

Advice note for an emergency inspection

School name	East London Islamic School
DfE registration number	211/6004
Unique reference number (URN)	139216
Inspection number	463631
Inspection dates	24 November 2015
Lead inspector	Mary Hinds HMI



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Information about the inspection

- This inspection was conducted by Ofsted 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 2008.¹

Information about the school at the time of the previous inspection in March 2015

- East London Islamic School is a small primary school. At the time of the last progress monitoring inspection, there were 43 full-time pupils on roll who were taught in three mixed-aged year groups.
- All pupils are from Muslim backgrounds. Almost all speak English as a first language, as well as being fluent in Arabic. There are no pupils who have been identified as having special educational needs.
- The school moved to its current premises in September 2014. There is no registered early years provision.
- The school teaches Arabic, Islamic and Qur'anic studies. Some National Curriculum subjects, including literacy and numeracy, are also taught.
- The school's aim is to 'aspire to be nothing short of excellent in all aspects of school life and to work hard to nurture and produce a generation that contributes positively to the wider community'.
- The school opened in January 2013. At the time of the school's first full inspection, in September 2013, its overall effectiveness was judged to be adequate. All the independent school standards were met.
- The school received an emergency inspection in October 2014 and a progress monitoring visit in March 2015 at the request of the Department for Education. A copy of both reports were published on the Ofsted website.

Reason for inspection

- The school received an emergency unannounced inspection in October 2014, to assess the school's compliance with all the independent school standards in Part 1, Quality of Education; Part 2, Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils; Part 3, Welfare, health and safety of pupils; and Part 4 Suitability of staff, supply staff and proprietors. At the time of this inspection, the school met all the standards in Part 4.

¹ www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/25/contents.

However, almost all of the independent school standards in Parts 1, 2 were not met. There were four unmet standards in Part 3.

- The school submitted a plan detailing the actions it intended to take in order to address the unmet independent school standards. The action plan was evaluated in January 2015 and found to require improvement.
- The first progress monitoring visit established that only two of the unmet school standards in Part 1, The Quality of the Education had been met; most of the school standards in Part 2, Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils had been met, but two remained unmet; two of the school standards in Part 3, Welfare, health and safety of pupils were not met. The independent school standards relating to the quality of leadership and management were not met. As a result, the school was issued with a Notice from the Department for Education (DfE) in May 2015.
- In October 2015, the school submitted a second plan detailing the actions it intended to take in order to address the unmet independent school standards. This was judged to require improvement and was subsequently rejected by the DfE.
- This second unannounced progress monitoring inspection was commissioned at the request of the DfE, the registration authority for independent schools. The inspection was to check whether the school had effectively implemented their second action plan successfully, in order to address the unmet independent school standards identified at the time of the first progress monitoring visit in March 2015, outlined above. Inspectors were asked to check whether additional unmet standards in: Part 5, Premises of and accommodation at schools; and in Part 6, Provision of information were now met.
- Although East London Islamic School remains registered with the Department for Education, the school appears to be no longer operating. Attempts to contact the school proprietor and headteacher were unsuccessful. Inspectors visited the premises twice, at 8.20am and 10.30am. There were no staff or pupils present on either occasion. Other occupiers of the building stated that the school had ceased to operate since June 2015.
- Inspectors visited the school's previous location at Quebec Wharf, 14 Thomas Street, London E14 7AF. This established that the school had not re-located to this site.

Compliance with The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014²

Part 1. Quality of education provided

- Without any first-hand observations, it was not possible to evaluate the progress the school has made towards meeting the previously unmet independent school standards.

² www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2014/3283/contents/made.

At the time of the last progress monitoring inspection, the following standards remained unmet:

