

Summary of the inspection report on

Sharjah American International School

Publication Date of report

| Month | Year |
|-------|------|
| May | 2009 |

School established for

3 years

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| School type | Private | Name of Principal | Ms. Nadine Tarazi |
| Date of inspection | January 2009 | Number of students on roll | 618 |
| Curriculum provided | US | Contact telephone | 04 2801111 |

Dubai School Inspection Bureau identified:

Key strengths of the school:

- English language skills of girls in the higher grades;
- Attitudes and behaviour of students in the lower grades;
- Teachers' subject knowledge in the higher grades;
- Breadth, balance and continuity in the curriculum.

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

- Raise standards of student attainment and improve their progress in:
 - Islamic Studies throughout the school;
 - English for Grades 7 to 12.
- Develop a system of external benchmarking so that students' achievement can be compared with international standards;
- Develop teacher's professional practice to include a greater range of effective teaching strategies, focused on students' learning;
- Develop the current school improvement plan, to include specific timelines and nominated responsibilities for maximum impact on students' learning;
- Improve the supervision of students after school as they board buses and eliminate over-

crowding on buses;

- Improve facilities so that students have access to a broader range of curriculum experiences and teachers are able to plan more flexibly for learning;
- Develop an effective system of objective external accountability for the work of the school.

Level 4: Outstanding

Level 3: Good

Level 2: Acceptable

Level 1: Unsatisfactory

How well does the school perform overall?

Acceptable

Next steps:

Sharjah American International 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. 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.