



عضو في مؤسسة قطر
Member of Qatar Foundation

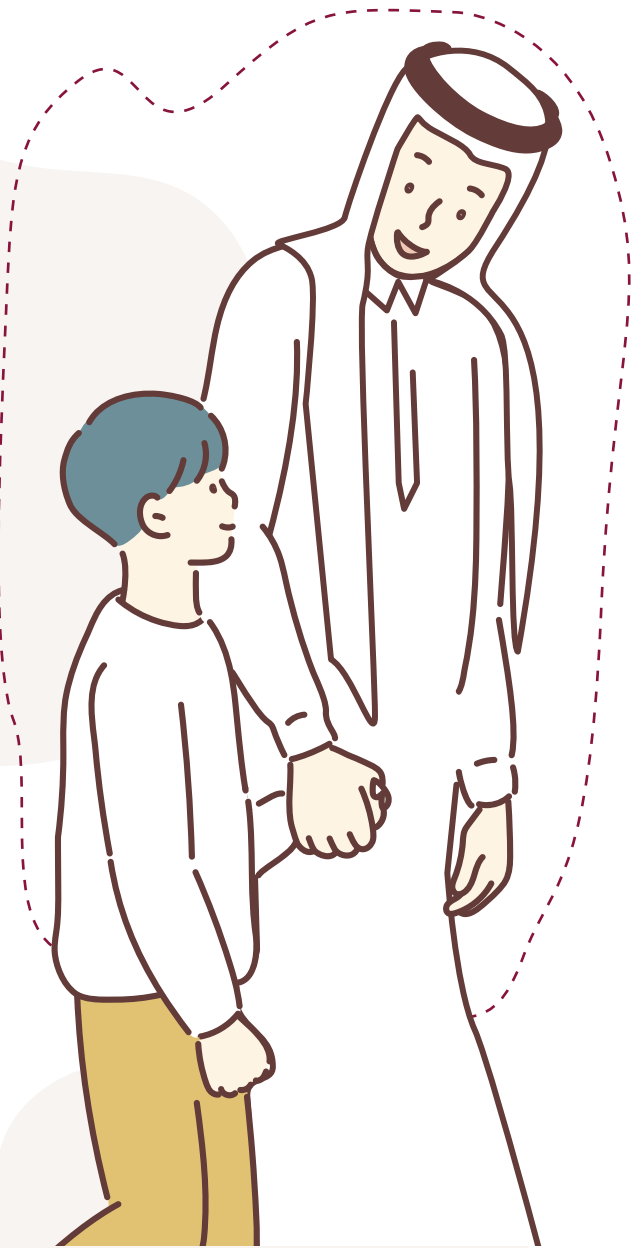
THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN CAREER GUIDANCE



Why is guiding your children instrumental to their success?

Your child's future is too important to be left to "luck" or "chance". Parents influence the level of education or training that their children achieve, the knowledge they have about work and different occupations, the beliefs and attitudes they have about working, and the motivation they have to succeed. Students mostly learn these behaviors and attitudes from their parents during their formative years.

A nation-wide research study led by QCDC shows that 78% of Qatari children rely on their parents for career development and advice.



When Should Your Child Start Exploring Career Options?

Young learners tend to change their plans frequently and with fairly limited knowledge of career opportunities, are in need of guidance to choose the best educational and career paths. Your child should make use of every opportunity to explore different professions from an early age before focusing on a chosen career path.

We have identified some of the available career exploration activities that could benefit your child, divided by age group.



Children aged 4 to 9 years

Edutainment Parks

QCDC has two dedicated career centers in both Kidzania and KidzMondo. Having the centers as part of these edutainment parks are the first of their kind in Qatar and the region. They help children aged 4 to 14 years explore their optimal career paths, identify their orientations and hone their skills in line with their interests through role-playing in an interesting educational context. Children learn how to write a successful CV and gain insight into different disciplines, supporting them to choose the career path that best matches their qualifications and skills as they engage in activities and games that QCDC has specifically designed to suit these age groups.

