

Progress monitoring inspection report

20 January 2025

Manchester Muslim Preparatory School

141 Barlow Moor Road
West Didsbury
Manchester
M20 2PQ

The Independent Schools Inspectorate is appointed by the Department for Education to inspect association independent schools in England. Our inspections report on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards and other applicable regulatory requirements are met, collectively referred to in this report as 'the Standards'.

Inspection outcome

The school meets all the relevant Standards that were considered during this inspection.

Inspection findings

Part 1. Quality of education provided

ISSR Paragraph 3(a) to (g); EYFS 1.4–1.18

1. Leaders ensure that staff receive specific training so that teaching matches the pupils' needs well. Leaders monitor pupils' achievement through regular pupil progress meetings. Staff use suitable strategies to support and challenge pupils so that pupils acquire new knowledge and make good progress.
2. Leaders effectively monitor the quality of teaching and learning and provide appropriate challenge and support to ensure that the curriculum is well taught. Leaders ensure that staff effectively adapt work to meet pupils' needs and use appropriate resources to help pupils make good progress. Staff check pupils' understanding through effective questioning in lessons. The school's behaviour policy is applied consistently by staff. Pupils are interested in their work and are motivated to achieve.
3. Subject leaders and those who lead the early years provision ensure that lessons are well planned. A suitable curriculum is in place. Children in the early years and pupils across the school learn a broad range of subjects.
4. Teachers are appropriately qualified for the ages of pupils and the subjects taught. This includes teachers in the early years foundation stage. Staff use their subject knowledge well to implement suitably sequenced lessons that help pupils build on what they know and understand. Learning assistants support pupils well.
5. Leaders ensure that a suitable assessment framework is in place to assess pupils' work. Teachers provide clear feedback to pupils which helps them improve their work and deepen their understanding of the topics they study.
6. The school meets the Standards.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

ISSR Paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b), 8(a) and 8(b); EYFS 3.5 and 3.7

7. Appropriate safeguarding arrangements are now in place and are implemented effectively. The designated safeguarding leader (DSL) and their deputy (DDSL) are now regularly in contact with children's services and the local authority designated officer (LADO). DSLs fully understand their roles and now work well with other agencies to safeguard pupils. Regular safeguarding meetings help the DSLs to coordinate their work effectively. Safeguarding records are detailed and include the actions that leaders take to follow up concerns. The arrangements in place reflect statutory requirements.
8. Staff, including the school's safeguarding leaders, are suitably trained. Staff have received training in safeguarding procedures using a new system for recording and reporting concerns. Staff receive regular information and safeguarding updates to keep them well informed. They understand the principles underpinning the staff code of conduct and the procedures for making a referral regarding staff conduct, including the importance of low-level reporting. Staff understand the whistleblowing procedures should they have concerns to raise.

9. The DSL acts promptly in response to safeguarding concerns. The DSL ensures that the wellbeing of pupils is closely monitored. The DSL maintains detailed records which consist of clear and comprehensive summaries of concerns, notes of action taken, and the reasons for decisions reached, including whether to involve external agencies. All safeguarding information is stored securely.
10. The governors, including the designated safeguarding governor, effectively oversee the school's safeguarding procedures and their implementation. They ensure that appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place. Leaders assure themselves through regular checks that the filtering systems are effective, and that staff and pupils are able to work safely online.
11. The governors and the safeguarding team frequently meet to review the arrangements to safeguard pupils. The governors ensure that an annual safeguarding review takes place and that leaders promptly act on any recommendations.
12. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

13. The school meets the requirements for providing parents with safeguarding information. Particulars of the school's safeguarding arrangements are published on the school's website.
14. The school meets the Standard.

Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

ISSR paragraph 33; EYFS 3.83 -3.85

15. At the previous inspection, it was identified that leaders had not always kept suitable records of all complaints. Leaders have reviewed procedures for implementing the complaints policy. The complaints log now includes a record of informal and formal complaints made by parents. Complaints records are now stored in an organised system that is easily accessible to leaders. Leaders record the actions that the school has taken, and lessons learnt when a complaint has concluded. The governors of the school now have access to the record of complaints and ensure that appropriate action is taken to resolve complaints in accordance with the school's policy.
16. A suitable complaints policy is in place and published on the school's website as required. The policy meets statutory requirements. Leaders ensure that all complaints are handled in line with the school's policy.
17. The school meets the Standards.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraphs 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c); EYFS 3.23, 3.26-3.28

18. Leaders and governors demonstrate good skills and knowledge and fulfil their responsibilities effectively. Following the previous inspection, leaders and governors acted promptly to put in place a suitable action plan to address the Standards that were unmet. Leaders and governors have put in place appropriate measures to assure themselves that the school meets the Independent School Standards. They have ensured that staff have received the training and guidance they need to carry out their roles effectively.

19. Governors are frequent visitors to the school. They receive detailed reports and information on pupil progress, achievement and behaviour. Governors are well informed and effectively hold leaders to account for their work.
20. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	Manchester Muslim Preparatory School
Department for Education number	352/6041
Registered charity number	1073862
Address	Manchester Muslim Preparatory School 141 Barlow Moor Road West Didsbury Manchester M20 2PQ
Phone number	0161 445 5452
Email address	admin@mmps.miet.uk
Website	www.mmps.miet.uk
Proprietor	Manchester Islamic Educational Trust Ltd
Chair	Mr Farroukh Zaheer
Headteacher	Mrs Doris Ghafari-Kanno
Age range	3 - 11
Number of pupils	175
Date of previous inspection	11 to 13 June 2025

Information about the school

21. Manchester Muslim Preparatory School is a co-educational day school situated in the West Didsbury area of Manchester. It is one of three schools in the Manchester Islamic Educational Trust, alongside the Kassim Darwish Grammar School for Boys and the Manchester Islamic Grammar School for Girls. The schools have a common board of trustees and are overseen by the trust's sub-committees. The school opened in 1993 and moved to its current premises in January 2024, sharing these with the Manchester Islamic Grammar School for Girls.
22. There are 47 children in the early years in one Nursery class and one Reception class.
23. The school has identified 14 pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). No pupils in the school have an education, health and care (EHC) plan.
24. English is an additional language for 116 pupils, of whom 13 require support for their English.
25. The school states its aims are to enable pupils to develop their full potential and confidence in their identity as young British Muslims. It seeks to encourage academic excellence and high standards of behaviour in its pupils and to equip them with the skills they need to face the challenges of the changing modern world.

Purpose of the progress monitoring inspection

Inspectors carried out this inspection under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. This inspection was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection which was carried out at the request of the DfE. The purpose of this inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the Independent School Standards and any other requirements that the school was judged not to comply with at its previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection dates

20 January 2025

26. Two reporting inspectors visited the school for one day.
27. Inspection activities included:
 - observation of lessons, some in conjunction with school leaders
 - scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
 - discussions with the chair of governors and members of the governing body
 - discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
 - meetings with safeguarding leaders and scrutiny of safeguarding records
 - discussions with pupils and staff
 - scrutiny of samples of pupils' work.

How are association independent schools in England inspected?

- The Department for Education is the regulator for independent schools in England.
- ISI is approved by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England, which are members of associations in membership of the Independent Schools Council.
- ISI inspections report to the Department for Education on the extent to which the statutory Independent School Standards, the EYFS statutory framework requirements, the National Minimum Standards for boarding schools and any other relevant Standards are met.
- For more information, please visit **www.isi.net**.

Independent Schools Inspectorate

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