

# Abu Bakr Al-Ihsaan Academy

154-160 Wednesbury Road, Palfrey, Walsall, West Midlands WS1 4JJ

**Inspection date**

16 May 2024

**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 3, 3(j)*

- The school is registered as one mixed school from 4 to 16 but it is operating a separate school for girls aged 11 to 16 on the same site. Leaders were originally acting in the belief that their registration agreement with the Department for Education allowed them to admit both boys and girls to the four to 11 provision and only girls to the 11 to 16 provision. However, the school is registered as a mixed school from ages four to 16. As the school does not allow boys to be admitted to the 11 to 16 provision, they are acting in breach of their registration and are separating pupils by sex, which amounts to unlawful discrimination.
- The separation by sex amounts to a detriment to the girls in the 11 to 16 provision, as they do not have an opportunity to interact with pupils of the opposite sex during the school day. It also amounts to detriment to boys as they are not permitted access to the 11 to 16 provision.
- Leaders told us at the last monitoring visit that they were taking steps to address this by applying for a separate unique reference number for the 11 to 16 provision. At the time of the inspection, leaders had not applied for a separate unique reference number for the 11 to 16 provision.
- This independent school standard (the standards) remains unmet.

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

#### *Paragraph 15*

- Leaders ensure that admissions and attendance registers are maintained. These records include the necessary information. However, despite their mixed registration status, leaders do not admit boys to the 11 to 16 provision.
- This standard remains unmet.

## Part 6. Provision of information

### *Paragraph 32(1)(c)*

- Leaders have ensured that the safeguarding policy is available on the school's website.
- This standard remains met.

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

### *Paragraphs 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b)*

- At the previous inspection in November 2023, these standards were unmet as boys were not admitted to the 11 to 16 provision which was in breach of the school's registration status and constituted separation by sex. Leaders had plans to address this by applying for a separate unique reference number for the 11 to 16 provision. However, at the time of the inspection, this was not in place.
- These standards remain unmet.

## **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

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.

## School details

Unique reference number	132750
DfE registration number	335/6010
Inspection number	10333955

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	All-through Islamic day school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	4 to 16
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	195
Proprietor	Mohammad Luqman
Headteacher	Mohammed Ramzan
Annual fees (day pupils)	£4,000 to £4,300
Telephone number	01922626829
Website	<a href="http://www.abubakrgirlschool.org">www.abubakrgirlschool.org</a> <a href="http://www.abubakrprimaryschool.org">www.abubakrprimaryschool.org</a>
Email address	<a href="mailto:info@abubakrgirlschool.org">info@abubakrgirlschool.org</a>
Date of previous standard inspection	8 to 10 March 2022

### Information about this school

- The school is part of the Abu Bakr Trust.
- The school has an Islamic ethos.
- The school does not use any alternative provision.

## 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.
- After the previous inspection, the Department for Education required the school to prepare an action plan. This action plan was judged to be acceptable on 8 February 2024.
- The inspector held discussions with the school's proprietor and school staff. These discussions focused on the progress made against the previously unmet standards and the arrangements for safeguarding.
- The inspector spoke to pupils and visited some lessons.
- The inspector reviewed the single central record of checks made about the suitability of adults. She also looked at a range of other documents, including the school's safeguarding policy and a sample of safeguarding records.
- This inspection was conducted without notice.

## Inspection team

Emma Gater, lead inspector

His Majesty's Inspector

## **Annex. Compliance with regulatory requirements**

### **The school does not meet the following independent school standards**

*Standards that were not met at the previous inspection and remain un-met at this inspection*

#### **Part 1. Quality of education provided**

- 3 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that the teaching at the school-
- 3(j) does not discriminate against pupils contrary to Part 6 of the 2010 Act[10].

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

- 15 The standard in this paragraph is met if the proprietor ensures that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006[13].

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

- 34(1) The standard about the quality of leadership and management is met if the proprietor ensures that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school-
- 34(1)(a) demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently;
- 34(1)(b) fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and

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