



International Day of Happiness (20 March 2019)

'Share Happiness, Share your Happy School Activity!'

Background

Since 2013, the United Nations has celebrated the International Day of Happiness as a way to recognise the importance of happiness in the lives of people around the world. Both this day and this concept (happiness) are highly relevant to UNESCO Bangkok's Happy Schools-project. The [Happy Schools Project](#) aims to offer an alternative notion of the quality of education that values and nurtures learners' diverse talents and strengths. In 2016, UNESCO Bangkok published [Happy Schools! A Framework for Learner Well-being in the Asia-Pacific](#), which features 22 criteria for a happy school, focusing on People, Process and Place (see framework below). Happy learners require Happy Schools, those that ensure the holistic development and well-being of students and the wider school community.

Figure 1: The Happy Schools Framework



Campaign Objectives

As part of UNESCO Bangkok's Happy Schools Project, and to celebrate the International Day of Happiness, this campaign seeks to capture activities, practices and ideas that showcase and promote happiness in schools and learner well-being. The advocacy campaign will gather and share 'best' or 'innovative' teaching and learning practices at schools in Asia-Pacific in accordance with *The Happy Schools Framework* (see Figure 1). This campaign will spotlight the contents, procedures, and impacts of these 'best/innovative' activities, and contribute to building a broad community of school education practitioners striving to create Happy Schools. This community may also contribute to upcoming seminars/workshops/events related to UNESCO's Happy Schools Project and other activities.

Help us take part in the International Day of Happiness 2019. This year's theme is '**Share Happiness**'- focusing on the importance of relationships, kindness and helping each other. UNESCO Bangkok invites each person of any age, plus every classroom, business and government to join in celebration of the International Day of Happiness. <https://www.dayofhappiness.net/>

Campaign Details

The campaign begins on **4 February 2019**. The campaign seeks education stakeholders (teachers, students, parents, etc.) to submit their 'Happy School Activities' to UNESCO Bangkok via an [online application](#). The deadline to submit is **15 March 2019**.

The campaign is open to people of all ages residing in the Asia-Pacific region. This includes students, teachers, school leaders, and parents. The campaign also welcomes submissions from the general public. The submissions must meet the following criteria:

1. Accordance with the indicator(s) /criteria of *the Happy Schools Framework* (see Figure 1).
2. Clear and concise description of the activity.
3. Convincing description of the impacts and outcomes of the activity (for example, facts, figures, stories and anecdotes).

All applicants will receive a 'certificate of participation'. UNESCO Bangkok will select a limited number of applicants to UNESCO Bangkok's 'Hall of Happiness', and will announce these on 20 March, 2019, International Day of Happiness. These 'winning' activities will be highlighted on the UNESCO Bangkok website and social media accounts and will also receive a **Happy Schools gift pack**. Any submissions may also be included in upcoming Happy Schools Project activities and UNESCO publications.

Application form

For any inquiries, or to get in touch with us, please contact: happyschools@unesco.org

Disclaimers:

Activities/Photos will be made available for viewing by the general public.

UNESCO requests the right to use activity details, information and photograph(s) for dissemination through UNESCO channels.

In the case of photos featuring adults, please have those individuals complete the '[Image Release Form for Adults](#)'.

In the case of photos featuring children, their parent or guardians' consent is also required. Please complete the '[Image Release Form for Minors](#)'.

COPYRIGHT: The entrant must be the sole author and owner of the copyright. Entrants must not infringe on the privacy rights, copyright or other rights of any other person. Permission has been sought from any persons, adults or children, who are featured in the photo(s). By submitting your activity details/photo(s) to the campaign, you grant UNESCO the non-commercial right to use your activity details/photo(s) in its work. Entrants' names will be credited on the photo in case of such usage by UNESCO.

AGREEMENT: At the time of entry, entrants are deemed to have read, understood and be in agreement with all rules and conditions. The organizer reserves the right to rule on any issue(s) not covered by these rules and disclaimers. In the event that an entrant should disagree with any decision made by the organizer, that entrant will have the right to withdraw his or her entry. All related expenses incurred shall be borne solely by the entrant. The organizers are not responsible for failure of receipt, loss or damage of any photographs entered in the competition.

*You may be contacted with further questions from UNESCO, to get more details about the practice or photos.