

Path to Hope

Quality Inclusive Non-formal
Education for Children in Syria



SYRIA



Over the past 14 years of ongoing conflict, Syria's education system has been deeply disrupted. More than 7,000 schools have been destroyed or rendered non-functional, and an estimated 2.4 million children are currently out of school. In this fragile context, many children have also been pushed into child labour as families struggle to meet their most basic needs.

In response to these challenges, the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) in Syria launched its Holistic Education Programme to serve children in need between the ages of 8 and 14, a group at high risk of being excluded from education and exposed to psychosocial stress.

Operating in four main locations: Jaramana (Rural Damascus), Bab Sbaa in Homs, Al-Kafroun, and Al-Sakhour in Aleppo, the programme provides safe, high-quality, inclusive, and protective non-formal education, alongside integrated psychosocial support (PSS), basic material assistance, and continuous engagement with families and caregivers.

This comprehensive, child-centered approach seeks to close learning gaps, strengthen resilience, and help children regain a sense of stability and hope for the future.



One day of JRS
life in Aleppo.
Explore our
educational
programme and
other services in
this video.

Highlights 2024

 3,571
children
 1,894  1,677
Education support

 1,635
families
467
PSS sessions
Protection and psychosocial support

 +  +  + 
5,935 distributions
Distribution of Hygiene kits, school kits,
and food baskets for children



One of the halls of the JRS centre in Jaramana, Rural Damascus, Syria

Core Services of the JRS Education Programme

Holistic Non-Formal Education

JRS offers flexible and structured learning opportunities tailored to children in need. The programme focuses on foundational literacy and numeracy, life skills, and retention support. Through age-appropriate and participatory teaching methods, children regain academic confidence and are better prepared for their future educational endeavors.



Integrated Psychosocial Support

Children receive psychosocial support (PSS) embedded in their daily learning.

Group sessions aim to help children manage stress, build emotional resilience, and develop coping strategies. For children requiring deeper support, individual case management and counselling are available, provided by trained social workers.



Continuous Tutor Capacity Building

JRS invests in the ongoing professional development of its tutors and education team. Through regular training in inclusive pedagogy, child safeguarding, classroom management, and psychosocial approaches, tutors are empowered to create nurturing, respectful, and trauma-informed learning environments.



Parenting Support and Family Engagement

Recognizing the central role of families in a child's wellbeing, JRS conducts structured awareness sessions and parenting support workshops. These sessions build stronger ties between families and JRS centres and cover child development, practical ways to support learning at home, and positive parenting practices.



Provision of Learning and Support Materials

To reduce barriers to participation, JRS provides children with essential school kits, hygiene items, seasonal winter clothing, and nutritious meals. In some locations, transport support is also offered to enhance attendance and well-being.



Safe and Child-Friendly Learning Spaces

All programme activities take place in community-based centres that are designed to be welcoming, safe, and inclusive. These spaces promote trust, belonging, and a sense of routine, essential for children who have experienced displacement, trauma, or instability.



Join Us

Restoring hope and dignity for vulnerable children in Syria. Your support to JRS education programme in Syria can help open new paths to learning, healing, and a brighter future.