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# UAE

## **Dubai announces new policy for Arabic education at all private schools:**

- Dubai's Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) has introduced a new policy mandating Arabic language education for children from birth to six years old in all private schools and early childhood centers. This initiative aims to enhance Arabic proficiency among young learners and preserve cultural identity. Educators advocate for play-based teaching methods to make Arabic learning engaging and effective for this age group.

## **More UK, European students choose to study in Dubai, says academic figure:**

- Dubai is witnessing a significant increase in students from the UK and Europe choosing the city for their higher education. This trend is attributed to Dubai's premium education offerings, diverse degree programs, and a multicultural environment that appeals to international students.

## **Sharjah Ruler establishes Global Studies University:**

- Sharjah Ruler Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi has established the Global Studies University under Emiri Decree No. (57) of 2023. The university aims to offer specialized programs preparing students for global challenges, reinforcing Sharjah's commitment to higher education and international collaboration.

**- KHALEEJ TIMES, GULF NEWS**



# KSA

## **How AI is transforming education — but potentially impacting child development:**

- Artificial intelligence is significantly transforming education in Saudi Arabia by personalizing learning experiences and enhancing administrative efficiency. The Saudi government, through the Saudi Authority for Data and Artificial Intelligence established in 2019, is actively promoting AI integration across various sectors, including education. Educators like Faleh bin Saad Al-Huqbani, director of Al-Muqaddimah Schools in Riyadh, note that AI allows for tailored content that meets individual student needs. However, experts caution that excessive reliance on AI, especially in early childhood education, may impact cognitive development and reduce real-world learning opportunities. Balancing AI use with traditional teaching methods is essential to ensure holistic child development.

**- ARAB NEWS**



# BAHRAIN

## **Plan to prioritize Bahraini teachers in private schools approved:**

- Bahrain's Parliament has approved a proposal requiring private schools to prioritize hiring Bahraini teachers over expatriates, aiming to reduce reliance on foreign staff and increase employment for local graduates. Acting Labour Minister Yousef Khalaf announced a forthcoming training program, in collaboration with the Education Ministry, to equip Bahrainis with necessary skills for private school positions. Education Minister Mohammed Mubarak Juma highlighted ongoing efforts, including wage support through Tamkeen and monitoring of contract terminations, to maintain job stability for Bahraini educators. The proposal now advances to the next legislative stage for implementation.

## **American School of Bahrain drives global push for responsible AI in education:**

- The American School of Bahrain (ASB) is the first in the GCC and among the first ten schools globally to receive the Responsible AI in Learning (RAIL) endorsement. This recognition highlights ASB's commitment to AI literacy, ethics, and responsible integration in education. The school incorporates AI learning across all grades, updates policies to enhance AI awareness, and provides ongoing training for educators. ASB aims to prepare students for the evolving AI landscape while positioning itself as a leader in responsible AI education.

**- GULF INSIDER, ZAWYA**



## **MIE-SPPU partners with Ali Bin Ali Holding for industry-academia collaboration:**

- MIE-SPPU Institute of Higher Education has established a strategic partnership with Ali Bin Ali Holding, a leading Qatari business conglomerate, to enhance industry-academia collaboration. This alliance aims to provide MIE-SPPU students with practical experience across sectors such as retail, IT, tourism, and healthcare. Ali Bin Ali Holding will also contribute to curriculum development, integrating industry insights to bridge the gap between academic learning and market needs.

## **HBKU launches new Master of Arts in Translation for the Creative Industries:**

- Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) has introduced a Master of Arts in Translation for the Creative Industries, the first program of its kind in the Middle East and North Africa. Offered by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences' Department of Language, Culture, and Communication, the program combines translation skills with the needs of various creative sectors. It features courses on transcreation and subtitling, and provides opportunities for students to work on real-world projects with industry partners. The curriculum emphasizes the Arabic context, encouraging students to influence the future of translation in the Arab world's creative industries.

## **- THE PENINSULA**



## **Ministry of Education uncovers violations worth 12 million Kuwaiti dinars:**

- Kuwait's Minister of Education, Eng. Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabaei, has established a fact-finding committee to investigate over 100,000 unimplemented administrative decisions, leading to approximately 12 million dinars in uncollected debts. These violations, involving both current and former employees, represent a significant waste of public funds. The committee is tasked with identifying these decisions, verifying their receipt by the Financial Affairs Department, reviewing records, and holding responsible employees accountable. This initiative aims to enhance transparency, strengthen financial controls, and address corruption or negligence within the Ministry.

**- GULF INSIDER**



# OMAN

## **Four schools in Oman to teach Chinese language in 2025-26:**

- Oman's Ministry of Education will introduce Chinese as an elective subject for grades 11 and 12 in the 2025-2026 academic year. The program will commence in four schools: Sayyid Sultan bin Ahmed School and Juwayriya Bint Abi Sufyan School in Muscat, and Al Turath District School and Al Shatha Bint Jaber Basic Education School in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate. Students will attend five classes per week, focusing on language skills and cultural understanding. This initiative aims to prepare students for the global labor market and enhance their academic and professional opportunities.

**- OMAN OBSERVER**