, Academic Affairs Coordinator at QA Sidra, said: "Qatar Academy Sidra is excited at the prospect of becoming an authorised International Baccalaureate World School. We are committed to meeting each challenging task head-on in order to prove our worth and provide our students with the very best education available."

"Although challenging, our teachers took the online training in their stride, and overall, found it to be a rewarding experience."

The recent IB training is part of QA Sidra's work towards full program authorisation, and candidacy status is hoped to be granted soon.

QA Sidra opened its doors in September 2012 as a part of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development. The school currently caters to Pre-Kindergarten



through to Grade 8. Each year, the school will add one academic grade level. Upon completion, the school will cater for early childhood (six months) through to Grade 12.

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For more information, visit Qatar Academy Sidra's website at www.qasidra.sch.qa.