

Bangladesh successfully completes their first ever Education UK Student Counsellor's training

"Education Institutions can now have their own in-house student counsellor/agent"- Abdul Monem Khan from Onnesha International School & College.

British Council's Partner Schools Network (PSN) is a global network of schools whose students take UK schools examinations through the British Council. Schools today are now, more than ever, expected to provide the environment and the culture where students can excel academically, have the skills to succeed in higher education and employment and who are also well rounded individuals making positive contributions to the world. PSN helps schools learn more about contemporary approaches to empowering school leaders and teachers to lead and change schools and students to develop themselves and their school.

As part of our offer to the PSN, British Council Bangladesh offered a unique training session for its Partner School Network (PSN), which is the Education UK Student Counsellors Training. Bangladesh is the first country across South Asia where this online global training has been successfully launched. It created a lot of enthusiasm among the teachers and 35 teachers from a wide range of schools attended the briefing session. 13 student counsellors from 8 prominent schools successfully completed the training programme which was conducted by Education UK. This was a unique programme specially customised for the schools.



Briefing session organised for the Principals and Student Counsellors of different English Medium Schools

This programme has been the outcome of a successful collaboration between Examinations and British Council Education UK teams to bring this offer to our PSN schools.

The training was delivered through an online platform over a period of 8 weeks with 3 face to face sessions. Following completion, each participant underwent the final computer-based assessment to get a training completion certificate. Participants found it very useful and appreciated the British Council's initiative for creating an opportunity towards the professional development of teachers.



Participants attending in face to face sessions and exam

The training helped the participants to:

- improve knowledge and understanding of the benefits and challenges of international study
- give tools and resources for guiding students through the decision-making process - choosing the right course and institution
- increase capacity to provide high quality advice and information to students seeking an international education in the UK
- develop capacity to work effectively with UK education organisations and institutions
- support in helping students to prepare and make the most of their international study
- maintain up-to-date knowledge about studying in the UK

This training helped build capacity of the student counsellors and create long-term impact on the promotion of UK education system and qualifications within the PSN community to promote studying and living in the UK.



Certificate awarding ceremony

A certificate awarding ceremony was organised for the participants. Barbara Wickham, Country Director - British Council Bangladesh handed over the certificates to the participants. Deep Adhikari – Director Examinations Bangladesh was also present at the event. Barbara congratulated the participants as being pioneers in the training programme.

Following participants have been awarded with a certificate for EducationUK School Counsellors Training programme

Participant's name	School's name
1. Abdullah Abdullah	1. European Standard School
2. Luna Arif	2. Voyager
3. Shahana Begum	3. Manarat Dhaka International College
4. Vivian Vaskar Das	4. Pledge Harbor International School
5. Murshidul Islam	5. BAF Shaheen English Medium School (SEMS)
6. Abdul Monem Khan	6. Onnesha International School & College
7. Nasreen Monem Khan	7. Onnesha International School & College
8. Shamina Khatun	8. Holy Crescent (Int'l) School & College
9. Enes Koçibar	9. International Turkish Hope School
10. Idris Koken	10. International Turkish Hope School
11. Mesut Onal	11. International Turkish Hope School
12. Muhammad Shameem Reza	12. International Turkish Hope School
13. Bilal Sarimeseli	13. International Turkish Hope School

In 2016 we will offer two sessions of EducationUK Student Counsellor Training for PSN in collaboration with the Examination Services. We are also planning to include schools under PSN in Sylhet and Chittagong besides Dhaka.

We can help UK universities develop partnerships with English medium schools through the trained Student Counsellors. Moreover, we will be able to organise school visits for UK institutions through this network.

For further details please contact:

Sarker Asif Iqbal
 Project Coordinator-Services for International Education Marketing (SIEM)
Asif.iqbal@bd.britishcouncil.org; siemsouthasia@bd.britishcouncil.org