

Follow-Through Inspection Report

His Highness Shaikh Rashid Al Maktoum Pakistani School

Report published in January 2013

Knowledge and Human Development Authority

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Basic information

His Highness Shaikh Rashid Al Maktoum Pakistani School was inspected during the 2011-2012 academic year as part of the full 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, the overall performance of the school was judged to be unsatisfactory and school inspectors identified a number of recommendations which the school was required to address.

Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau (DSIB) has conducted one Follow-Through Inspection in His Highness Shaikh Rashid Al Maktoum Pakistani School since the full inspection. This Second Follow-Through Inspection evaluated the progress of the school in meeting the recommendations.

Progress

The school had not met all of the recommendations to an acceptable level. His Highness Shaikh Rashid Al Maktoum Pakistani School will continue to be inspected by DSIB at regular intervals in accordance with the Follow-Through Inspection cycle.

Overview

Although the school leaders have made some progress in all of the recommendations of the last inspection, the school was still not performing at an acceptable level. The Principal and the senior leadership team had introduced a number of strategies to help raise students' attainment in different subjects. While some progress had been made, more remained to be done to ensure that consistent improvement across all subjects in all phases were in place. The school action plan was not sufficiently detailed or precise. Subject co-ordinators did not set clear and achievable targets within a broad and balanced curriculum. The curriculum did not meet all of the student's needs and provided few opportunities for independent learning, research or critical thinking. Although new furniture for classrooms and the Kindergarten was introduced in the school by contributions from Dubai Cares and the local community, many classrooms did not provide students with a stimulating learning environment.

Inspection recommendations

Raise attainment across all key subjects and phases

The school had not met the requirements of this recommendation to an acceptable level.

Attainment in Islamic Education and Arabic as an additional language was better than attainment in some phases for English, mathematics and science. Attainment in the high school grades was much better than the other phases. The school have appointed nine new teachers for different subjects. Training conducted for teachers was not sufficiently focused on students' specific learning expectations and had not raised attainment consistently. Attainment in English, mathematics and science for the Kindergarten, primary and middle phases were the least well developed. Action planning was not rigorous and focused with clear measures. Students' outcomes were not in line with international expectations.

Improve the quality of teaching and learning so that lessons involve students in discussion and debate and meet the needs of all groups

The school had not met the requirements of this recommendation to an acceptable level.

Teaching and learning remained broadly unsatisfactory. In the lower grades teachers used a limited range of strategies. They did not share learning objectives with students and had little understanding of students' starting points or how young people learn. In the older grades teachers were generally more effective in teaching to an acceptable level. They promoted a more effective approach by ensuring that students discussed issues, explored some independent opportunities and engaged in relevant and stimulating group work. Most students were keen learners. They were attentive and eager but had not yet developed independent, collegiate and critical learning skills. Few students had the opportunity to apply their knowledge or understanding in real-life situations.

Review the curriculum to ensure: that all students are involved in enjoyable activity-based learning which meets their needs: enrichment activities and a regular programme of sports and physical education enhance learning

The school had not met the requirements of this recommendation to an acceptable level.

The school's curriculum rationale remained unclear. It was still dictated by textbooks. The school's key leadership personnel reviewed provision and incorporated a few international components. However, appropriate curriculum standards to determine the attainment and progress of students were absent. There was insufficient adjustment to the curriculum to meet the needs of all groups of students. Often provision was undemanding and provided too few opportunities for independent investigation, learning, research and critical thinking. Opportunities for enrichment to support learning as well as extra-curricular activities to extend students' learning and interests were limited.

Take immediate steps to rectify the health and safety issues identified in the report and ensure that all students are safe

The school had not met the requirements of this recommendation to an acceptable level.

The provision for the health, safety and security of students across the school had improved to some degree. Students were supervised at all times. After recent initiatives, bus transport arrangements were modified and well managed but the overcrowded parking arrangements at the rear of the school were still problematic. The standards of cleanliness throughout the school needed further development since not all toilets were hygienic and lacked basic cleaning items. Old, broken and unused furniture were scattered around the school and accessible to the students. Comprehensive records relating to the regular fire drills were up-to-date. The promotion of healthy lifestyles needed further improvement as the canteen still provided unhealthy food.

Ensure there are enough teachers to cover classes and that there are enough appropriate resources to support learning at all stages

The school had not met the requirements of this recommendation to an acceptable level.

The ratio of teachers to students had improved from the last inspection. Most of the classroom furniture had been changed but teachers' main resource was still the textbook and the whiteboard. Students did not have the opportunity to use information technology in their learning. Classrooms were dull, the walls were dirty and students did not enjoy a stimulating

learning environment. The celebration of students' achievements and their work was very limited. Provision in the information technology and science laboratories had improved significantly but the connection to the students' learning across other aspects of the curriculum was lacking. The school still lacked music and art facilities.

What happens next?

The school has not met all of the recommendations to an acceptable level. His Highness Shaikh Rashid Al Maktoum Pakistani School will continue to be inspected by DSIB at regular intervals in accordance with the Follow-Through Inspection schedule.

Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau
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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.

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