



Al-Ashraf Primary School  
Stratton Road  
Gloucestershire  
GL1 4HB  
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[www.primary.al-ashraf.org.uk](http://www.primary.al-ashraf.org.uk)

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019  
15<sup>th</sup> Jumada'l-Awwal 1440

Asww,  
Dear Parents and carer,

As many of you may be aware, the school had a visit by Ofsted just before the winter holidays, whose main purpose was to check the leadership of the school, the progress that pupils make, the health and safety of the premises and the safeguarding arrangements. The report is available for parents to read at: <http://primary.al-ashraf.org.uk/reports.shtml>.

With GoA SWT and dua's of our pious and well-wishers, the inspector was pleased with the good progress made by the school in meeting the standards. Just to summarise some key points:

- The proprietor has taken action to improve the leadership and management at the school. The new headteacher brings a wealth of experience to the role and has, quite rightly, set about creating a strong culture of safeguarding and promotion of pupils' welfare as priorities. He is also determined to make the changes needed to improve the quality of teaching and learning and has set out a vision for creating 'our great expectations at Al-Ashraf Primary School'.
- Governors play an active role and are improving their understanding of how to check aspects of the school and whether the independent school standards are being met.
- There are several new leadership roles across the school. The new leaders are clear about their responsibilities.
- The proprietor, governors and senior leaders are determined that improvements are made, and continue to be made, so that the school provides a safe place for pupils to learn and that their well-being is nurtured. For example, leaders insist that pupils eat healthy snacks while at school and provide guidance to parents to help them support their children with this aspect of being healthy.

A special mention must be made of Mrs Zainab Patel, our DHT and Designated Safeguarding Lead and Mrs Khatija Panchbhaya, EYFS Manger as well as Health and Safety Officer who ensure staff are reminded of their responsibilities and work hard to ensure our children can learn and develop in a safe, secure and healthy environment. For example, risk assessments in school and for educational trips etc.

The inspector also acknowledged the transitory period of the school and the new staff which means teaching and learning must still further improve. I would like to remind

parents of the Year 6 SATs results from 2018 which shone the school in a very positive light compared to other local schools. In addition to this, considering the average number of pupils meeting the expected standards for the core subjects over the last three years, Al-Ashraf Primary is top of the Barton and Tredworth ward, and is challenging the very best schools in the city, AH.

The report also looked positively on the support teachers are given through professional development, as well as help given to pupils through teaching assistants. The school has invested in building capacity amongst all staff, both in quantity, by increasing their hours and professional development such as for subjects' leaders through local authority, thus reflecting a strong middle and senior leadership team. The school has also invested in classroom resources which has also been recognised by Ofsted, as well as maintaining the building to a standard such that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils are ensured.

The positive progress is a testament to the hard work of all our staff and the background support from the proprietor, the trustees and school governors. I would like to thank the parents for their trust, the support given and their contribution in raising funds for the school and providing help when required including volunteers. I would especially like to mention Maulana Abdullah, our DHT for his excellent ideas and contribution in raising school funds for the school and others unsung heroes behind the scene. As a result, over £40,000 has been collected through donations so far. I pray we can continue to work together to deliver the best education for our children, in line with our Islamic ethos and British values.

If parents have any queries regarding the report and the progress of the school, I am planning an informal parent's meeting at 3:00 pm, on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019. All parents are requested to attend and meet the senior leadership team before home-time. Please complete the slip below and return by 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 so that I can make appropriate arrangements for you.

As always, please remember our pupils, staff and the school in your dua's for their success and safety.

Jzk  
Wsww

Mr Z Aziz  
Executive Headteacher

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I \*will/will not be able to attend the parent meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 3:00 pm

Name of Parent/carer.....

Signature: .....Date: .....

\*please cross out as appropriate