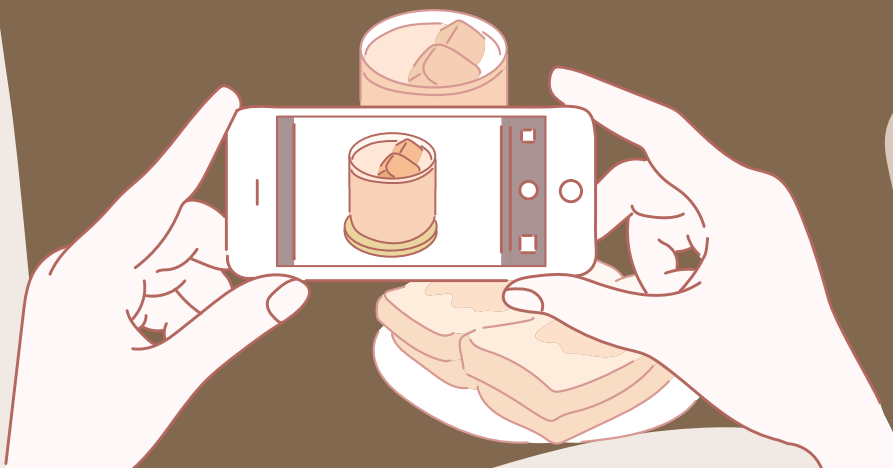
You may visit our centers anytime during working hours to help your child identify career options that align with his/her interests and abilities.

KidZania



Career Videos

Research has demonstrated that videos are an attractive way to present educational content to children. Exposing your children to career-related videos can provide them with a simple, brief visual introduction to jobs, career clusters, and industries.



Check QCDC's website and social media platforms for some career-related educational videos.

Career Games

Engaging your children through games can cultivate their curiosity and nurture their creativity. Career exploration games can make learning about the world of work fun and entertaining by igniting the playful spirit of young learners through a series of educational activities and experiences.



Children aged 10 to 14 years

Volunteering

Kids who make volunteering part of their lives are more confident, empathetic, and make great leaders. Volunteering helps them define their unique sense of the greater good, which in turn shapes their career and life goals.

There are many pathways for your child to become a volunteer in Qatar.

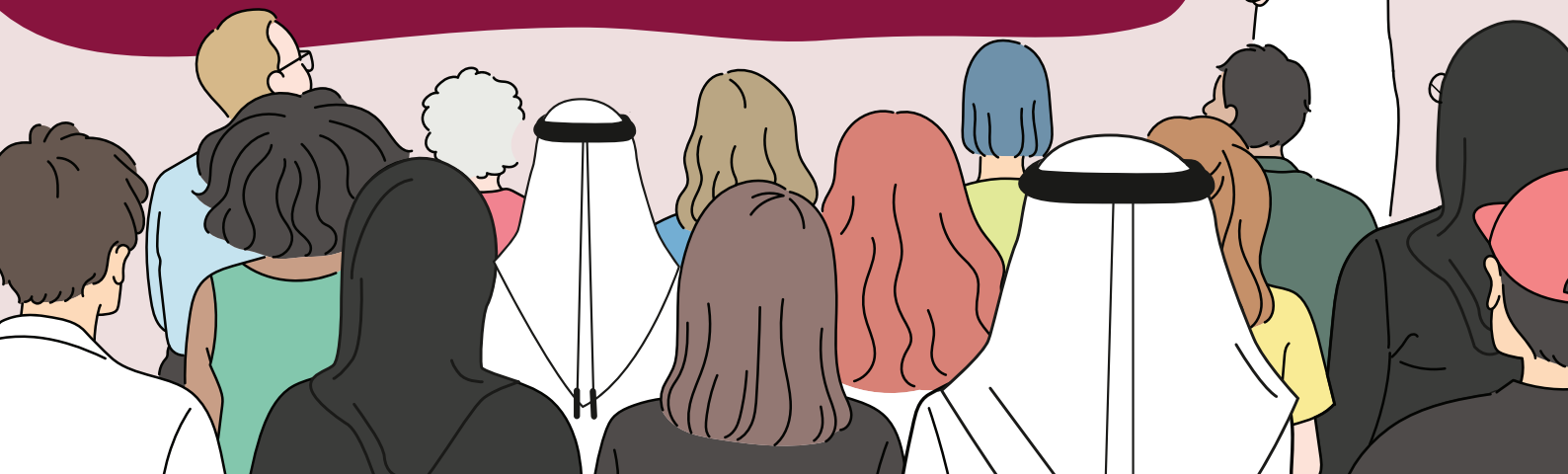
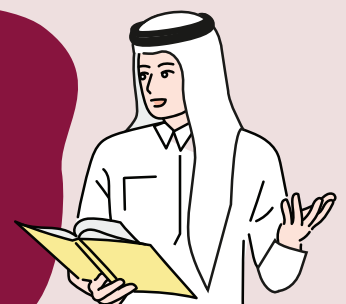
Register your children for events such as ROTA's Annual Youth Conference "Empower" and "Ajyal" Youth Film Festival or encourage them to join volunteering teams in organizations such as Friends of Al Shaqab and Qatar Animal Welfare Society.

