

Re: Teacher's perspective: educating children with autism in the pandemic

Hello,

Ahead of National Autism Awareness Month in April, I wanted to gauge your interest in a contributed piece from Hebat Serag, a teacher at a specialized school called Renad Academy, in Qatar Foundation's Education City.

In her piece, Hebat can speak to what it's been like to teach children with autism during the pandemic and personal learnings out of this experience. Some key elements of the piece will include:

- Hebat's personal background is as the mother of three boys, one of whom has been born with congenital heart disease. This helped Hebat understand and empathize with parents of students with special needs children even more.
- The unique challenges of teaching children with autism in a virtual format, where most techniques that worked in class don't often resonate online.
- The impact on students' families – Hebat found herself in constant communication with parents, discovering ways to educate them, so they could in turn help their children.
- Hebat's personal learnings from the pandemic, including a renewed sense of resilience and empowerment, not just in herself but in her students and their families.
- Why Hebat believes there's a need for a global platform to exchange information among teachers and parents

Please let me know your thoughts or any feedback you might have. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

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