

Darul Uloom Dawatul Imaan

Harry Street, Off Wakefield Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD4 9PH

Inspection dates

2 November 2016

Overall outcome

The school does not meet all of the independent school standards that were checked during this inspection

Main inspection findings

Part 1. Quality of education provided

Paragraph 2(1), 2(1)(a), 3, 3(a), 3(b), 3(c), 3(d), 3(e), 3(f), 3(g)

- At the last inspection the quality of teaching was not good enough to allow pupils to make the progress they were capable of. School leaders anticipated in their action plan, which was sent to the Department for Education (DfE) to ensure that improvements are made in the quality of education, that external support, new monitoring arrangements and a new marking policy and assessment system would improve the quality of teaching and learning.
- School leaders have taken a number of actions as anticipated in their action plan. The school has been supported, and continues to be supported, by another local school to help improve the quality of education and learning. External support has helped teachers and leaders identify and prioritise areas for improvement. There is now a regular timetable of monitoring using focused evaluation forms to support improvement. This monitoring is relatively recent and has not yet improved the quality of teaching sufficiently. Teachers now receive training and regular professional development on aspects of teaching such as questioning skills and how to meet the needs of pupils with different abilities. Leaders have purchased a range of extra resources, such as fiction and non-fiction texts and science equipment, which are now supporting better learning. A new assessment system is now in place which takes into account pupils' starting points. Some teachers are beginning to take this information into account when teaching so that they are becoming more skilled at meeting individual pupils' needs. Leaders have introduced a new marking and feedback policy designed to help pupils understand how they can improve their work. Typically, teachers are not consistently using the policy and do not understand the benefits this system can bring to pupils' learning.
- School leaders have established a number of clear strategies to improve the quality of teaching and learning. However, these are not consistently understood and used by all staff and as a result pupils' learning is not improving at a fast enough rate. Therefore these standards have not been met at this inspection.

Paragraph 2(2), 2(2)(a)

- Previously, pupils did not get enough opportunity to learn creative skills. The school proposed that they would introduce more than eight subjects including art and physical education to address this issue.

- All pupils now have timetabled physical education lessons and the opportunity to play on local playing fields at weekends. Art is timetabled for pupils on a weekly basis. These lessons are complemented by visits to local museums. Older pupils, although not timetabled for compulsory art lessons, gain knowledge of the aesthetic and creative curriculum through visits and events such as 'Art in the Park'. Consequently, pupils now gain good experience in physical and aesthetic and creative education.
- Due to actions taken by senior leaders these standards are now met.

Paragraph 2(2)(e), 2(2)(e)(i), 2(2)(e)(ii), 2(2)(e)(iii)

- The previous inspection identified that pupils did not gain appropriate careers guidance. The school's action plan stated that the responsibility for careers advice would be given to a member of staff and that pupils would have access to information from colleges and online material.
- A new careers officer has been appointed and has introduced a number of strategies to ensure pupils receive appropriate careers guidance. A new careers room has been established in the school building. All pupils have completed a careers plan, which has been adapted for each year group to help the careers officer identify the needs of pupils. An external careers advisor now visits pupils on a termly basis to help them gain appropriate and impartial advice. Pupils in Year 11 have also had the opportunity to visit further education colleges and attend the Apprenticeship Show in Manchester. A careers fair has been held in school and leaders have committed to this becoming a regular event. Representatives, such as those from the army, police force, business and law, gave pupils an insight into different careers and relevant requirements. Pupils aged 13 to 18 years now have access to online careers information to help them complete further research. Pupils who spoke to the inspector had high and varied aspirations of possible career paths. They acknowledge the choices they now have and the requirements they have to meet depending on the path they wish to take
- The comprehensive action taken by senior leaders and the careers officer now means that these standards are met.