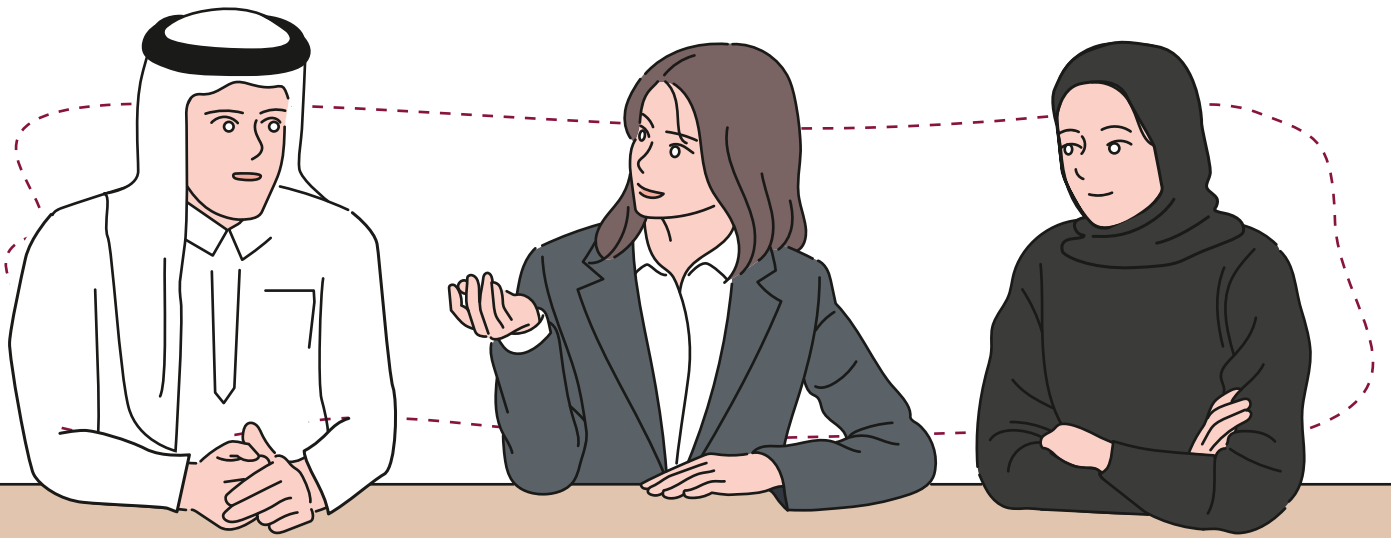


Workshops

A workshop is a great way for your children to learn about their favorite careers, gain knowledge, and put the skills they acquired during their academic studies to use.

Check our website www.qcdc.org.qa for a list of monthly workshops that QCDC offers to students and their parents.





Children aged 15 to 17 years

Informational Interviewing

An informational interview is an informal conversation that your child may have with a professional. Such interviews help children explore different jobs, practice their interviewing skills, and make positive impressions that can lead to internships and later permanent jobs.

Introduce your children to colleagues and local professionals in roles that spark their curiosity.



Important questions to ask include:

- What is your daily work routine?
- Why did you choose this career?
- What kind of training does your job require?
- What do you like most about your work?
- What do you like least about your work?

You can check out our “Career Guide” app for more interview tips.

