



School self-evaluation training: Preparing for accreditation and review

Following the announcement in Saudi Arabia that all private schools will be accredited for quality against a new set of national standards, Ruskin Education was engaged by the National Association of Private Schools and Riyadh Chamber of Commerce to prepare school leaders and owners for a national accreditation programme. A series of workshops and training events for school leaders and senior staff were provided to raise awareness and to develop the skills to self-evaluate provision and quality against standards of performance. Ruskin Education developed four-day training courses to support schools and groups of schools to prepare themselves for the forthcoming accreditation by strengthening schools' own self-evaluation and action planning.

The Ruskin team provided training in Arabic and English with bespoke packages of support being provided for schools to better meet the specific needs of each institution. Diagnostic reviews of schools, professional development and school improvement support and training are now offered against an agreed plan leading to schools increasing their confidence and preparation for inspection, whilst ensuring that the quality of provision also improves. As part of the work in this area, Ruskin Education has developed specific training programmes and modules of work to improve the skills of middle managers in managing improvement within their own departments as part of a whole school improvement programme.

'The training was very well focused and extremely useful in helping us prepare ourselves for an evaluation. I have a clear understanding of what I can do to improve my management skills and also what I need to do over the coming weeks to improve provision in my department.'

Head of Curriculum: Gulf English School