

Clubs in the Aflatoun Programme

Please read this standard module that appears in varying forms in many of the Aflatoun books and which provides an exercise encouraging and advising teachers and children on how to set up clubs.

1. Explain that the Aflatoun Club is a place where the students can share with each other; participate freely; encourage each other to save money and other resources; propose new ideas; and carry out projects, enterprises, and different actions.

2. Explain that, in order to run smoothly, associations elect representatives and agree on certain roles they will assume. Inform them that Aflatoun Club representatives usually include the following:

- **President:** co-ordinates the activities that the members choose to undertake.
- **Secretary:** makes detailed notes of all the decisions taken during club meetings, and is responsible for the administrative tasks.
- **Treasurer:** keeps an account of the money collected for the various club activities and group savings.

3. Inform the students that, in order to start an Aflatoun Club, it is important to think about what *they* would like to do in *their* club. Ask them the following questions.

- What would you like to do in the Aflatoun Club?
- What club activities would you suggest?
- Would you want to have Club Representatives? How many? How can they be elected?
- Would you like to save in your club?
- What name will you give to your Aflatoun Club?

4. The agreement can be written on the board or a piece of paper on the notice board.

5. Here are some more questions you might find useful to discuss with the children.

- When will you meet? At what time? For how long?
- Who would be allowed to join and how?
- How will you organise your meetings?
- How will decisions be made?
- What should you do if there is disagreement between club members?
- What are some principles or values you want all members to share?

6. Mention that most Aflatoun Clubs have their own pledge. The pledge includes some of the things they have decided to do together, and some rules that help them enjoy the activities they do together in their Club more. Read the following example to the students and then encourage the students to write their own Aflatoun Club pledge.

We firmly believe that:
Each of us is unique and special.

We promise to:
Honour our agreements
Fulfil our Club responsibilities
Respect others when we don't agree
Follow the Club decisions.

We will:
Meet every week on Tuesdays
Help our Club Board
Deposit into our savings every week
Carry out Social Enterprises to improve our school and community
Have lots of fun together!