

Al Jamiah Al Islamiyyah

Willows Lane, Bolton, Lancashire, BL3 4HF

Inspection dates

04/12/2013 to 04/12/2013

Context of the inspection

This inspection was undertaken at the request of the registration authority (Department for Education) for independent schools in order to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan.

The last welfare inspection of the school took place in April 2013. At that inspection the school was judged as overall adequate with four national minimum standards not met. The school submitted an action plan which was considered by Ofsted to be satisfactory and accepted by the Department for Education. This is the first monitoring inspection to the school to consider the action plan from the welfare inspection in April 2013.

An education inspection of the school was undertaken in October 2013 by the Bridge Schools Inspectorate (BSI). At that inspection the school met all the regulations for registration as well as the BSI standards with some points to 'improve further.'

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Al Jamiah Al Islamiyyah school has made good progress in implementing their action plan following the last welfare inspection. However, during this inspection the inspectors observed a lack of fire safety precautions within the boarding accommodation. Consequently, the NMS relating to compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) order is not met.

At the last welfare inspection there were four national minimum standards (NMS) not met. The four NMS were addressed in the school's action plan and at this inspection the school presented evidence to show these NMS are met.

The school's boarding facilities have been improved to provide better living accommodation and storage arrangements for the boarders. New windows and frames on the first and second floor of the boarding house are now in place. These enhance the overall appearance of the premises and provide a more comfortable environment for the benefit of the boarders. A number of the bedrooms have additional wardrobe space to enable pupils to store their personal belongings in their room. The school has an on-going maintenance programme and plan to replace more windows in the school building and provide more wardrobes for the pupils use.

At the last inspection the school was asked to ensure designated child protection staff receive updated an appropriate level of safeguarding training. The chairman of the trustees responsible for child protection and the designated child protection staff undertook appropriate external training in respect of their safeguarding duties. The school has further strengthened this aspect of care and enabled a number of other key staff to access this level of training through the local safeguarding children's board. Therefore, staff have up-to-date knowledge and an understanding about their

safeguarding responsibilities in order to promote boarders wellbeing.

Recruitment practices have improved since the last inspection. The school demonstrates through a Single Central Record (SCR) that staff, including teachers, have the appropriate level of recruitment checks prior to their employment. The SCR shows Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are undertaken prior to staff starting work in the school. This is also confirmed by newly employed teaching staff at the school. This helps those in charge of recruitment to make safer recruitment decisions to prevent unsuitable people from working at the school.

Boarders benefit from better night time staff supervision arrangements in the boarding houses. The school increased the number of adult staff sleeping in the boarding houses from one in both houses to one in each house. This improves pastoral arrangements for the benefit of boarders.

During a tour of the boarding facilities the inspectors observed a number of issues relating to a lack of fire safety in the bedroom areas and corridor of both boarding houses. This is with particular regard to non-maintenance of some fire doors and damage to fire resistant glass both in and above fire doors. Poor fire safety potentially puts people at risk of harm in the event of a fire at the school.

National minimum standards

The school must meet the following national minimum standards for boarding schools.

 The school complies with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (as referenced in the 'Boarding Schools National Minimum Standards'). (NMS 7.1)

Inspection team

Helen Walker Lead social care inspector

Louise Redfern Social care inspector

Information about this school

This is an independent Muslim school which is registered with the Department for Education for 297 boys aged between 11 and 21 years. It is a large detached property standing in its own private grounds and is situated in a town within walking distance of local amenities. The school currently offers boarding education to 144 students, some of who are continuing in their Islamic studies.

The school is maintained by a board of trustees which meets every week to review the boarding provision. Individual members also make unannounced visits to the school to check on boarders' welfare.

Its mission statement is 'to encourage the development of independent, well balanced and well educated young men'.

School details

Unique reference number	130285
Social care unique reference number	SC009423
DfE registration number	350/6017

This inspection was carried out under the Children Act 1989, as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000, having regard to the national minimum standards for boarding schools.

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.

Type of school

Independent boarding school which is linked to the

Association of Muslim Schools

Number of boarders on roll

Gender of boarders

Boys

Age range of boarders 11 to 21

Headteacher Maulana Suhhail Masters

Date of previous boarding inspection 15/04/2013 **Telephone number** 01204 62622

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