

# Madrasatul Imam Muhammad Zakariya

Keswick Street, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 8LX

## Inspection dates

19 April 2018

## Overall outcome

**The school meets all of the independent school standards that were checked during this inspection**

## Main inspection findings

### Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

#### *Paragraph 7, 7(a), 7(b)*

- The school's safeguarding procedures are effective. The school's policy and procedures are in accordance with government guidance and refer to locally agreed inter-agency procedures. Leaders have put in place all the necessary arrangements to safeguard and to promote the welfare of pupils at the school.
- All staff receive appropriate induction, safeguarding training and regular updates on areas such as radicalisation and extremism, sexual exploitation, sexting and e-safety. Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities. They keep a close eye on pupils and make sure that any concerns are reported immediately to the designated safeguarding lead. Staff are confident that any concerns are followed up diligently by the designated lead.
- Staff use both informal and formal opportunities to teach pupils about how to keep themselves safe.
- Strong relationships between staff and pupils mean that pupils are confident to talk to an adult if they have any worries or concerns.
- When required, the designated safeguarding lead liaises closely with external agencies and makes sure that records are kept up to date.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are met.

#### *Paragraph 10*

- Leaders have an appropriate anti-bullying policy in place, which is closely linked to other policies such as those on safeguarding and behaviour. The school takes part in anti-bullying week. Pupils are proud of the work that they do. For example, the whole school recently contributed to a display which focused on a quote from the Quran: 'And we make you into various families and tribes so that you can recognise each other'. Every pupil contributed an affirming statement in support of the values of tolerance and respect. Staff keep a log of any behaviour incidents, including bullying. They clearly explain and record any occurrences and record actions taken. Pupils report that bullying is exceptionally rare. Pupils are confident that staff quickly challenge any concerns regarding bullying, unkindness or name-calling.

- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standard in this part is met.

#### Part 6. Provision of information

*Paragraph 32(1), 32(1)(c), 32(3)(d), 32(3)(f)*

- The school does not have a website, but makes sure that all required information is provided to parents.
- Leaders provide a good-quality parents' information pack, which includes handy summaries of key policies, such as on anti-bullying and making a complaint. A comprehensive range of policies for parents is in place. These fully reflect recent legislation and good practice. They include policies on safeguarding, behaviour, anti-bullying, the complaints procedure and whistleblowing. Leaders make it clear to parents that full copies of these documents can be requested.
- A regular newsletter is sent out to parents that celebrates the school's activities and successes as well as offering updates on areas such as online and personal safety.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are met.

#### Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

*Paragraph 33, 33(a), 33(b), 33(c), 33(d), 33(e), 33(f), 33(g), 33(h) 33(i), 33(i)(i), 33(i)(ii), 33(j), 33(j)(i), 33(j)(ii), 33(k)*

- The complaints policy is comprehensive and contains all of the necessary stages, with appropriate timescales and details about written records. The policy is robust and ensures transparency.
- Leaders have ensured that all the independent school standards in this part are met.

#### Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- Leaders and managers have ensured that the school meets all of the independent school standards that were covered in the scope of this inspection and that pupils' safeguarding and well-being are promoted.
- The headteacher and trustees have ensured that policies and procedures for safeguarding, behaviour, anti-bullying and complaints comply with independent school standards. They are conscientious in their responsibilities, instigating a cycle of regular monitoring as well as taking opportunities to review and revise documents as they arise, for example adding safeguarding updates in response to different developments and tightening the complaints procedure in the light of a complaint.
- The proprietor quality-assures the work of the school through visits. As part of these visits, the proprietor meets with staff and pupils. The headteacher provides a comprehensive report at the termly trustee meetings.
- Staff who spoke to the inspector have confidence in their leaders and managers. Staff feel well supported to do their jobs and confident to speak up if they have any concerns.
- The quality of leadership is reflected in ensuring that all of the independent school standards are met.

## **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

The school meets 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. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

## School details

Unique reference number	133285
DfE registration number	350/6018
Inspection number	10052708

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	Other independent school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	11 to 19
Gender of pupils	Girls
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Girls
Number of pupils on the school roll	120
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	20
Number of part-time pupils	4
Proprietor	Board of trustees
Chair	Dr Mahmood Chandia
Headteacher	Mrs Amena Sader
Annual fees (day pupils)	£1,200
Telephone number	01204 384 434
Website	None
Email address	admin@mimz.org.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	24–26 January 2017

## Information about this school

- The headteacher has been in post since the school was established in 2000. The ethos of the school aims to ensure that all pupils feel that their years in school are well spent and that they attain the highest levels of spiritual, moral and Islamic awareness. The school states that it provides girls with a solid Islamic and secular education and furnishes them with the necessary tools to become law-abiding, moral and well-

rounded citizens.

- The school day begins at 8.20am and finishes at 4.30pm. In addition, there is a Saturday morning session from 8.20am to midday.
- The curriculum includes study of the Quran and Ahaadeeth, Islamic jurisprudence and history, Arabic language and grammar, Urdu, English language and literature, mathematics, science, design, information and communication technology, modern and classic languages and textiles.
- Extra-curricular activities focus on the development of personal, health and social education and include trips to educational venues and religious places of worship and guest speakers. The school does not have any alternative providers of education, but uses the facilities of local community centres and schools to provide physical education.
- There is a student council and students participate in competitive sports, fundraising activities and public speaking.
- At the time of the inspection, no pupil had a statement of special educational needs or an education, health and care plan.

## Information about this inspection

- This emergency inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE).
- The DfE requested that the inspector reported on the independent school standards in respect of safeguarding, promoting the welfare of pupils, anti-bullying, the complaints procedure and leadership and management.
- The inspector toured the school, visiting lessons in classrooms, the school hall and dining room. She was accompanied by the headteacher.
- The inspector spoke formally to two groups of pupils and a group of staff. She also considered parental responses to a survey carried out by the school.
- The inspector scrutinised a range of school documents.
- She held discussions with the headteacher.
- The inspector spoke by telephone with representatives of the proprietor and the local authority.

## Inspection team

Sue Eastwood, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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