

Darul Madinah

50 Darvills Lane, Slough SL1 2PH

Inspection date

11 August 2022

Overall outcome

The school is likely to meet the relevant independent school standards if the material changes relating to the school provision are implemented

Main inspection findings

Part 1. Quality of education provided

Paragraphs 2(1)(a)–2(2)(b), 2(2)(d)–2(2)(d)(ii), 2(2)(h)–2A(1)(g), 3–4

- Leaders have developed a suitably broad and balanced curriculum for the proposed new year group. The formal curriculum includes English, mathematics, science, art, computing, physical education and the humanities. It is carefully designed to build securely on prior learning. The curriculum sets out precisely what pupils will learn in each subject and is consistent with the national curriculum.
- The content of the English curriculum is well sequenced. Leaders have identified a wide range of high-quality and engaging texts to support learning. Staff will use the school's well-established phonics programme to support pupils' reading skills. Leaders give the development of language and vocabulary skills a strong emphasis.
- Leaders are alert to pupils' individual needs. Well-qualified staff will assess pupils' learning continuously during lessons and will adjust teaching accordingly. The curriculum includes information for staff about how learning can be adapted to support all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. A well-qualified special educational needs coordinator oversees teaching and learning for this group of pupils.
- The school's well-established personal, social and health education (PSHE) programme has been extended to provide suitable content for Year 2. It includes a range of topics, such as how to manage feelings and why bullying is harmful. The school has earned a local authority award for its work to promote pupils' oral hygiene. Relationships education forms an integral part of the PSHE curriculum.
- Safety issues, such as how to use the internet safely, are taught throughout the curriculum.
- The school is likely to meet the requirements in this part of the standards if the material change is agreed.

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

Paragraph 5–5(d)(iii)

- British and Islamic values are promoted across the curriculum and through the everyday life of the school. For example, staff promote individual liberty and the rule of law by encouraging pupils to treat everyone in class equally and by demonstrating personal responsibility for following the class rules.
- Pupils are taught to be kind and respectful. Daily Islamic prayer sessions provide opportunities for quiet reflection. Family stories and cultural traditions are used to help pupils recognise, appreciate and celebrate different backgrounds, circumstances and beliefs.
- The religious education curriculum includes learning about world religions, including Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism, as well as Islam. Leaders intend to reinstate visits to places of worship following the easing of the pandemic.
- The school is likely to meet the requirements in this part of the standards if the material change is agreed.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7–7(b), 11–12, 14, 16(a)–16(b), 32(1)(c)

- Leaders have updated the school's detailed safeguarding policy to ensure compliance with the latest statutory guidance. The safeguarding policy is published on the school's website.
- Staff are required to complete regular safeguarding training. Meetings and training days are used to revisit and refresh staff's safeguarding knowledge. Safeguarding is given a high priority in the induction programme for new members of staff.
- The school uses a central online system for recording and monitoring any safeguarding concerns. The headteacher and nursery manager have completed suitable designated safeguarding lead training.
- The proprietor commissions regular checks on fire safety equipment. Fire extinguishers have been serviced within the last year and fire exits are clearly identified. An external audit of fire safety arrangements has been completed. All required actions have been completed.
- The school's health and safety policy is fit for purpose and published on the school's website. The school has won an award for its success in ensuring that all staff are well qualified and knowledgeable in paediatric first aid.
- The proprietor has made suitable arrangements to ensure that pupils are supervised appropriately should the proposed changes be approved.
- The school is likely to meet the requirements in this part of the standards if the material change is agreed.

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

Paragraphs 18(2)–18(2)(e), 18(3), 19(2)–19(2)(d)(ii), 19(3), 20(6)–20(6)(c), 21(1)–21(7)(b)

- The single central record meets statutory requirements. The proprietor has appointed a teacher for the proposed year group. Appropriate recruitment and suitability checks have been completed for this member of staff and are recorded in the single central record.
- Leaders have completed suitable training in safer recruitment procedures.
- The school is likely to meet the requirements in this part of the standards if the material change is agreed.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraphs 23(1)–23(1)(a), 24(1)–24(1)(b), 24(2), 25–29(1)(b)

- The proprietor has reorganised existing teaching areas in the school to accommodate the proposed increase in the number of pupils. The Year 2 classroom, which has previously been used as a Reception Year classroom, is light, spacious and suitably equipped for teaching pupils in Year 2. Reception Year has been relocated to a large, bright room in the same building.
- The proprietor has ensured a sufficient number of toilets and sinks for the proposed increase in the number of pupils. Hot water is maintained at a suitable temperature. Water fountains are used to provide pupils with drinking water.
- The school has a suitable medical room. It has a bed and a sink, with a toilet nearby. Medicines are kept in a locked cupboard in the school office.
- The school's outdoor area is securely fenced and equipped with a range of play equipment. It provides a suitable space for pupils to relax, socialise and play. External lighting is located around the building.
- The school is likely to meet the requirements in this part of the standards if the material change is agreed.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

Paragraph 34(1)–34(2)

- Leaders are very knowledgeable about education and about the requirements of the independent school standards. They have prepared detailed curriculum plans for the proposed new year group and have ensured that the independent school standards are likely to be met if the material change is agreed.
- Leaders have ensured that all building and refurbishment work has been completed in good time to accommodate the proposed changes.
- The school is likely to meet the requirements in this part of the standards if the material change is agreed.

Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

- The proprietor has a suitable equalities policy and accessibility plan which 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.

School details

Unique reference number	147293
DfE registration number	871/6005
Inspection number	10247107

This inspection was carried out under section 162(4) of the Education Act 2002, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards relevant to the material change that the school has applied to make.

Type of school	Other independent school
School status	Independent school
Proprietor	Darul Madinah Slough Ltd
Headteacher	Waqas Choudhery
Annual fees (day pupils)	£1,800
Telephone number	0773 7309911
Website	www.dmslough.co.uk
Email address	operations.slough@darulmadinah.co.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	9 to 11 November 2021

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	4 to 6	4 to 7	4 to 7
Number of pupils on the school roll	25	41	41

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Gender of pupils	Mixed	Mixed
Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	28	41

Number of part-time pupils	Not applicable	Not applicable
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	Not applicable	Not applicable
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	Not applicable
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	Not applicable	Not applicable

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	3	4
Number of part-time teaching staff	2	2
Number of staff in the welfare provision	Not applicable	Not applicable

Information about this school

- Darul Madinah School is an independent school. The school has an Islamic religious character.
- The school is located in an urban part of Slough, Berkshire. A registered nursery, Darul Madinah Nursery School, operates from another part of the same building and provides non-domestic childcare. The nursery has a separate entrance to the school. The school and nursery have the same proprietor.
- The school shares its site with a community centre run by the Pakistan Welfare Association.
- The last standard inspection took place on 9 to 11 September 2021. The school was judged to be good and all the independent school standards were found to be met.

Information about this inspection

- The inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education because the proprietor had applied to make changes to the school's registration. The proprietor wished to increase both the number on roll and the age range. This was the first material change inspection.
- The inspector familiarised herself with the school's context and inspection prior to the inspection. She also considered a wide range of curriculum documents and viewed the school's website.
- The inspector met with the headteacher and nursery manager. She toured the school site with the headteacher.
- The inspector checked policies, records and documentation relating to the specific independent school standards in scope for this inspection, including the single central record and the safeguarding policy.

Inspection team

Julie Sackett, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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