

Aldar and Dubai Cares expand education partnership to support students and schools across the UAE

- Second edition of 'Volunteer Emirates – Back to School' initiative will mobilize 300 volunteers to pack 10,000 Kits for students from low-income families
- Aldar to sponsor first-ever not for profit school refurbishment in Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi, UAE – 8 August 2025: In a powerful reaffirmation of their longstanding partnership, and in line with the UAE's declaration of 2025 as the Year of Community, Aldar and Dubai Cares are once again joining forces to support students and schools across the UAE through the Volunteer Emirates programme.

Building on the momentum of last year's successful edition, Back to School 2025 will take place on August 15, 2025, at Nabdh Alfalalah in Abu Dhabi, where 300 volunteers will come together to pack 10,000 school kits. These kits will be distributed to students from low-income families across the UAE, ensuring they begin the academic year equipped with the tools, confidence, and support they need to thrive. This impactful activation embodies the shared vision of Aldar and Dubai Cares to empower communities and promote inclusive and quality education.

In addition, Aldar will sponsor the refurbishment of a not-for-profit school in the capital in 2025, the first such initiative to be undertaken by Dubai Cares in Abu Dhabi. This builds on the successful refurbishment of the National Charity School for Girls in Dubai earlier this year, which significantly enhanced the school's learning environment.

Salwa Al Mafalahi, Executive Director of Sustainability & Community Outreach at Aldar, said: "At Aldar, we believe that access to quality education is the cornerstone of a thriving society. Our continued collaboration with Dubai Cares reflects our commitment to creating inclusive communities where every child has the opportunity to learn and succeed.

"Given the impact of last year's 'Back to School' event and the success of the refurbishment work at the National Charity School for Girls in Dubai, we are excited to continue our support of students in the UAE who need it most. This partnership not only supports education but also strengthens the spirit of volunteerism and collective responsibility across the UAE."

Abdulla Ahmed Al Shehhi, Chief Operating Officer, Dubai Cares, commented that: "We are sincerely grateful to Aldar for their continued support and generous contribution, which is enabling us to equip thousands of students across the UAE with essential school supplies and enhanced learning environments. This partnership embodies the spirit of the UAE's 'Year of Community' by demonstrating how the private sector can work hand-in-hand with civil society to create lasting, meaningful impact.



Together, we are ensuring that every child starts the school year with dignity, confidence, and the tools to thrive.”

Both initiatives are part of Dubai Cares’ flagship Volunteer Emirates programme, which mobilizes the UAE community year-round to donate their time and efforts in support of the education sector. With a total contribution nearing AED 1.5 million in 2025 alone, Aldar’s support for Volunteer Emirates underscores its strong commitment to corporate social responsibility and long-term community investment.

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About Aldar

Aldar is the leading real estate developer, manager, and investor in Abu Dhabi, with a growing presence across the United Arab Emirates, the Middle East North Africa, and Europe.

The company has two core business segments, Aldar Development and Aldar Investment.

Aldar Development is a master developer of a 62 million sqm strategic landbank, creating integrated and thriving communities across Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Ras Al Khaimah's most desirable destinations. The delivery of Aldar's developments is managed by Aldar Projects, which is also a key partner of the Abu Dhabi government in delivering housing and infrastructure projects across the UAE's capital. Internationally, Aldar Development wholly owns UK real estate developer London Square, as well as a majority stake in leading Egyptian real estate development company, SODIC.

Aldar Investment houses a core asset management business comprising a portfolio of more



than AED 47 billion worth of investment grade and income-generating real estate assets diversified across retail, residential, commercial, logistics, and hospitality segments. It manages four core platforms: Aldar Investment Properties, Aldar Hospitality, Aldar Education, and Aldar Estates.

For more information on Aldar please visit www.aldar.com or follow us on:



About Dubai Cares:

Since its inception in 2007, Dubai Cares, part of Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives, has been working towards providing children and youth in developing countries with access to quality education through the design and funding of programs that aim to be impactful, sustainable and scalable. To date, the UAE-based global philanthropic organization has successfully launched education programs reaching over 116 million individuals in 60 developing countries.

Dubai Cares plays a key role in helping achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, which aims to ensure inclusive and quality education for all, and promote lifelong learning by 2030, by supporting programs in early childhood development, access to quality primary and secondary education, technical and vocational education and training for youth as well as a particular focus on education in emergencies and protracted crises. Moreover, Dubai Cares adopts a strategic approach to improve student enrollment and learning outcomes through an integrated school health and nutrition model that is made up of school-based deworming activities, school feeding, and WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) in schools.

Dubai Cares is a civil society organization formally associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications (UN DGC), as well as a registered non-government organization under IACAD, the charitable activities regulator in Dubai. The UAE-based global philanthropic organization is authorized to raise funds through direct donations and fundraising campaigns, as well as process all permit approvals with IACAD.

Volunteerism is a powerful tool to Dubai Cares in order to engage people in tackling development challenges. Dubai Cares rallies the UAE wider community through a large spectrum of volunteering and awareness initiatives that are linked to its global mandate.

To learn more, please visit www.dubaicare.ae