Career Fairs

Seize every opportunity to attend career fairs with your children so they have the chance to learn more about the various in-demand jobs. Career fairs are hosted by schools, universities, government organizations, and Education City year-round.

You may also visit QCDC's annual Career Village event, which brings together representatives of leading Qatar-based organizations and institutions from numerous industries, to engage students in interactive activities to learn about different professions.



Job Shadowing

Observing employees as they perform their daily work routine in the workplace helps your children learn about the profession of his choice.

Job shadowing allows your child to explore specific careers and to get a realistic picture of the tasks performed for that job. This will help them make informed career decisions.

Check QCDC's "My career-My future" and "Little employee" programs for job shadowing opportunities at leading organizations in Qatar. These programs provide students with first-hand knowledge of workplace environments and understanding of whether their abilities and skills match with their career choices.



Internships

Internships allow your child to explore his or her career interest areas, putting the theory, knowledge, and skills gained in class into practice. Internships also help students earn income and gain work experience while attending college or school and developing their contacts to broaden their employment options and build self-confidence.

Check with the school or university in which your children are enrolled for internship options.

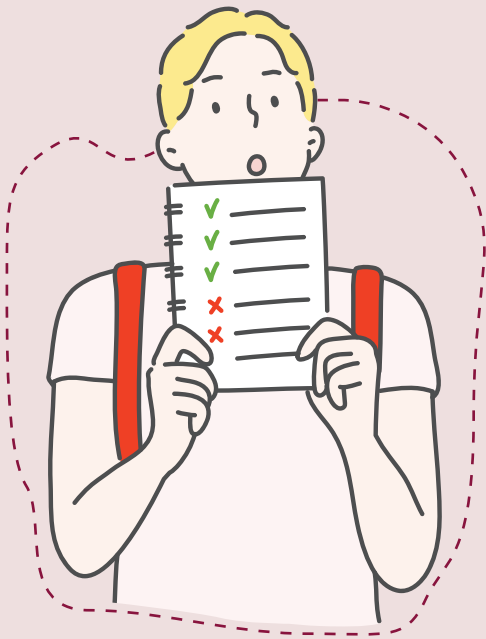


Field Trips

Field trips offer your children another opportunity to interact with professionals in many different careers and to gain hands-on experience.

Before your children goes on a school field trip, ask them to watch for different types of professionals and careers while on the field trip. Then discuss those careers with your child afterward.

QCDC's "Career Academy" program offers a range of field trips for students during school holidays. For more information about the program, check our website: www.qcdc.org.qa



Career Plan

Encourage your children to learn more about themselves by using reliable psychometric assessments to understand their interests and values, explore careers they correspond to and help them create an educational plan that aligns with their career goals. As your child transitions from one educational stage to another, discuss and revise the plan accordingly.

You can check the new bilingual Career Advising System (CAS) that QCDC has developed in cooperation with Kuder Inc., a world leader in career planning services, to provide tailor-made solutions to fit the Qatari socio-cultural context.

QCDC's new Career Advising System features psychometric and personality assessment models as well as diverse and innovative tools to facilitate career planning and guidance by helping users explore personal skills and professional tracks and planning career paths. You can purchase a license to use the system by e-mailing us at qcdc@qf.org.qa.

What information does your child need to learn before making a career choice?

Consider assisting your child in gathering information that will help him or her decide if the career choice matches personal interests, skills, and values. Here are some questions that should be explored:

- What will I do in a typical workday?
- What preparation/education do I need?
- Where can I secure training for this career?
- Will there be jobs available in the future, when I complete my education?
- How much does this job pay?
- What knowledge and skills are required in this line of work?
- Are the knowledge and skills I already have strong enough? Or will I need additional development?
- What are the opportunities for advancement in this career?
- Does the work environment (indoors/outdoors, office/factory, groups/alone) suit me?
- Does work require physical activity, and am I willing and able to perform at the level required?





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Remember that a career choice is a personal decision. Do not try to steer your child to a career because you think it is something you might like.

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For more career guidance tips and articles, download our Career Guide app from the link:
<https://bit.ly/2qkvyY5>

Or scan this QR Code:



Or access the electronic version of the Guide on our website:
www.qcdc.org.qa