

Al-Burhan Grammar School

11 November 2016

Spring Road Centre, 258 Spring Road, Birmingham B11 3DW

Overall outcome

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

Main inspection finding

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraph 7, 7(a) and 7(b)

- At the emergency inspection in March 2016, these three standards were not met because arrangements made to safeguard pupils did not pay due regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State. In particular, the safeguarding policy was not up to date and the school did not check that all staff had read Part 1 of 'Keeping children safe in education' guidance. Some pupils did not feel safe in all parts of the school because there was a video camera in the dining hall where pupils sometimes changed for physical education. The proprietor had not ensured that all staff had undergone 'Prevent' duty training as required and had not assessed the general risk of pupils being subject to radicalisation.
- The school's action plan stated that an updated safeguarding policy was uploaded to the school's website on 23 March 2016. The June 2016 action plan evaluation judged that its contents met current requirements and guidance issued by the Secretary of State. The action plan indicates that a video camera will be removed, by the end of March 2016, from the dining hall which was sometimes used for changing. It was proposed that all staff would undergo 'Prevent' duty training and child protection records would indicate that staff would have read national safeguarding guidance by June 2016.
- The proprietor and headteacher's actions to meet the previously unmet standards have been effective. The school now meets requirements in each previously unmet paragraph.
- The headteacher has created a safe and secure environment for learning. Safeguarding procedures are implemented effectively to keep pupils safe from harm.
- A new safeguarding policy was produced quickly following the emergency inspection. It is comprehensive and guidance pays due regard to current government requirements. The safeguarding policy is located on the school's website.
- All of the required recruitment and staff vetting checks have been carried out on all staff, and others who work in school, to confirm their suitability to work with pupils. The single central register contains all of the required information.
- All staff have been suitably trained to ensure that they fulfil their 'Prevent' duties effectively. A good-quality risk assessment is in place to prevent pupils being radicalised. Appropriate procedures exist for reporting missing children and incidents of female genital mutilation.

- Behaviour and anti-bullying procedures are implemented effectively. Pupils who spoke to the inspector said that bullying is rare and racism is not tolerated. They think that behaviour is good and like the school's family atmosphere. They particularly like being in a small school and welcome the individual attention that they receive, which enables them to achieve well, both academically and in their personal development.
- Appropriate monitoring procedures are in place to ensure that pupils are kept safe when using the internet.
- Suitable risk assessments are carried out for visits and activities off-site and for the premises.
- The headteacher has removed the video camera from the dining hall, which was sometimes used for changing. The use and purpose of video cameras are explicit and archived content is automatically deleted daily.
- Pupils are well supervised at all times.
- The premises and accommodation are safe and secure.
- These three standards are now met.

Paragraph 15

- In March 2016, the school's admission register did not contain all of the required information, for example emergency contact numbers for parents. Attendance registers did not use the national attendance codes for recording absence.
- The school's action plan stated that teachers would use national codes to record attendance by the end of June 2016. It was proposed that the admission register would contain all of the required information by 25 March 2016.
- The proprietor and headteacher's actions to meet the previously unmet standards have been effective.
- Attendance registers are kept in accordance with Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. Teachers use national attendance codes to record pupils' attendance.
- The admission register contains all of the necessary information, including emergency contact numbers for parents.
- This standard is now met.
- All Part 3 previously unmet standards are now met.

Part 5. Premises of and accommodation at schools

Paragraph 23(1) and 23(1)(c)

- At the previous inspection these two standards were not met because there were no showers in the school. There were also no lockers for pupils to store their clothes when changing.
- The school's action plan stated that pupils would have physical education lessons at a local leisure centre from 23 June 2016. Effective action has been taken to improve school facilities to ensure that previously unmet standards are now met.
- An adequate number of showers have been fitted in school and lockers have been purchased to store clothes and physical education kit.
- These two standards are now met.

Part 6. Provision of information

Paragraph 32(1) and 32(1)(c)

- In March 2016, these two standards were not met. This was because the school had not ensured that an up-to-date version of the school's safeguarding policy was located on the school's website and that its content took account of national guidance.
- The school proposed, in its action plan, to update the safeguarding policy and locate it on its website on 23 March 2016.
- The headteacher took the necessary action to ensure that the school's safeguarding policy was improved.
- The safeguarding policy takes account of government requirements. It is located on the school's website, so is readily available to parents and others.
- These two standards are now met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- In March 2016, these four standards were not met because the proprietor and headteacher were not demonstrating good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role to ensure that all independent school standards would be met consistently. They were not properly safeguarding pupils or promoting their well-being effectively.
- The action plan produced following the emergency inspection was judged as acceptable by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors in June 2016.
- The proprietor and headteacher took swift action to ensure that all weaknesses identified in the March 2016 inspection report were addressed effectively, in order that all independent school standards are met.
- These four standards are now 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. These 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.

The school now meets the following independent school standards

- 7, 7(a) and 7(b)
- 15
- 23(1) and 23(1)(c)
- 32(1) and 32(1)(c)
- 34(1), 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b) and 34(1)(c).

School details

Unique reference number	134034
DfE registration number	330/6104
Inspection number	10025658

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	Secondary faith school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	11–16
Gender of pupils	Girls
Number of pupils on the school roll	112
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Al-Burhan Foundation
Chair	Mohammad Nasrullah
Headteacher	Mohammad Nasrullah
Annual fees (day pupils)	£3,600–4,200
Telephone number	0121 440 5454
Email address	mailto:admin@alburhan.org.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	4–6 November 2014

Information about this school

- The previous standard inspection of the school was in November 2014. An unannounced emergency inspection was conducted in March 2016. The Department for Education (DfE) requested the emergency inspection to evaluate the effectiveness of the school's safeguarding arrangements. Inspectors also checked that Part 2, 3, 5 and 8 standards were met.
- There have been no significant changes since the emergency inspection in March 2016.
- Al-Burhan Grammar school is an Islamic day school for girls aged 11 to 16 years. It is located in Tyesley, Birmingham. It is smaller than the average-sized secondary school.
- All of the pupils are from minority ethnic backgrounds. Most speak English as an additional language; however, none are at the early stage of acquiring English.
- There are very few pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- The school does not use 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 not to comply with at its previous inspection.
- This is the first progress monitoring inspection since the school's emergency inspection in March 2016. It was conducted without notice.
- The DfE accepted the school's action plan on 28 July 2016.
- The DfE requested that the inspection checked that all safeguarding, welfare, health and safety, premises and accommodation, provision of information and leadership and management standards are met.
- Meetings took place with the headteacher and the person in charge of attendance and the admissions register. The inspector met a group of pupils to explore their views about the quality of education provided and whether they feel safe and secure. The inspector undertook a tour of the school, with the headteacher, to evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements and to check that the school has suitable changing and shower facilities.
- A range of welfare, health and safety documentation, including policies and records relating to safeguarding, was scrutinised to check compliance with the independent school standards. The robustness of the school's recruitment and staff vetting procedures was also evaluated.
- The inspector checked that the school's safeguarding policy was available on the school's website and its contents were comprehensive and in line with current government requirements.
- There were too few responses to Parent View (Ofsted's online questionnaire) for the academic year 2015/16 for these to be considered. No Ofsted point-in-time survey, to seek the views of pupils, had been conducted by the school. Pupils' views were sought through informal and formal discussion.

Inspection team

David Rzeznik, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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