

Darul Hadis Latifah Northwest

Plum Street, Oldham, Lancashire OL8 1TJ

Inspection dates

5 July 2017

Overall outcome

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

Main inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

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

- Leaders' arrangements to safeguard pupils are effective. Staff are well trained and they know and carry out the school's procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of pupils. The school's designated senior leader for safeguarding is trained to level 4. Recently, all staff undertook a local authority online training package relating to 'Keeping children safe in education 2016'. Staff are knowledgeable about current issues facing children, for example 'sexting' and peer-on-peer abuse.
- Leaders have effective policies and procedures in place to ensure that pupils are protected from the dangers of extremist views. The headteacher provides pupils with the information that they require to recognise the possible signs of extremism or radicalisation in their peers.
- Pupils say that they feel safe in the school. Leaders work effectively to promote pupils' welfare. There are strong and effective policies and procedures in place. For example, leaders have a robust anti-bullying policy, a rewards policy, adequate risk assessments and a suite of health and safety policies.
- Leaders maintain a robust and thorough single central record. There is a strong culture of safeguarding across the school.

Paragraph 9, 9(a), 9(b), 9(c)

- Leaders regularly review the school's policy relating to behaviour management. The current policy is appropriate. Praise, rewards and sanctions are clearly presented. Staff know and understand the school's policy. There is a collaborative approach to behaviour management. Leaders have instilled a philosophy where praise, rewards and positive behaviour management are now the norm.
- Leaders have provided staff with appropriate training around behaviour management. The behaviour lead has also received additional training. The deputy headteacher undertakes regular learning walks to assess the effect of the school's behaviour policy on learning and progress. This information is then used to provide further support and training to staff.

- There is a strong commitment to rewards. Pupils are regularly awarded certificates for good behaviour. Pupils who behave well are invited to lunch with the headteacher, are taken on trips and can order special food into school on a Friday. House points are awarded every lesson. Phone calls are made to parents where improvements in pupils' behaviour is noteworthy.
- Leaders have a strict set of standards. Pupils who are late are expected to do additional work, known as 'pages', in their break or lunchtimes. This strategy is being developed to promote stronger rates of learning and progress. Since this strategy has been introduced, pupils' lateness has declined significantly.
- Sanctions are appropriate. Leaders discuss any incidents of poor behaviour as they arise. Leaders have made the link between high-quality teaching and good behaviour for learning. They recognise that staff need further training on planning for the different needs of pupils to maintain strong behaviour in lessons.
- Records are appropriate and thorough. However, leaders have plans to strengthen further their reporting to the proprietor about behavioural issues. This is so that leaders can be more stringently held to account for improvements in the quality of provision.
- Leaders recognised that previous behaviour systems were escalating the consequences for poor behaviour too quickly. The changes that have been made to ensure that the focus is on positive behaviour management have seen a reduction in the number of recorded incidents of poor behaviour.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards that were checked in this part have been met.

Part 6. Provision of information

Paragraph 32(1), 32(1)(c)

- The proprietor and leaders meet the requirement to publish the safeguarding policy on the school's website.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards that were checked in this part have been met.

Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

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

- Leaders demonstrate appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding to ensure that the independent school standards are met. Leaders want the school to be the best that it can be. There is a culture of evaluation and improvement. Leaders are outward-facing and are open to support and challenge.
- Leaders actively promote the well-being of pupils. Pupils' safety is of paramount importance. Leaders have refined systems and procedures to meet the needs of pupils more effectively. The school council is active in supporting further improvement. Leaders actively seek pupils' views to improve the school further.
- Leaders have ensured that the independent school standards that were checked in this part have been 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. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

School details

Unique reference number	138568
DfE registration number	353/6001
Inspection number	10034356

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
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	11 to 16
Gender of pupils	Boys
Number of pupils on the school roll	79
Proprietor	Mohammad Abdul Musabbir
Headteacher	Mr Salman Chowdhury
Annual fees (day pupils)	£2,300
Telephone number	0161 627 4422
Website	www.dhlnw.org.uk
Email address	info@dhlnw.org.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	10–12 May 2016

Information about this school

- Darul Hadis Latifah Northwest is an independent secondary day school located in a residential and commercial district of Oldham. It was set up in August 2012 to provide Islamic-faith-based education for boys.
- Pupils are mainly of Bangladeshi origin.
- The school is registered for a maximum of 110 pupils aged from 11 to 16 years.
- The school's vision is 'to achieve excellence in all that we do. In doing so we aim to prepare our pupils for the rapidly growing world in the 21st century.' It aims for 'the highest level of achievement in religious, cultural, social, spiritual, moral and academic performance by providing opportunities for pupils to reach their full potential'.
- Currently, there are 79 pupils on roll.

- None of the pupils have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Most pupils speak English as an additional language.
- Parents and carers pay all the fees.
- The school does not make use of any alternative off-site provision.
- The school received its previous standard inspection in May 2016.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out at the request of the registration authority for independent schools due to complaints about the sanctions applied for incidents of poor behaviour.
- This inspection was conducted without notice.
- The inspection focused on pupils' welfare and safety, with reference to safeguarding and behaviour management. It also focused on the quality of the school's leadership and management.
- Meetings were held with the proprietor, the headteacher, the deputy headteacher, the behaviour lead and three teachers from the school. Meetings were also held formally with pupils from key stages 3 and 4.
- The inspector scrutinised documentation relating to safeguarding and the welfare of pupils. A review of the behaviour policy, anti-bullying policy and whistleblowing policy was also undertaken. Attendance registers and behaviour records were checked.
- Three lessons were observed. Two lessons were jointly observed with the deputy headteacher.
- Staff training records were reviewed in relation to safeguarding and behaviour management.
- A review of the school's website was undertaken.

Inspection team

Jonathan Smart, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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