

# Follow-Through Inspection Report on United International Private School

Report issued June 2009

## Basic information

The United International Private School was inspected in March 2009 as part of the initial quality inspection cycle across all schools in Dubai. The inspection covered key aspects of the work of the school at all stages. It evaluated students' achievements, the effectiveness of the school, the environment for learning and the school's processes for self-evaluation and capacity for improvement. During this inspection, school inspectors identified a number of recommendations which the school was required to address.

Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau (DSIB) conducted a Follow-Through Inspection during May 2009. The purpose of this Follow-Through Inspection was to evaluate the progress made by the school in achieving improvements based on the recommendations set out in the first inspection report.

## Progress

Inspectors judged that The United International Private School had not yet satisfactorily addressed the recommendations made by DSIB at the Initial Quality Inspection. Inspectors will continue to undertake Follow-Through Inspections at three monthly intervals until the recommendations made by inspectors have been satisfactorily addressed.

At the time of the next full inspection the school will have an opportunity to alter the unsatisfactory grading achieved in the Initial Quality Inspection.

## Initial Quality Inspection Recommendations

- Ensure full compliance in provision of Arabic and Islamic Studies;
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of Islam throughout the school;
- Improve teaching methods and activities so that students' learning needs and interests are more closely met and students are more actively involved in lessons;
- Make provision for students with special educational needs;
- Involve all teachers in analysing and using a range of assessment data to improve feedback to students and the tracking of their progress, and to inform lesson planning and curriculum development;
- Develop rigorous self-evaluation which identifies key priorities for the school's improvement plan;
- Improve existing facilities and resources.

## Overview of progress achieved

### **Ensure full compliance in provision of Arabic and Islamic Studies.**

The school had made satisfactory progress towards addressing this recommendation.

There was a timetable prepared for implementation in the next academic year that indicated the required amount of teaching time was to be allocated to both subjects. The next Follow-Through Inspection will evaluate the implementation of this revised timetable.

### **Develop an understanding and appreciation of Islam throughout the school.**

The school had made satisfactory progress towards addressing this recommendation.

The school had put up posters, photographs and displays of life in Dubai and information about the importance of Islam and how to pray. In addition, a new prayer room had been provided. The school had planned a number of visits and lectures to for the next academic year in order to help students develop a greater understanding and appreciation of Islam. The next Follow-Through Inspection will evaluate the impact of these measures on students' personal and social development.

### **Improve teaching methods and activities so that students' learning needs and interests are more closely met and students are more actively involved in lessons.**

It was not possible to conduct lesson observations during the visit but planning for workshops and seminars to be held in Dubai and in the Philippines during the summer break showed that the school has taken the first steps in dealing with this recommendation.

### **Make provision for students with special educational needs.**

The school had not yet made satisfactory progress towards addressing this recommendation.

Since the previous inspection the school doctor had been more active in following through recommendations made to teachers about how to support students with identified and specific special educational needs. The school, however, was unclear about whether the ten identified students will be returning next year. The school said they were clearer about their responsibility to any students with special educational needs but the decision to appoint a teacher for special educational needs is still pending. The provision for students with special educational needs will be reviewed at the next Follow-Through Inspection.

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**Involve all teachers in analysing and using a range of assessment data to improve feedback to students and the tracking of their progress, and to inform lesson planning and curriculum development.**

The school had not yet made satisfactory progress towards addressing this recommendation.

Assessment as a tool to improve learning and progress remained underdeveloped. An understanding of target setting and using tracking to monitor progress was limited to the Principal. Curriculum development was embryonic and restricted to revising the timetable. Information from assessment was not used effectively to revise the provision to meet students' needs. There was no clear rationale for the curriculum.

**Develop rigorous self-evaluation which identifies key priorities for the school's improvement plan.**

The school had not yet made satisfactory progress towards addressing this recommendation.

The Principal had collated the results from parental and student questionnaires and used the information as part of the schools' developing self-evaluation arrangements. She held an annual meeting with teachers who were required to provide evidence of the successes and weakness in results. However, none of this was documented and procedures were not sufficiently rigorous. The documentation to support self-evaluation and improvement planning will be scrutinised in detail at the next Follow-Through Inspection.

**Improve existing facilities and resources**

The school had made satisfactory progress towards addressing this recommendation.

Plans to increase provision of science and computer laboratories were well advanced but not yet completed. New computers for students and staff have been ordered in time for the next academic year. The library will be increased in size during the summer break. The next Follow-Through Inspection will evaluate the impact of these measures on students' academic and personal development.

## What happens next?

DSIB will continue to undertake Follow-Through Inspections of The United International Private School until the school has progressed to the stage where they are included in the usual inspection cycle for all Dubai schools. DSIB will continue to report to parents regarding the progress made by the school until this occurs.

## How to contact us

If you have a concern or wish to comment on any aspect of this report you should contact: [inspection@khda.gov.ae](mailto:inspection@khda.gov.ae).

More information about Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau can be found at [www.khda.gov.ae](http://www.khda.gov.ae).

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