Paragraph 2(2)(g), 2(2)(i)

- Inspectors identified previously that learners without GCSE English and mathematics did not continue their studies and too many pupils in the sixth form were not completing examination courses.
- Senior leaders now ensure that pupils who have not got the required qualifications continue with GCSE English and mathematics study. Pupils in the sixth form now study up to four advanced-level qualifications. School leaders also recognise that pupils may require mathematics and English A-level qualifications to follow a chosen career path. The employment of new specialist mathematics and English teachers will enable this qualification to be available in the future.
- School leaders have ensured that these standards are now met.

Paragraph 4

- The previous inspection identified that there was not a clear framework in place to evaluate pupil performance. School leaders indicated on their action plan that a member of staff now has responsibility for assessment. A commercial scheme has been purchased and is to be used alongside a new assessment policy. It is also anticipated that external support will secure the implementation of these new systems.

- A senior leader is now responsible for assessment and the secular curriculum. As planned, support from external advisers has meant that the school is now able to plot pupils' progress from their starting points. Teachers, parents and pupils are now able to evaluate progress across all subjects relevant to standardised norms.
- School leaders have implemented all actions as identified on their action plan to ensure that this standard is now met.

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

Paragraph 5, 5(b), 5(b)(iii), 5(b)(iv)

- At the last inspection pupils had too few opportunities to learn about, become involved in, and learn about life outside their own school and in modern Britain. The school proposed a number of activities to address this issue. It intended that pupils will support local food banks and care homes, establish links with another school, have more visiting speakers in school and be encouraged to use public transport.
- A newly appointed enrichment leader has taken over responsibility for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. A wide range of activities have taken place to secure this aspect of pupils' development. A well-planned programme of events allows pupils to gain diverse experiences to support their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Darul Uloom pupils are taking part in the DfE Learning Initiative with other local schools. This has enabled pupils to have access to a wider range of literacy texts and share their views with pupils at other schools. Initiatives such as the open day for neighbours saw pupils welcoming local residents into the school for lunch and a tour. Numerous assemblies have taken place, with visitors ranging from Brain Tumour Research and Support to the ambulance service and the school nurse. Pupils speak enthusiastically about the things they have learned and demonstrate that they have gained a greater knowledge of society, both locally and more widely, and how they can make valuable contributions to those societies. Pupils have supported their local community with regular litter-picking events and fund-raising activities such as food banks. The school nurse is now a regular visitor in school and helps pupils become more aware of issues such as smoking, drug use, relationships and sex education.
- The enthusiastic and highly driven enrichment leader has ensured that pupils have already gained a range of experiences that enable these standards to be met. A detailed programme is in place to demonstrate how these experiences are planned to continue.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b)

- The previous inspection identified that older pupils and visitors did not always receive appropriate safeguarding checks. The school's action plan notes the intention to check all learners and volunteers over the age of 18 years and that the designated safeguarding lead will monitor implementation.
- The safeguarding policy is up to date with current government guidance and is available to download from the school's website. Senior leaders have taken action to obtain appropriate checks on all learners and volunteers over the age of 18. A small minority of these checks have yet to be completed. While awaiting checks the headteacher has risk assessed the situation and provided written guidance in the form of risk assessment relating to the supervision of those adults awaiting checks.

- Adults awaiting checks are now well supervised according to the risk assessment requirements. Therefore standard 7, 7(a) is met. Standard 7(b) is met as the proprietor has ensured that arrangements to safeguard pupils have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State.

Paragraph 15

- Previously the school's admissions register did not record when pupils had left the school, nor were leaders aware of their responsibility of when to inform the local authority that a pupil was no longer attending the school. The school noted in their action plan that these details are now in place and are monitored by the designated safeguarding lead.
- The proprietor has ensured that appropriate information is clearly recorded on the admissions register and that the local authority is notified when appropriate. Contact with the local authority is also clearly recorded in the admissions register.
- This standard is now met.

