

Shafallah, UK-based children's charity forge partnership



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DOHA: The Shafallah Center for Children with Special Needs signed a partnership agreement with UK-based Barnardo's, a leading children's charity, yesterday. The agreement provides for training and exchange of professional expertise.

"The contract came as a result of a visit last year to Barnardo's in the field of training and development," said Sameera Al Qassimi, Deputy Managing Director of Shafallah Center. Al Qassimi signed the deal for Shafallah while Andrew Nebel, UK Director of Marketing and Communications, signed it for Barnardo's.

Aside from providing for applied learning and field training to Shafallah's Qatari staff and exchange of training and professional expertise, the agreement will also engage the two organizations in administrative development programmers.

Having started 140 years ago, Barnardo's is the largest British children's charity, helping over 115, 000 children and families annually through more than 400 centers across the country. It provides a wide range of services addressing poverty, childhood disability, abuse, mental health problems and homelessness.

"We visited Barnardo's to acquaint ourselves with their social security system and we saw they have enough knowledge and many specific services and activities for children with disabilities, and humanitarian programmers," said Al Qassimi.

"This agreement is about transfer of knowledge between Shafallah and Barnardo's and we hope this is the start of a long-term relationship," Nebel said.