

Birmingham Muslim School

Bisley Works, Golden Hillock Road, Birmingham, B11 2PZ

Inspection dates

23 June 2015

Overall outcome

Independent school standards not met

Context of the inspection

- This unannounced progress monitoring visit was conducted at the request of the Department for Education, which is the registration authority for independent schools, in order to check the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan following the emergency inspection visit in May 2014.
- The school's last full inspection was in July 2013. An emergency inspection took place in May 2014 when a number of regulations were not met. A progress monitoring visit was conducted in October 2014. Improvements were noted but a number of regulations remained unmet. The school's action plan to address these findings was evaluated and found to require improvement.

Main findings

Summary of the progress made by the school towards the areas for improvement outstanding at the time of the previous progress monitoring visit in October 2014.

Ensure that the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005¹ is complied with (paragraph 12, was 13).

- The emergency inspection in May 2014 found that fire risk assessments were not carried out regularly. The school commissioned an external specialist company to undertake a fire risk assessment in the summer term. No high priority risks were identified but a number of medium-term risks were highlighted for attention within three months of the risk assessment being made.
- The progress monitoring visit in October 2014 found that this deadline had not been met but the work had been scheduled for the forthcoming half-term holiday (week commencing Monday 27 October 2014). This work has now been completed so this requirement is met.

Maintain the school premises and the accommodation and facilities provided therein to a standard such that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils are ensured (paragraph 25, was 23(c)).

- As the progress monitoring visit in October 2014 found that the works required to ensure compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 had not been carried out within the required timescale, this requirement remained unmet.
- These works have now been completed so the school now meets these requirements.

Ensure that the attendance registers are maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (paragraph 15, was 17).

¹ S.I. 2005/1541, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

- The emergency inspection visit in May 2014 found that pupils' non-attendance was not recorded accurately in the attendance register and the school could not account for all pupils who did not attend.
- The progress monitoring visit found that attendance registers were marked regularly although there were some occasions when it was not possible to determine whether a pupil arrived late or was absent for a specific reason. This was because the original entry had been overwritten and no explanation was included on the register.
- Some registers were partly completed in pencil and most did not have the required information about pupils in the preface.
- Staff have since been given training on the completion of registers. Information on how to complete registers is on the front cover of each one.
- The headteacher's record book shows she and the deputy headteacher monitor registers daily and follow up absences immediately.
- Nevertheless, some registers still have incomplete entries so this requirement is not met.

Ensure that the information specified in sub-paragraph 24(2) [now 32(2)] is provided to parents of pupils and parents of prospective pupils and, on request, to the Chief Inspector, the Secretary of State or an independent inspectorate (paragraph 24(1)(a) [now 32(1(a))].

- The emergency inspection visit in May 2014 found that some of the information for parents, carers and others was out of date. The school was unable to provide the inspector with access to the information provided for parents, carers and others on the day of the progress monitoring inspection visit in October 2014. The headteacher advised that school was still in the process of updating its website.
- The new school website is now up and running. It contains the information for parents necessary to meet this regulation. Therefore the school is now compliant with the requirement.

Ensure that the information specified in sub-paragraph 24(3) [now 32(3)] is provided to parents of pupils and parents of prospective pupils and, on request, to the Chief Inspector, the Secretary of State or an independent inspectorate (paragraph 24(3)(f) and 24(3)(g) [now 32(3)(e) and 32(3)(f)]).

- Similarly, on the day of the progress monitoring inspection visit in October 2014, the school was unable to provide the inspector with access to the information provided for parents, carers and others. Some of this information was found to have been out of date at the emergency inspection visit in May 2014.
- Some, but not all, of this information is on the new school website. The website states that other information is available on request. Prospective parents are given an information pack upon request. This pack does not include information about provision for pupils who have an education, health and care plan. Nor does it provide parents access to inspection reports about the school. Therefore this regulation is not met.

Ensure that the particulars of the arrangements for meeting the standard contained in paragraph 7 are published on the school's internet website or, where no such website exists, are provided to parents on request (paragraph 32(1)(c), was 24(1)(c))

- On the day of the progress monitoring inspection visit in October 2014, this information was not on the school website. The headteacher advised that school was still in the process of updating its website.
- The new website contains a link to the safeguarding policy, so this requirement is now met.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school must take action to meet The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and associated requirements

- Ensure that the attendance registers are maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (paragraph 15, was 17).
- Ensure that the information specified in sub-paragraph 32(3) is provided to parents of pupils and parents of prospective pupils and, on request, to the Chief Inspector, the Secretary of State or an independent inspectorate (paragraph 32(1), 32(1)(b), 32(3)(b) and 32(3)(g)).

Inspection team

Sandra Hayes, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- Birmingham Muslim School is an independent day school that provides full-time education for up to 120 boys and girls aged from four to 11 years from families within and beyond the Muslim community in the Small Heath area of Birmingham.
- The school was established in 2001 in a former industrial unit. Until recently it has been privately owned by the proprietor, who is the headteacher. The school is now run by the Albayan Education Foundation Ltd which is a registered charity. The headteacher is also a trustee of the charity along with a parent and a member of the local community.
- Pupils and staff come from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds. Many pupils are at the early stages of learning to speak English. There are no pupils attending the school who have a disability or special educational needs.
- There are currently 75 pupils on roll. There are currently no children in the early years.
- The school aims to provide its pupils with an excellent standard of education and to strive for moral excellence through the teaching of Islam.

School details

Unique reference number	133521
Inspection number	464685
DfE registration number	330/6102

This inspection was conducted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008.

Type of school	Muslim
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	4–11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	75
Number of part time pupils	0
Proprietor	The Albayan Educational Foundation Ltd
Chair	Janet Laws (aka Aisha Abdrabba)
Headteacher	Aisha Abdrabba
Date of previous school inspection	23 October 2014
Annual fees (day pupils)	£1,980
Telephone number	0121 7668129
Email address	info@birminghammuslimschool.org

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