

Summary of the inspection report on

Al Dhahrah School, Girls - Cycles 2 & 3

Publication Date of report

Month	Year
May	2009

School type	Public	Name of Principal	Ms. Fatima Ali Saeed
Date of inspection	March 2009	Number of students on roll	461
Curriculum provided	MoE	Contact telephone	04-8523960

Dubai School Inspection Bureau identified:

#### Key strengths of the school:

- Students' civic and spiritual understanding, and their positive attitudes towards learning;
- The wide variety of teaching methods used by enthusiastic and reflective teachers;
- The outstanding relationships between students, and between students and teachers;
- High academic and social expectations, underpinned by good pastoral care;
- The collaborative approach of the leadership, which enabled good learning and outstanding relationships, and empowered teachers to take initiative.

#### Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau requires that the school take the following action to secure further improvement:

- Develop more extended independent writing in English and Arabic, across a variety of genres and purposes;
- Ensure that teachers consistently provide a breadth of activities within all lessons, so that all students are challenged, and students receive extra support or alternative approaches within lessons, where necessary;
- Improve assessment procedures and written feedback, so that all students are aware of, and involved in, individual learning aims;
- Address the problem of overcrowding of school buses;
- Extend the role of subject leaders to include tracking of students, cross-curricular work, and share good teaching practice.

<b>Level 4: Outstanding</b>	<b>How well does the school perform overall?</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Level 3: Good</b>		
<b>Level 2: Acceptable</b>		
<b>Level 1: Unsatisfactory</b>		

#### Next steps:

The school, working with the Schools Agency, has been asked to prepare an action plan indicating how it will address the main findings of the report, and to share that plan with parents. The next inspection will report on the progress made by the school.

#### About Inspections:

##### The purpose of inspection

The inspection was part of a strategy to evaluate educational standards and quality in all of the schools in Dubai. The inspection covered core aspects of the work of the school at all stages. Inspectors assessed the students' progress in key subjects, in particular, Arabic, Islamic Studies, English, mathematics and science (Grades 6 to 12). They evaluated important aspects of the work of the school including the quality of teaching and learning, the arrangements to protect and support students, including health and safety, leadership and management and the school's capacity for improvement.

##### The framework for inspection

All schools in Dubai were evaluated against seven central questions based on internationally accepted research into school effectiveness. Inspectors' evaluations concluded with a final judgement regarding the overall performance of the school. In the first cycle of inspections the judgement used for every school was:

##### Description of inspection levels

**Level 4: Outstanding quality** – exceptionally high quality of performance or practice.

**Level 3: Good quality** – the expected level for every school in Dubai.

**Level 2: Acceptable** – the minimum level of acceptability required for Dubai. All key aspects of performance and practice in every school should meet or exceed this level.

**Level 1: Unsatisfactory** – quality not yet at the level acceptable for schools in Dubai. Schools will be expected to take urgent measures to improve the quality of any aspect of their performance or practice that is judged at this level.

More information regarding the Inspection levels can be found in the online version of the Initial Quality Inspections Handbook at [www.khda.gov.ae](http://www.khda.gov.ae).

### Inspectors assessed the following aspects of the work of the school:

- How good is the students' progress?
- How good is the students' personal and social development?
- How good is the teaching and learning?
- How well does the curriculum meet the educational needs of the students?
- How well does the school protect and support students?
- How good are the leadership and management of the school?
- How well does the school perform overall?

### What happens next year?

A full report will be provided to parents in the second year. This will include information regarding inspectors' judgements on each of the quality indicators assessed.

### Where can I get further information from?

Additional copies of this report are available on our website at [www.khda.gov.ae](http://www.khda.gov.ae).  
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