

Arabic Speaking Competition 2023

Accompanying Teacher Form

January 2023

Introduction

This document must be read through and signed and submitted with the online application form. The competition this year will be online. All the following safe-guarding and child protection preparation is made with this in mind.

All sessions for the competition must be held on school premises, and you must follow your own school's safeguarding and child protection guidelines.

The accompanying teacher must be in the same room as the child while they access the online sessions.

If it is not possible for the event to take place within school due to Covid19, there will be further instructions and details provided.

This directive has been prepared to provide practical advice to accompanying teachers to ensure the safe and meaningful participation of children in this event. Throughout this document 'children' refers to anyone under the age of 18 years old. The British Council defines a child as anyone under the age of 18 years old irrespective of the age of majority in the country where a child is, or their home country'. This is harmonious with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) 1989 age definition of child. For the purpose of this competition any reference to 'children' also relates to students who have reached the age of 18 years.

Minimum standards that help and protect children are being applied to this **Arabic Speaking Competition 2023**.

They are based on the UNCRC, 1989 protective articles (19, 34 & 36) which outline children's rights to protection from harmful influences, abuse and exploitations and the four core principles of the Convention:

1. non-discrimination – all children are equal under the convention (article 2)
2. best interests of the child come first (article 3)
3. right to life, survival and development (article 6)
4. respect for the views of the child (article 12)

Accompanying teachers are expected to work in the spirit of the UNCRC and in turn, protect and promote the rights of all children throughout the duration of this event.

Roles & Responsibilities

The British Council and Qatar Foundation International are the sponsors for the **Arabic Speaking Competition 2023** and will endeavour to accommodate all students invited to join. Please read the Arabic Speaking Competition Guide for full details.

Accompanying teachers play an important role in taking the primary responsibility for the safety of the children in their care **at all times**.

The accompanying teacher is responsible for organising a safe space and equipment for the student to be able to join the competition online. You must follow your school's rules for safeguarding and child protection, online safety as well as for Coronavirus.

Duty of Care

The British Council assigns responsibility to you as the accompanying teacher to fulfil a fundamental duty of care to safeguard children during their interaction with the competition. You must ensure that you follow your school's guidelines and expectations in relation to safeguarding and child protection.

You must physically be in the same room with the child at all times while they are interacting with British Council staff and the Competition Judges online.

As the accompanying teacher you are responsible for minimising the risk of harm by identifying and managing potential risks and having a positive and open relationship with the children in your care. You should follow the reporting structure provided by your school in the case of any child protection incidents or allegations related to involvement in the Arabic Speaking Competition 2023.

You should ensure that your school has up to date policies for risk assessment documentation for the space where the competition takes place (classroom etc).

Criminal Record Clearance

The British Council requires all UK school staff acting as accompanying teacher to have an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) clearance or equivalent in Scotland (Disclosure Scotland) or Northern Ireland (Access NI) from within the past 3 years. This is because accompanying adults are involved in 'regulated activity' as defined by Schedule 1, part 4 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act, 2006 (and/or any such similar Acts that currently exist in Northern Ireland and Scotland).

Privacy Notice

The British Council will use the information that you are providing for organising the Pilot Arabic Speaking Competition Event. The legal basis for processing your personal data is consent/Contract (T&Cs for the competition).

The British Council complies with the UK Data Protection Act 2018 and laws in other countries that meet internationally accepted standards. You have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information. If you have concerns about how we have used your personal information, you also have the right to complain to a privacy regulator. For detailed information, please refer to the privacy section of our website, www.britishcouncil.org/privacy or contact your local British Council office. We store the above information about you for a maximum of 12 months and then securely destroy it.

Self-Declaration Statement

I declare that I have never been convicted of any offence involving any type of harm to a child or children, nor have I ever been warned or cautioned in relation to such a matter. I also declare that there are no civil or criminal proceedings of any nature pending against me at the date of this declaration relating to any allegation concerning any type of harm to a child or children.

I understand that if I withhold any relevant information, or present false or inaccurate information, I may render myself liable to disqualification from the event.

I will adhere to the British Council's Accompanying Teachers Duty of Care Directive
In accordance with the British Council's Privacy Policy, the UK's Data Protection Act 2018 and any other relevant privacy law which applies in the country of employment, this declaration is confidential and is extended solely in order to accredit my suitability to work with children at the British Council; this declaration may not be used totally or partially for any other purpose save that for which it is expressly made.

Accompanying Teacher Duty of Care Agreement

I, the undersigned, hereby confirm that I understand my role and responsibilities as an accompanying teacher and will take all reasonable measures to ensure the protection and safety of the student(s) in my care.

Accompanying Teacher full name <i>print</i>	
Position at school	
Mobile number	
School office phone number	
Your Email address	
Date	
Signature (A typed signature constitutes an agreement)	

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