



Madrasah Naqeebul Islam

Madrasah Naqeebul-Islam, 27 William Henry Street, Preston, PR1 4XH, TEL: 01772 798847

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Date: 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Respected Parents

Hope you are well and keeping safe. A very warm welcome to Madrasah Naqeebul Islam.

Our overall aim of the Madrasah is to provide good Islamic education, create an understanding and love for Deen and ensure our children have an Islamic mindset.

Whereas we are succeeding in providing a good level of Islamic education, a greater focus is required to further develop the “Islamic mindset” of our children. Sometimes children have a good grounding in Islamic education, however despite this good education, after leaving the Madrasah, many of our teenagers within a short time lose all connection with their Deen. This is extremely worrying, and we need to address this together.

Parents and parenting has changed dramatically in the last decade. Often “traditional values” have been replaced with more “liberal” attitudes. These “open and free” attitudes often result in “knowledge and acting upon it” (Ilm to Amal) confined to the four walls of the Madrasah. Deen is not practiced at home and neither in other social spheres of life. The result is a child (who despite attending a traditional Madrasah) has no exposure to the practical application of Deen in his/her personal and social life. This creates confusion in a child’s mind, and at the same time it not only deprives the child from practically observing the Sunnah, it also diminishes the importance of the Sunnah and an “Islamic lifestyle”.

Some examples of this are:

- Eating and drinking is not according to Sunnah.
- Dress code is not modest.
- Whilst their daughters observe a modest dress code in Madrasah as a mark of respect for religious teaching, some parents who drop them off are dressed in an inappropriate manner, contrary to their child and Islamic teachings.
- Free mixing and inter mingling of genders in weddings and other functions.

Due to all these and other factors, it is essential we as a Madrasah have a “holistic” approach towards every child’s education and Tarbiyah. The focus must not solely be education or Tarbiyah, rather both must be addressed simultaneously.

**Parents must be an equal partner of the teacher in developing this Islamic mindset by creating an environment conducive to what their child is learning.**

As a Madrasah, we are always striving to improve the teaching and learning of our pupils. One factor that has been proven to have great impact on pupil learning and retention is ‘p re-reading’. This simply requires pupils to read up the lesson that is to be taught before coming to Madrasah, so that it is easier for pupils to understand the lesson in class.

Pupils have been introduced to this concept of pre-reading for over a month, including its importance. Some points on this are:

- This is hugely beneficial, as not only does it gives your child a “head start” in the next day’s lesson, pre-reading also results in your child grasping the new lesson much quicker when covered in class.
- Over time, it also leads to “independent learning” skills, where your child is self-motivated to progress and work independently.
- Research clearly indicates that a COMBINATION of Pre-reading, classroom delivery (actual lesson) and then revision leads to a staggering 80% retention rate. Otherwise, the overall retention rate is very poor – as low as 30%. What parents need to do: Please encourage your child to pre-read, especially on the weekends. Simply spending 20-30 minutes on the weekend will prepare your child for the full week’s pre-reading.

Due to the current pandemic, we have reviewed the Government guidelines for Educational Out of School Settings and have drawn up our risk assessment accordingly.



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We have decided to keep the class timing the same (5.00 – 7.00). We will have a staggered start:

- Reception Class, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 - 4.50
- Years 4, 5, 6, 7b/8b/9b, 7g/8g/9g - 4.55

**Pupils in reception class will also finish around 6.50, to ensure they are not crowded with other children.**

Parents and Children should follow these new Madrasah guidelines.

- If any child has covid or covid symptoms, or if they are living with a person who is shielding or classified as vulnerable the child must **NOT** attend the madrasah. Please inform us if and when this occurs
- We do not believe masks are necessary for the children, as they will only be meeting those within their bubble. However, if any child or parent wishes their child to wear a mask or any other ppe gear they may bring one from home
- Hand sanitiser will be available at the entrance and also in classrooms, but students must be supervised by the teacher whilst using
- All parents should ensure the children visit the bathroom and complete wudhu before they arrive. The wudhu area and toilets will be open for emergency only
- If your child has a medical issue that could affect him/her, or others, please do inform the madrasah asap via telephone (during madrasah times) or email outside of madrasah time.
- Students may bring their own water bottle if they wish
- Students should not bring any food or sweets to eat and must never share
- Parents dropping off and collecting children should maintain social distancing. Please do not gather in groups and do not wait inside the entrance
- All students must refrain from shaking hands and to avoid all physical contact with others, this includes the teachers. Saying 'Assalamu Alaykum' will be sufficient
- When dropping off your child, please maintain social distancing outside the madrasah and only send your child in when the entrance/stairwell is clear
- Students must bring their own madrasah bags with all their Qurans/text books/exercise books and stationery

When the Madrasah finishes, only one class will be let out at a time, so please be patient if you are collecting children within multiple years.

If the government guidelines change or if the council/government require us to adapt, the madrasah policies, guidelines, timing, and method of teaching will change accordingly. This could be at very short notice.

We have worked extremely hard to make our Madrasah a safe and secure place for the staff and students.

***We will provide 'High Vis Jackets' for your children, so please ensure that they wear these to the madrasah, even if they travel in cars as these are mandatory in the winter months.***

If you come to the masjid to pick your children, please ensure that you drive slowly on Lex Street, and park in a safe area. Then come out of the car to pick up your child and please follow the instructions of the steward. Please try to use Lex Street as a one way street when picking up your child; i.e. Entering from Fishwick Parade and leaving via Brockholes View. This will help us to control the traffic flow and avoid congestion. **Under no circumstances should you argue or harass the volunteer stewards!**

Also, please ensure that you DO NOT DRIVE INTO OR PARK YOUR CAR ON WILLIAM HENRY STREET.

As we have introduced 'High Vis Jackets' for our younger children, please continue making your children wear these, as these are mandatory in the winter months.

If you are unclear about anything or would like further information, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.

Principal Moulana Sohel and The Madrasah Committee