The proprietor must ensure that a written policy on the curriculum, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work, which provides for matters specified in sub-paragraph (2) is drawn up and implemented effectively.	paragraph 2 (1)(a)
Ensure that the curriculum gives pupils experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education.	paragraph 2(2)(a)
The proprietor must ensure that the subject matter taught is appropriate for the ages and aptitudes of pupils.	paragraph 2(1)(b)(i)
The proprietor must ensure that pupils acquire speaking, listening, literacy and numeracy skills	paragraph 2(2)(b)
The proprietor must ensure that personal, social and health education reflects the school's aim and ethos.	paragraphs 2(2)(d) and 2(2)(d)(i)
The proprietor must ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to learn and make progress.	paragraph 2(2)(h)
The proprietor must ensure that teaching enables pupils to acquire new knowledge and make progress according to their ability so that they increase their understanding and develop their skills in the subjects taught.	paragraph 3, 3(a)
The proprietor must ensure that teaching fosters in pupils the application of intellectual, physical or creative effort, interest in their work and the ability to think and learn for themselves.	paragraph 3(b)
The proprietor must ensure that teaching involves well-planned lessons and effective teaching methods, activities and management of class time.	paragraph 3(c)
The proprietor must ensure that teaching shows a good understanding of the aptitudes, needs and prior attainments of the pupils, and ensure that these are taken into account in the planning of lessons.	paragraph 3(d)
The proprietor must ensure that teaching demonstrates appropriate knowledge and understanding of the subject matter being taught.	paragraph 3(e)
The proprietor must ensure that teaching utilises effectively classroom resources of an adequate quality, quantity and range.	paragraph 3(f)

The proprietor must ensure that teaching demonstrates that a framework is in place to assess pupils' work regularly and thoroughly and use information from that assessment to plan teaching so that pupils can progress.	paragraph 3(g)
The proprietor must ensure that teaching utilises effective strategies for managing behaviour and encouraging pupils to act responsibly.	paragraph 3(h)
The proprietor must ensure that a framework for pupil performance to be evaluated, by reference either to the school's own aims as provided to parents or national norms, or to both, is in place.	paragraph 4

Part 2. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

- Without any first-hand observations, it was not possible to evaluate the progress the school has made towards meeting the previously unmet independent school standards.

At the time of the last progress monitoring inspection, the following standards remained unmet:

The proprietor must ensure that principles are actively promoted which enable pupils to distinguish between right from wrong and to respect the civil and criminal law of England.	paragraph 5, 5(b)(ii)
The proprietor must ensure that principles are actively promoted which encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative and understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality in which the school is situated and to society more widely.	paragraph 5, 5(b)(iii)

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

- The school's safeguarding policy is published and maintained on the school's internet website. This confirms that the school's safeguarding policy has been reviewed to clarify what actions should be taken in the event of an allegation against the headteacher and the proprietor. However, arrangements to safeguard pupils do not have regard to the

most recent guidance issued by the Secretary of State. This independent school standards remains unmet.

- Inspectors were not able to judge how effectively the school’s behaviour policy is implemented

At the time of the last progress monitoring inspection, the following standards remained unmet:

The proprietor must ensure that arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school and that these arrangements have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State.	paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b)
The proprietor must ensure that there is a written policy to promote good behaviour among pupils which sets out the sanctions to be adopted in the event of pupil misbehaviour is drawn up and effectively implemented.	paragraph 9, 9(a) and 9(b)

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

- It was not possible to evaluate whether the school ensures that a suitable outdoor space is provided for pupils to undertake physical education, or to play outside.

At the time of the last progress monitoring inspection, the following standards remained unmet:

The proprietor must ensure that a suitable outdoor space is provided for pupils to undertake physical education in accordance with the school curriculum, and to enable them to play outside.	paragraph 29, 29(1), 29(1)(a) and 29(1)(b)
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Part 6. Provision of information

- Information on the school’s website, confirms that one of the previous unmet independent school standards is now met. Copies of inspection reports are published and maintained on the school’s internet website. The school’s safeguarding policy is also published on the school’s website. However, the information in this policy does not meet the requirements of the standard contained in Part 3, Welfare, health and safety of pupils. This standard remains unmet.

At the time of the last progress monitoring inspection, the following standards remained unmet:

The proprietor must ensure that the school’s safeguarding policy which is published and maintained on the school’s internet website, meets the standard contained in Part 3, Welfare, health and safety of pupils.	paragraph 32, 32(1)(c)
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Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

- The proprietor has failed to make sure that all the independent school standards are met. The well-being of pupils is not actively promoted. The regulations concerning the quality of leadership and management are not met.

At the time of the last progress monitoring inspection, the following standards remained unmet:

The proprietor must ensure that that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent schools standards are met consistently.	paragraph 34, 34(1), 34(1)(a)
The proprietor must ensure that the school's leaders fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently.	paragraph 34, 34(1), 34(1)(b)

Advice to the registration authority for independent schools

Overall outcome	The school appears to have closed
Report recommendation	A report on the findings of the inspection is recommended to be published on the Ofsted website