

Darul Uloom Leicester

Independent school progress report

DCSF registration number	856/6004
Unique Reference Number (URN)	120345
URN for registered childcare and social care	SC006329
Inspection number	353981
Inspection dates	22 March 2010
Reporting inspector	Michael Best
Social care inspector	Christy Wannop

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Purpose and scope of the visit

This inspection visit was carried out by Ofsted under Section 162A of the Education Act 2002¹, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005², and under the Care Standards Act 2000 having regard to the national minimum standards for boarding schools.

The visit was conducted at the request of the Registration Authority for independent schools in order to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan following the previous inspection.

Information about the school

Darul Uloom is an independent Islamic educational institute for boys aged 11 to 23 years. Established in 1992 and located in the Belgrave area of Leicester, it offers secondary and further education as well as advanced Islamic education. This prepares students to become imams or Islamic theologians. There are currently 135 students on roll, 58 of whom are boarders. It aims 'to nurture self-respect and confidence and to raise the self-esteem of its students as Muslims, enabling them to integrate successfully in the multicultural society without compromising their Islamic beliefs and values'. The school offers a complete course of Islamic theology and secular education at Key Stages 3 and 4.

Context of the visit

The academic and boarding aspects of the school were inspected simultaneously in May 2009. Following this, the school submitted an action plan to address the shortcomings identified at the time of the inspection: this plan was accepted by the Department in October 2009. This is the first visit to the school to follow up the progress it has made in implementing its action plan.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

The school has made good progress in implementing its action plan and now meets all regulatory requirements and the relevant national minimum standards.

At the time of the last inspection in May 2009, the local fire officer had expressed concerns about the school's fire risk assessment procedures. A new fire risk assessment was completed in July 2009 and the school has acted promptly to address the areas identified for improvement. Staff and senior students have received appropriate training and a programme of regular checks and drills has been established. The Leicestershire Fire Authority is now satisfied with the school's

¹ www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/ukpga_20020032_en_14#pt10-ch1-pb4-l1g162

² www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2005/ukpga_20050018_en_15#sch8

compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and confirms that there is no enforcement action required.

The inspection in May 2009 found that the school did not have an effective system of risk assessment, with written records, to identify all the risks from buildings, activities and grounds. The systems now in place are comprehensive and well embedded. Procedures for planning, documenting and reviewing hazards to remove unnecessary risk are rigorous.

As a result of the inspection in May 2009, the school was required to ensure that all adults, including volunteers working as 'gap' students with boarders, were included in its recruitment process and checked with the Criminal Record Bureau (CRB). There are no 'gap' students in the institute. However, there are older students completing the Islamic Theology course. Appropriate CRB checks have now been undertaken. The school's single central record was also scrutinised during this visit and found to meet the latest requirements.

School details

Name of school	Darul Uloom Leicester		
DCSF number	856/6004		
Unique reference number (URN)	120345		
Type of school	Muslim boarding		
Status	Independent		
Date school opened	1992		
Age range of pupils	11-23		
Gender of pupils	Boys		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 135	Girls: 0	Total: 135
Number of boarders	Boys: 58	Girls: 0	Total: 58
Annual fees (day pupils)	£1560		
Annual fees (boarders)	£2280		
Address of school	119 Loughborough Road Leicester Leicestershire LE4 5LN		
Telephone number	0116 266 8992		
Fax number	0116 299 2458		
Email address	info@darulloomleicester.org		
Headteacher	Mr Harun Musa		
Proprietor	Trustee Board (Charity No. 1041254)		
Reporting inspector	Michael Best		
Dates of inspection	22 March 2010		