

LEARNING RESOURCES POLICY

POLICY INFORMATION

Policy Owner	Head of the Learning Resources Committee
Applicable To	Staff
Last Updated	2021
Next Review Date	2027

Policy Review and Amendment

The Lebanese School Qatar reserves the right to review, amend, or update this policy at any time to ensure alignment with school needs, applicable regulations, accreditation requirements, and best educational practices. Any approved revisions shall take effect from the date of publication unless otherwise specified.

1. OBJECTIVES

The Lebanese School in Qatar seeks to adhere to a structured and regulated system that is consistent with the General Foundations and Rules document issued by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in the State of Qatar concerning the approval of textbooks and educational resources in private schools and kindergartens. This is intended to ensure that students acquire the required competencies and skills without compromising ethical values.

2. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. An Arabic Language teacher
2. An Islamic Education teacher
3. Teachers from other subject areas

3. DUTIES OF THE LEARNING RESOURCES COMMITTEE

1. Conduct a comprehensive verification and careful review of all resources to be taught to students, whether printed or digital, to ensure that they are free from any content that conflicts with the teachings of Islam, national and Arab principles, and the social customs and traditions of the State of Qatar.
2. Submit detailed reports to the school administration identifying any violations and proposing ways to address them through deletion, covering, or modification.
3. Prepare an annual report at the end of each academic year on the educational resources and submit it to the “Private Schools Affairs Department.”
4. If the school wishes to make any amendment, addition, or change to an educational resource, it must submit a formal request, signed and stamped by both the committee and the school administration, to the “Private Schools Affairs Department” requesting approval of the resource no later than the end of February each year. Before submission, the committee must have reviewed the resource and confirmed that it is free from violations, or, where a violation exists, identified it and provided the following:
 - A statement explaining the procedure the school or kindergarten will follow to eliminate the violation through deletion, covering, or modification.
 - A letter of undertaking confirming that the review process will be completed.
 - Accordingly, the “Private Schools Affairs Department” issues a report on the educational resources by the end of March or the beginning of April of the academic year, so that the school or kindergarten can order the required educational resources in a timely manner for the following academic year.
5. The school shall submit requests for approval of new educational resources to the “Private Schools Affairs Department” only after reviewing the school resources database developed and updated by the Department.

4. SCOPE OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

The committee monitors the content of printed and digital educational resources, including:

- Core and support educational resources, whether printed or electronic/digital.
- Written texts.
- Images, charts, illustrations, and maps.
- Encyclopedias, dictionaries, and other reference resources.

5. GENERAL PRINCIPLES GOVERNING ISSUES AND TOPICS IN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CONTENT

A. Religion

1. Teaching any religion other than Islam at the various educational stages, including kindergarten, is prohibited.
2. Islamic teachings regarding what is permissible (halal) and prohibited (haram) must be observed.
3. References to alcoholic beverages and drugs, as well as encouraging their use in any form, whether through materials or images, are prohibited.
4. Displaying images of the consumption of pork or encouraging its consumption is prohibited. Depicting a human being in the form of a pig is also prohibited.

B. Ethics

1. The use of images that conflict with Islamic values and Qatari culture, such as images showing immodest clothing, is prohibited.
2. Educational materials must not include sexual relationships outside marriage, homosexuality, or any behaviors or practices that are alien to Qatari society and its established customs and traditions.
3. At the kindergarten and primary levels, references to sexual knowledge, including images, suggestive content, or indecent expressions, are prohibited whether presented within or outside the context of marriage.
4. If the curriculum requires reference to sexual knowledge in the content of a school course beginning in Grade 6 of the primary stage, the school's Learning Resources Committee must be consulted through the mechanism specified at the end of this document to ensure that the content is aligned with religious values and the social customs and traditions of the State of Qatar.
5. If the school's international curriculum requires addressing culturally sensitive topics, such as organizing celebrations and special occasions specific to other societies and cultures, the committee must be informed sufficiently in advance so that it can refer the matter to the Private Schools Affairs Department, explain the requirements of the international curriculum, and seek consideration and approval.
6. Content related to reproduction may be taught in Grades 6–12 within a cautious framework that respects Qatari culture.
7. Students' ages must be taken into consideration when teaching Science and Biology.
8. Greek mythology or other mythologies may be covered provided that they relate to curriculum topics in historical or literary studies and are presented within a framework that does not conflict with the spirit of the preceding provisions, while avoiding mythological illustrations that are morally unacceptable. See Items 1–2 under Section A and Items 1–3 under Section B.

C. Politics

1. Focus on issues that reinforce the values of citizenship and belonging, as well as positive and inspiring role models.
2. Avoid engaging in issues that may provoke disputes among individuals in society.
3. Emphasize the State of Qatar's established position on Islamic and Arab causes, particularly Palestine, in accordance with the State of Qatar's official recognition of the State of Palestine and its territorial borders. This includes, but is not limited to, books, maps, flags, images, and media.
4. Address appropriate human-rights issues within the limits of Islamic teachings and in accordance with approved policies and regulations, as well as the aspirations and achievements of the State of Qatar in this field. See Sections A and B.

6. OPERATING MECHANISM FOR THE COMMITTEE AND TEACHING STAFF

1. Teachers shall inform their coordinators of any content that violates, or is suspected of violating, the provisions set out in this document, specifying its location and documenting it.
2. Coordinators shall forward the materials they receive to their respective Head of Section.
3. Heads of Sections shall submit the coordinators' reports to the committee.
4. The committee shall meet to review the materials referred to it and propose the appropriate action to address any violation following consultation and collective evaluation. It shall then submit a report to the Director General so that the appropriate action can be taken.
5. When necessary, the matter shall be referred to the Private Schools Affairs Department for a final decision.
6. A team of teachers shall be appointed to divide the tasks involved in reviewing and screening library books, in coordination with Heads of Sections, coordinators, and the librarian.