Paragraph 16, 16(a), 16(b)

- At the previous inspection school leaders had not taken appropriate action to identify and take action with regards to the risks to pupils' safety. This was particularly relevant to the lack of checks and subsequent supervision of some adults. The school's action plan noted the intention to complete quarterly risk assessments and take advice from the local safeguarding board.
- Senior leaders have taken advice from the local safeguarding board, have completed risk assessments and have taken action to complete appropriate checks on all adults. Senior leaders also risk assessed and acted upon potential risks associated with the possible shared use of shower facilities. However, the implementation of these risk assessments had not always been monitored thoroughly or regularly enough to ensure that they were fully effective. Consequently, further action was required to ensure pupils are safe with much stricter supervision of shared shower facilities. A new and more precise risk assessment is now in place. However, the school has not been robust enough in managing risk assessments over time.
- The lack of thoroughness with regards to assessing risk means that these standards are not yet met.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 23(1), 23(1)(a), 23(1)(c)

- At the last inspection, pupils shared bathing and toilet facilities with adults who had not received appropriate checks and were not supervised. Senior leaders confirm in the action plan that refurbishment and other arrangements are taking place to address this issue.
- Arrangements are now in place so that suitable toilets, showers and changing facilities are available for all pupils in the boarding school building. Younger pupils have their own toilet and bathing facilities on the third floor. Pupils aged between 16 and 18 years share facilities with older pupils with a strictly supervised timetable now in place. A risk assessment for this process is now in place. Refurbishments of facilities in the school building are ongoing.
- Senior leaders have now ensured that these standards are now met.

Part 6. Provision of information

Paragraph 32(1)(c)

- At the last inspection the safeguarding policy was written in accordance with government guidelines and was available to parents.
- The safeguarding policy continues to be in line with current government guidelines and is available for parents to download from the school website should they wish to.
- This standard continues to be met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c), 34(2)

- At the previous inspection the leaders had not demonstrated that they had the skills or knowledge to consistently meet the independent standards and consequently pupils' well-being was not actively promoted. The action plan written by school leaders notes how they will deal with safeguarding issues raised and that an external audit in May 2016 and subsequent monthly quality assurance reviews will ensure that the independent school standards are consistently met.
- Leaders and managers have followed their action plan well and taken numerous steps to demonstrate that they have the skills and knowledge to consistently meet the independent school standards. Many of the standards not met at the last inspection are now met. Some of the standards remain unmet as strategies to meet them have not yet had time to have an impact, for example on the quality of education. Other standards remain unmet as school leaders have demonstrated a lack of thoroughness in continually assessing risk over time. However, all risks were fully addressed during the inspection and appropriate action taken.
- Leadership and management standards remain unmet.

Compliance with regulatory

The school does not meet the requirements of the schedule to The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements that were checked during this inspection. This included the standards and requirements that the school was judged to not comply with at the previous inspection. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

The school does not meet the following independent school standards

- 2(1), 2(1)(a). The proprietor has not ensured that a written policy on the curriculum, supported by appropriate plans and schemes of work, which provides for the matters specified in sub-paragraph (2) is drawn up and implemented effectively.
- 3, 3(a), 3(b), 3(c), 3(d), 3(e), 3(f), 3(g). The proprietor has not ensured that teaching at the school enables pupils to acquire new knowledge and make good progress according to their ability so that they increase their understanding and develop their skills in the subjects taught. Neither have they fostered in pupils self-motivation, the application of intellectual, physical and creative effort, interest in their work and the ability to think and learn for themselves. The proprietor has yet to ensure that teaching involves well-planned lessons and effective teaching methods, activities and management of class time. They have yet to ensure that teachers demonstrate good knowledge and understanding of the subject matter being taught and use classroom resources which are of a good quality, quantity and range effectively. The proprietor must ensure that a framework is in place to assess pupils' work regularly and that teachers use this information to plan teaching so that pupils can progress.
- 16, 16(a), 16(b). The proprietor has not ensured that the welfare of pupils at the school is safeguarded and promoted by the drawing up and effective implementation of a written risk assessment policy and that appropriate action is taken to reduce risks that are identified.
- 34(1), 34(1) (a), 34(1) (b), 34(1) (c), 34(2). The proprietor has not ensured that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently. Neither do they fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently and actively promote the well-being of pupils.

