

# Al-Khair Girls' School

109–117 Cherry Orchard Road, Croydon CR0 6BB

**Inspection dates**

25 June 2019

**Overall outcome**

**The school is likely to meet all the independent school standards when it opens**

## Main inspection findings

### Part 1. Quality of education provided

*All paragraphs*

- Leaders have developed appropriate curriculum and assessment policies, programmes of study, and teaching plans, which consider the needs of girls aged 11 to 16.
- The curriculum covers all the required areas of learning and girls will have equal access to everything available to their male counterparts. Planning takes account of pupils' different ages, abilities and interests, and includes opportunities for pupils to achieve a wide range of GCSE qualifications.
- There are suitable arrangements for British values and information about all the protected characteristics (as identified in the Equality Act 2010) to be taught across the curriculum, as well as through the weekly personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education programme.
- The school is likely to be suitably resourced and staffed.
- The arrangements for careers education are likely to be appropriate. There are well-considered plans in place to continue to provide pupils with the impartial information, advice and guidance they need to make informed decisions about their futures.
- Suitable arrangements are in place to monitor the consistency and quality of education provided.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered as an independent school.

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

*All paragraphs*

- The school has an Islamic ethos and welcomes pupils of all faiths. The planned programme for religious education ensures that pupils learn about a range of religions, cultures and beliefs from around the world. Pupils are likely to develop tolerance and appreciate the diversity of British society.

- The school's proposed PSHE plans and equality policy outline a clear commitment to the promotion of British values and to ensuring that pupils are encouraged to show respect for all the protected characteristics.
- The school's staff handbook and code of conduct make it clear that no member of staff may promote partisan views, and that balanced viewpoints must always be presented in the teaching of all subjects.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standard in this part is likely to be met if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered as an independent school.

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

#### *All paragraphs*

- Designated safeguarding leaders have completed an appropriately enhanced level of training. Leaders are knowledgeable and aware of their duties. The school's system for recording concerns, referrals and any actions taken is fit for purpose. Arrangements for staff induction, training and regular updates are likely to ensure that staff will continue to be provided with the knowledge and skills they need to safeguard pupils. As a result, there is likely to be a strong safeguarding culture.
- The school's child protection policy is suitable and likely to be implemented well. It is supported by a 'Prevent' duty policy. Both reflect the most recent statutory guidance, including 'Keeping children safe in education' (September 2018) and 'Working together to safeguard children' (July 2018). Policies are currently available in hard copy and will be available online when the school's new website is launched.
- The school's proposed behaviour and anti-bullying policies are suitable and likely to be implemented well. The school intends to make use of an online system for recording any sanctions imposed for incidents of serious misbehaviour.
- The school's health and safety, first aid and risk assessment policies are likely to meet the required aspects of health and safety. Several members of staff are trained first aiders. Appropriate risk assessments are in place, including for the premises.
- The school is likely to be compliant with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Appropriate actions have been taken following an external fire risk assessment undertaken in November 2018. Leaders understand the importance of completing and logging all the required checks on electrical equipment, fire-safety equipment, emergency lighting and the alarm system. Evacuation drills are carried out termly.
- An appropriate number of staff is likely to be deployed to ensure that there is a ratio of at least one adult for every 20 pupils.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered as an independent school.

### Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

#### *All paragraphs*

- The existing staff will continue to work in both the proposed single-sex secondary schools.

- Leaders have a clear understanding of safer recruitment. They understand the importance of completing all the required checks on new staff before they work with pupils. All the required vetting checks, including for the proprietor, employees, agency staff and volunteers, are recorded accurately on a single central register.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered as an independent school.

## Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

### *All paragraphs*

- The premises will continue to be shared with the proposed Al-Khair Boys' School.
- The facilities include classrooms, a library, an outdoor play area and a large indoor hall. The premises are secure, well maintained and clean.
- There are suitable toilet, washing, shower and changing facilities.
- A dedicated medical room for girls is suitably resourced and located near a pupils' toilet. The facility is likely to meet all requirements.
- A chilled drinking water supply is provided at suitably labelled fountains.
- The acoustic features, sound insulation, regulated hot water supplies and internal and external lights are all suitable.
- The school's proposed health and safety policy addresses all key areas required. There is strong evidence that the policy is likely to be well implemented.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards in this part are likely to be met if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered as an independent school.

## Part 6. Provision of information

### *All paragraphs*

- All the required policies and information will be made available on the school's new website when it is launched. For now, everything is readily available in hard copy.
- The school's intended termly report template for parents is likely to meet requirements as it clearly identifies pupils' progress and attainment in all the subject areas taught.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standard in this part is likely to be met if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered as an independent school.

## Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

### *All paragraphs*

- Leaders have prepared a suitable complaints procedure, which is likely to be compliant with all the requirements. A suitable complaints log is also ready for use.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standard in this part is likely to be met if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered as an independent school.

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

### *All paragraphs*

- Leaders have paid good attention to detail in planning to separate their school into three schools. They have a secure working knowledge of the independent school standards.
- As a result, all the independent school standards are likely to be met and pupils' well-being is likely to be assured if Al-Khair Girls' School is registered for up to 80 pupils aged 11 to 16.

## Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

- The school's proposed accessibility plan is likely to meet the requirements of Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

## **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

The school is likely to meet the requirements of the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements.

## Proposed school details

Unique reference number	147027
DfE registration number	306/6019
Inspection number	10103272

This inspection was carried out under section 99 of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards that are required for registration as an independent school.

Type of school	Islamic secondary day school for girls
School status	Independent school
Proprietor	Qasim Rashid Ahmad
Headteacher	Aisha Chaudhry
Annual fees (day pupils)	£5,200
Telephone number	020 8662 8664
Website	<a href="http://www.alkhairschool.org.uk">www.alkhairschool.org.uk</a>
Email address	<a href="mailto:secondary@alkhairschool.org.uk">secondary@alkhairschool.org.uk</a>

## Pupils

	<b>School's current position</b>	<b>School's proposal</b>	<b>Inspector's recommendation</b>
Age range of pupils	Not applicable	11 to 16	11 to 16
Number of pupils on the school roll	Not applicable	80	80

## Pupils

	<b>School's current position</b>	<b>School's proposal</b>
Gender of pupils	Not applicable	Girls
Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	Not applicable	80
Number of part-time pupils	Not applicable	0
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	Not applicable	0
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	0
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	0

## Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	Not applicable	16
Number of part-time teaching staff	Not applicable	8
Number of staff in the welfare provision	Not applicable	2

## Information about this proposed school

- Al-Khair School is currently a mixed school for pupils aged four to 16 and is located across two sites, primary and secondary, in the London Borough of Croydon.
- Following the school's most recent full standard inspection in January 2019, leaders have applied for Al-Khair to become three schools. To do this, leaders have applied to change Al-Khair School to Al-Khair Boys' School, and to open two new schools: Al-Khair Girls' School and Al-Khair Preparatory School. Leaders plan to operate as three separate schools from September 2019.
- The proposed school's website is currently under construction; a new website catering for the three separate schools is currently being designed.
- The individual proprietor of the current school will be the same for all three schools if registration is granted. The school does not currently have a governing body, but is planning to introduce one from September 2019.
- The proposed school does not intend to make use of alternative provision.



## Information about this inspection

- This pre-registration inspection was conducted with two days of notice.
- The inspection was conducted at the same time as another pre-registration inspection and a material change inspection, following the school's application to become three separate schools: Al-Khair Boys' School, Al-Khair Girls' School, and Al-Khair Preparatory School.
- This inspection sought to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's likely compliance with all the independent school standards relevant to registering Al-Khair Girls' School for up to 80 pupils aged 11 to 16.
- The inspector considered a wide range of evidence, toured the premises, met with all senior leaders, including the proprietor, and with a group of pupils.

## Inspection team

James Waite, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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