

Madani Secondary Girls School

Myrdle Street, London, E1 1HL

Inspection dates

4 October 2013

Reason for inspection

The main purpose of this inspection visit was to advise the Department for Education whether the school meets the independent school standards with regard to the uniform policy.

Conclusions

During this inspection, HMI observed students arriving at school, spoke to students and staff about the school's uniform policy and read all relevant documentation, including the recent statement about uniform on the school's website. HMI also spoke to senior leaders, including the principal and assistant headteacher.

None of the students arriving at the school was wearing the veil (face covering). All wore a black head scarf and long black dress referred to by the school as the Jilbab. HMI spoke to students at random as they waited for assembly to start. None were wearing the veil. All said they are not required to wear the veil. It is their choice and a very few in each class do so if there are male visitors in the school. One student explained, 'I choose to wear the veil as a sign of modesty.'

One member of staff told HMI that she had been a student at the school and up until about 2008, the veil was compulsory. At this time, there was a review of the uniform policy and the Trustees agreed that the veil would be made optional. Students in Year 11, who have attended the school since Year 7, say they have never been required to wear the veil.

The assistant headteacher explained that following the recent comments in the press, the school is making sure that all documentation describes the school uniform as clearly as possible. For example, the new brochure for parents has a photograph of the outdoor and indoor uniform which illustrates the style of headscarf with no veil attached.

The principal confirmed that the veil is not compulsory and noted that a few students choose to wear this. He is keen to make sure there is no further confusion about the school uniform policy. There were no parents available to speak to about the school uniform policy.

In respect of this inspection visit regarding the school uniform policy, the regulatory requirements for independent schools are all met.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school meets The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2010 ('the Regulations'), and associated requirements regarding school uniform.

Inspection team

Julie Winyard HMI, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- Madani Secondary Girls' School is an Islamic day school and is part of the Madani School Trust. This Trust oversees the school and many other community activities including madrasa (religious classes) in the evenings and at weekends. The school opened in 1991 and moved to its present premises in 2001. Most students are of Bangladeshi cultural heritage, with some from Somali and Arab backgrounds.
- The school's aims include 'to provide caring, safe and secure teaching and learning', 'ensure pupils receive a broad and balanced education in accordance with the National Curriculum in an environment that supports spiritual growth' and 'nurture spiritual growth within each child which will lead them to be balanced, God conscious and upright citizens'.

School details

Unique reference number	100982
Inspection number	430310
DfE registration number	211/6383
This inspection was conducted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005.	
Type of school	Day school
School status	Independent School
Age range of pupils	11–18
Gender of pupils	Girls
Number of pupils on the school roll	248
Number of part time pupils	6
Proprietor	Madani Trust
Chair	Habibur Rahman
Headteacher	Muhammad Saleem Nawab
Date of previous school inspection	11 September 2013
Annual fees (day pupils)	£2250
Telephone number	0207 3771992
Fax number	0207 3771992
Email address	Madinischool.org.uk

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaining about inspections', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.



You can use Parent View to give Ofsted your opinion on your child's school. Ofsted will use the information parents and carers provide when deciding which schools to inspect and when.

You can also use Parent View to find out what other parents and carers think about schools in England. You can visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk, or look for the link on the main Ofsted website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

Further copies of this report are obtainable from the school. Under the Education Act 2005, the school must provide a copy of this report free of charge to certain categories of people. A charge not exceeding the full cost of reproduction may be made for any other copies supplied.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2013