The school now meets the following independent school standards

- 2(2), 2(2) (a). The proprietor has ensured that pupils in full-time supervised education of compulsory school age (construed in accordance with section 8 or the Education Act 1996) have experience in linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technological, human and social, physical and aesthetic and creative education.
- 2(2) (e), 2(2)(e)(i), 2(2)(e)(ii), 2(2)(e)(iii). The proprietor has ensured that all pupils now receive access to accurate, up-to-date careers guidance that is presented in an impartial manner and that enables them to make informed choices about a broad range of career options and encourages them to fulfil their potential.

- 2(2), 2(2), 2(2). The proprietor has ensured that pupils above compulsory school age have a programme of activities which is appropriate to their needs and gives them effective preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life in British society.
- 4. The proprietor has ensured that a framework for pupil performance to be evaluated, by reference to the school's own aims as provided to parents or national norms, or to both, is in place.
- 5, 5(b), 5(b) (iii), 5(b)(iv). The proprietor has ensured the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils by actively promoting principles 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. The have also ensured that pupils acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England.
- 7, 7(a), 7(b). The proprietor has ensured that arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State and that arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school.
- 15. The proprietor has ensured that the admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006.
- 23(1), 23(1) (a), 23(1) (c). The proprietor now ensures that suitable toilet and washing facilities are provided for the sole use of pupils and suitable changing accommodation and showers are provided for pupils aged 11 years or over at the start of the school year who receive physical education.
- 32(1)(c). The proprietor has ensured that 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.

School details

Unique reference number	134140
DfE registration number	380/6114
Inspection number	10022315

This inspection was carried out under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's suitability for continued registration as an independent school.

Type of school	Muslim secondary
School status	Independent boarding school
Age range of pupils	127 (11–18 years) 25 (19–25 years)
Gender of pupils	Boys
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Boys
Number of pupils on the school roll	152
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	21
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Darul Uloom Dawatul Imaan Ltd
Chair	Omar Kholwadia
Headteacher	Mohamed Lorgat
Annual fees (day pupils)	N/A
Telephone number	01274 402233
Website	dawatulimaan.org
Email address	info@dawatulimaan.org
Date of previous standard inspection	19–21 October 2015

Information about this school

- Darul Uloom Dawatul Imaan is an independent Muslim boys boarding school. It accepts pupils from 11 to 25 years. The selects pupils of average and above-average levels of ability through the setting of an entrance examination and interview.
- The school currently has 152 pupils on roll but has the capacity to accept up to 270 pupils. There are currently no pupils on roll who have a disability or a statement of special educational needs.
- The school was previously inspected in October 2015.
- The school does not use any alternative providers or provide any other provision on a different site.

- The school vision is 'all about learning and becoming better Muslims' and aims 'to provide a good education and thus produce upright citizens in a secure and holistic Islamic environment.'

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. The purpose of the inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the independent school standards and other requirements that it was judged to not comply with at its previous inspection.
- This inspection was the first progress monitoring inspection since the school was inspected in October 2015 and judged to be inadequate. An evaluation of the school's subsequent action plan was made in May 2016 when the action plan was judged to be acceptable.
- The inspection was conducted at no notice and took place over one day. A separate inspection of the boarding provision was completed at the same time.
- The inspector met with the headteacher and other senior leaders, including the head of secular studies, the careers and enrichment officer and the designated safeguarding lead. The inspector also held meetings with teaching staff and pupils.
- The inspector spent time observing lessons and considering work in pupils' books. This activity took place alongside a senior leader.
- The inspector considered a number of documents relating to the standards being considered on this inspection such as external audits, monitoring of teaching and photographic evidence of events that have taken place. Documents relating to the safeguarding of pupils were also scrutinised.

Inspection team

Jo Sharpe, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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