

Summary of the inspection report on

Al Mawakeb School, Al Barsha

Publication Date of report

Month	Year
May	2009

School established for

11 years

School type	Private	Name of Principal	Ms. Naziha Nasr
Date of inspection	January 2009	Number of students on roll	2,384
Curriculum provided	US	Contact telephone	04 3478288

Dubai School Inspection Bureau identified:

Key strengths of the school:

- The students good attitudes and behaviour and the quality of the relationships at the school;
- The progress and attainment of the students, in the higher grades, in Arabic, Islamic Studies and mathematics;
- The good quality of teaching in the higher grades, particularly in English and mathematics classes;
- The high quality of personal protection and support which the school provided for the students.

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

- Review the quality of teaching and learning in the Kindergarten and in the early primary years, so that professional practice is better matched to the learning and personal development needs of the youngest learners, and incorporates child centred learning activities such as: collaboration, making choices, practical activities, experimentation and discovery learning;
- Provide more opportunities for all students to develop lifelong learning habits and encourage independent learning skills, critical thinking and research skills;
- Use external benchmarks and assessments in Grades 1 to 12 so that attainment can be compared with international standards;
- Develop a school improvement plan to address the above issues, to be available to parents and to a governing body independent of the management company's governing board. Such a body should hold the school leaders accountable for their performance and for high quality student learning;

- Develop an effective system of objective self-evaluation and review, including the use of external benchmarking to validate and verify the school's work.

Level 4: Outstanding

Level 3: Good

Level 2: Acceptable

Level 1: Unsatisfactory

How well does the school perform overall?

Acceptable

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.

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.

We value your feedback. If you wish to comment on any aspect of this report, kindly send an email to inspection@khda.gov.ae.