



Arolygiaeth Ei Mawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

A report on

Al-Falah Girls' School

Date of inspection: July 2019

by

**Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education
and Training in Wales**

About Al-Falah Girls' School

In March 2018, the proprietor contacted the Welsh Government to apply for the registration of Al-Falah Academy, as an independent day school for pupils aged 11 to 18 years.

Inspectors visited the school on 5 April 2018 to consider the documents and planned arrangements for registration as an independent school. During this visit, inspectors gathered evidence from the following sources:

- discussions with the proprietor/headteacher and deputy headteacher
- scrutiny of relevant documents, including policies and curriculum plans
- inspection of the premises

At the time of the initial registration visit, the school did not meet standard 3, relating to the welfare, health and safety of pupils. To meet this standard, the proprietor was required to complete a fire risk assessment for the ground floor of the school building.

Since the initial registration visit, the school has suitably strengthened its policies to reflect Welsh Government guidance, particularly the anti-bullying, child protection and first aid policies. In addition, the school completed a fire risk assessment.

On 31 May 2018, Al-Falah Academy entered into the register of independent schools in Wales. The proprietor then applied to the Welsh Government to make the following material changes from September 2018:

1. Change the registration of the school from a co-educational school to a girls' school
2. Change the name of the school to Al-Falah Girls' School

On 8 July 2019, HMI visited Al-Falah Girls' School to complete the follow up to registration visit.

During this visit, inspectors gathered evidence from the following sources:

- discussions with the proprietor/headteacher
- scrutiny of relevant documents, including policies and curriculum plans
- learning walks

Main findings

Strengths

- The proprietor has experience of independent school education and a secure understanding of the issues regarding the education, care and welfare needs of pupils.
- The proprietor has demonstrated commitment towards establishing a successful independent school. This is evidenced, for example, in the useful range of documents they have written to support the provision for the pupils.
- The curriculum is broad and balanced and planning shows appropriate coverage of skills and content and progression through the school.
- Teaching across enables pupils to acquire new knowledge and skills and make good progress according to their ability.

Recommended areas for action

- Develop job descriptions, that are specific to the roles of individual staff
- Develop quality assurance processes to enable leaders to evaluate the work of the school
- Use the outcomes of quality assurance activities to identify priorities for action to take the school forward

Compliance with the standards for registration

Standard 1: The quality of education provided by the school

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 2: The spiritual, moral, and cultural development of pupils

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 3: Welfare, health and safety of pupils

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 4: The suitability of proprietors and staff

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 5: Premises of and boarding accommodation at schools

On this visit, Estyn did not inspect Standard 5.

Standard 6: The provision of information

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Standard 7: The manner in which complaints are to be handled

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the regulatory requirements for this standard.

Recommendation regarding continued registration

When considering this school's registration the Welsh Government may wish to have regard to the following recommendation:

On the basis of this visit, there is no evidence to indicate that the school does not meet the requirements of the Independent School Standards (Wales) Regulations 2003.

Inspectors' judgements on this limited inspection should not prejudice the findings of a future full Section 163 inspection.

Copies of the report

Copies of this report are available from the school and from the Estyn website (www.estyn.gov.wales)

The report was produced in accordance with section 163 of the Education Act 2002. The main purpose of inspection under this section is to report on compliance with the Independent Schools Standards Regulations 2003. In schools that provide non-maintained nursery education, this report also satisfies the requirements of Schedule 26 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Every possible care has been taken to ensure that the information in this document is accurate at the time of going to press. Any enquiries or comments regarding this document/publication should be addressed to:

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