



CARE

Lebanon

Coalition for Authentic Reform of Education in Lebanon

CARE, the Coalition for Authentic Reform of Education, is an H Institute initiative originally conceived for Lebanon. It may eventually be launched in other countries. CARE brings together organizations, parents, teachers and students who share, and work for, the following convictions:

1. Formal education is to empower students for success and excellence in various aspects of life, and not to prepare them for taking exams.
2. Curricula are dynamic systems to bring about well-rounded citizens, and not repositories of canned information of little relevance to students' life and aspirations.
3. Schools are to maintain a comprehensive learning ecology that fosters individual students' cognitive development, and not conveyor belts that deliver certain subject matters.
4. Learning is a joyful, self-fulfilling, collaborative experience inside and outside the school, and not a stressful, intimidating, competitive race on exam tracks.
5. Exams are tools for learning and not sanction.
6. Students' transition from one grade to another and subsequent graduation are the culmination of their performance throughout the school year(s), and not the mere upshot of summative or high-stakes exit exams.
7. Teachers are critical agents of cognitive development and not dispensers of curriculum materials. They are carefully and not haphazardly selected for rigorous pre-service education and subsequent induction in the teaching profession, and induced, without being overburdened, to pursue continuous professional development throughout their career.
8. Parents are to support and enrich their children education to the extent that they can afford, and not to take over teacher duties or make over for curriculum or school deficits.

The above requires that the national education system fulfills the following:

9. Education is a national asset for sustainable development.
10. The national educational system is purposely constituted and consistently managed at all levels in accordance with an informed policy and transparent regulations and quality standards.
11. Vocational education and general education harmoniously complement and enrich each other in fulfillment of the national educational policy.
12. Various educational institutions within the same community collaborate with each other for sustainable education and community service.