

Summary of the inspection report on

Philadelphia Private School

Publication Date of report

Month	Year
April	2009

School established for

3

years

School type	Private	Name of Principal	Niraz El Moustafa
Date of inspection	October 2008	Number of students on roll	433
Curriculum provided	US	Contact telephone	04 2646202

Dubai School Inspection Bureau identified:

Key strengths of the school:

- Students' skills in spoken Arabic as a first language and in spoken English;
- The good level of care provided by the staff which ensured students' health and safety;
- The good day-to-day management of the school and the high quality of the school building.

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

- Raise the standard of teaching and learning across the school by:
 - Planning lessons with clear learning objectives that are shared with students;
 - Using a wider range of learning activities;
 - Improving classroom management strategies, particularly for younger students;
 - Making better use of formative assessment to help plan the next steps in learning;
 - Identifying and sharing good practice.
- Develop the curriculum by:
 - Encouraging teachers to adapt sequences of lessons in response to what students already know and to their specific learning needs;

- Including more opportunities for students to learn about Dubai's economic and cultural context;
 - Making better use of science laboratories for learning investigation skills;
 - Making greater use of information and communication technology for learning and teaching;
 - Benchmarking standards to internationally agreed criteria.
- The school's leaders should:
 - Clarify the roles and expectations of all staff and agree appropriate job descriptions;
 - Decide which improvement goals to address first and create a medium term action plan to achieve them, using appropriate targets and delegating specific responsibilities to individual members of staff;
 - Create formal communication channels through which the views of parents, students, teachers and the owners of the school can contribute to the future development of the school.

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

Next steps:

Philadelphia Private School has to prepare an action plan indicating how they will address the main findings of the report, and to share that plan with parents. This action plan will be made available to parents within six weeks of the delivery date of the report to the school. 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 -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.

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