

# Darul Hadis Latifah

Independent school progress monitoring inspection report

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Reporting inspector	Nasim Butt

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Royal Exchange Buildings  
St Ann's Square  
Manchester  
M2 7LA

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## **Purpose and scope of the inspection**

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005. The inspection was conducted at the request of the Registration Authority for independent schools in order to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan following the previous inspection.

## **Information about the school**

Darul Hadis Latifah was set up in 1998 as an independent day school for Muslim boys aged from 11 to 20 years of age. It moved to its present premises in Bethnal Green in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets in 2005. The students are mostly of Bangladeshi heritage, with some students of Somali and Pakistani origins. Admission is by entry examination. There are 95 students of secondary school age and 13 students who are post-16. There are no students with a statement of special educational needs. The school aims to be a 'quality independent school for Muslim children where they will be able to develop their academic talents to their full potential as well as their faith in Allah, and prepare to be good future British citizens and play a positive role in British society'.

## **Context of the inspection**

The school was last inspected in October 2010. It failed three regulations under the quality of education, standard 1. The school submitted an action plan in December 2010 which was judged as broadly satisfactory but the timescale for implementation of the proposed actions was judged to be unsatisfactory. The school re-submitted a revised action plan in April 2011. This was judged as satisfactory subject to satisfactory implementation. This is the first visit to the school to evaluate the progress made in implementing the action plan. The inspector also followed up on requests from the Department for Education for additional checks to be made.

## **Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan**

The inspection of October 2010 found that the school, although arranging annual work placements for Year 10 pupils, did not provide appropriate careers guidance in the wider sense. In its action plan of April 2011, the school maintained that it had made contact with the Connexions service to organise information, advice and guidance sessions for all pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11. The monitoring visit of October 2011 found that a whole-day careers guidance workshop run by Connexions was held in May 2011 for students in Years 9 to 11 which raised their awareness and understanding of the employment market. The school has also established a partnership with the Centre for Citizenship Development, who have been booked to deliver several sessions on employment, self-employment and enterprise. In

addition, the school's humanities and citizenship teacher has been timetabled to teach about writing a curriculum vitae and interview techniques as part of the citizenship curriculum.

The previous inspection found that teachers were not taking students' prior attainment into account in the planning of lessons. As a result, students' learning needs were not being met precisely enough. Additional training for teachers, including one-to-one sessions, was planned for to remedy this issue. The effective and ongoing support and training delivered by an independent school improvement service has had a good impact on the quality of teachers' lesson planning. There is now an agreed planning template which all teachers are using to make the link between students' prior learning experiences and new learning. The majority of teaching observed during the visit was judged to be good and in these lessons, teachers took account of students' current assessment levels when planning appropriate tasks and activities. As a result, students' learning and progress were good. A new planning template for all schemes of work has also been devised which builds sequentially on students' previous learning. An impressive start has been made in Islamic studies and science, and the expectation is that all other curriculum areas will now follow.

The inspection of October 2010 found that the school lacked a framework for assessing students' work and that test results are not recorded effectively or used sufficiently well to inform the planning of lessons. The school's action plan indicated that it intended to implement its assessment policy by providing appropriate training for teachers. The monitoring visit found that the school's senior leaders have received good quality, sustained training on assessment and tracking which they have effectively cascaded down to all their teachers. A sound analysis has been undertaken of last summer's GCSE results, which is informing teachers' current planning. Clear tracking sheets have been developed for all year groups and subjects that show students' attainment on entry in Year 7 from their feeder primary school, their current assessment level, students' end of Year targets and the outcomes of three annual assessment points. As a result, students' progress can now be evaluated more sharply over time.

The school's safeguarding policy is sound and meets all the requirements. The designated officer has undertaken the required training and suitable induction arrangements are in place for new staff. A satisfactory single central record is in place and all criminal records bureau (CRB) checks are carried out to the required standard.

## **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

The school has made good progress and now meets all regulatory requirements.

## School details

<b>School status</b>	Independent
<b>Type of school</b>	Muslim Day School
<b>Date school opened</b>	1998
<b>Age range of pupils</b>	11–20
<b>Gender of pupils</b>	Boys
<b>Number on roll (full-time pupils)</b>	108
<b>Number on roll (part-time pupils)</b>	0
<b>Number of pupils with a statement of special educational needs</b>	0
<b>Annual fees (day pupils)</b>	£1,200 – £2,500
<b>Address of school</b>	1 Cornwall Avenue Bethnal Green, London E2 0HW
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 8980 2673 & 020 8983 3663
<b>Email address</b>	darulhadis@hotmail.co.uk
<b>Headteacher</b>	Muhammad Hasan Chowdhury
<b>Proprietor</b>	Mufti Ala Uddin