



Saturday Islamic School

Brief information for parents/guardians

More information on website: <http://www.saturdayislamicsschool.co.uk>

email: admin@saturdayislamicsschool.co.uk

Aims and values of Saturday Islamic School (SIS)

SIS aims to equip children with the essential knowledge and understanding of Islam. It educates children so that they can make better choices and be prepared for an Islamic way of life and contribute positively to the society as British Muslims. The school curriculum has a strong emphasis on social education and learning through play.



Age of children and how we teach

The school has 150 places for children aged 6 to 7 years (Class 1). Places for children aged over 7 years is dependent on the spaces available. The school admits children aged up to 15 years.

SIS strives to provide an inspiring and safe learning environment. The styles, the methods and the approaches are based on the Qur'an and the Sunnah. It develops and fosters Islamic behaviour in children by means of discussions and appropriate examples. The school rejects any sort of punishments, which degrade the child, or hinder self-esteem. It has a strict behaviour policy, and works in strong partnership with parents/guardians in which the child plays an active role.

Resources and facilities

Children are provided with textbooks and folders. Children are expected to bring own pencil-cases with stationery. The school has its own library and holds a large number of titles suitable for children to borrow every week. The teachers are experienced and some have UK qualified teacher status. DBS checks are made to ensure that staff and volunteers are suitable to work with children. Staff members have regular training to ensure consistency and continuity in the quality of teaching and learning provided in the school and across branches.



What we teach

The school's curriculum is organised to cover four main areas/subjects of learning. These are:

- Qur'an & tajweed
- Basic Arabic language
- Islamic studies
- Adaab/manners

SIS provides a foundation for basic Arabic language. It teaches children to recite the Qur'an accurately, and memorise Juz Amma. Children are taught about the aspects of Islam which include Aqidah, Fiqh, Seerah and Du'as. Islamic etiquette and manners are taught through whole school assemblies. Children are encouraged to organise presentations and talks, and participate in practical demonstrations. The school day is organised into four lessons with breaks for play, lunch and Salah.

School organisation

SIS has 5 branches in Tower Hamlets. The school year begins on the first Saturday of September and ends in July. The term dates are usually in-line with mainstream schools in Tower Hamlets but excludes the half-term closures.

Children have lunch at school. Some have packed lunch and others use the school tuck shop. Children are not allowed to leave the school premises during lunch-time.

Name of branch	Postcode	Classes	Hours	Age group catered for
Bow School	E3 2QE	1 to 5	9:30 to 3:00	Aged 6 to 11 years
Mulberry Academy Shoreditch	E2 6NW	1 to 5	9:30 to 3:00	Aged 6 to 11 years
Stepney Green	E1 4SD	1 to 5	9:30 to 3:00	Aged 6 to 11 years
St Paul's Way Trust School	E3 4FT	1 to 5	9:15 to 2:45	Aged 6 to 11 years
London Muslim Centre (LMC)	E1 1JX	6 to 8	9:45 to 2:45	12 to 15 years; Arabic language (GCSE equivalent)

Admission to the school

Children are admitted by selection and organised both in terms of age and ability. Minimum age for admission is 6 years. Unsuccessful applicants need to re-apply as the school does not operate a waiting list. SIS applies the following admission criteria when selecting pupils:

1. children of the right age group for which places are available
2. children who live close to the school
3. children whose needs can be met by the school
4. children who have siblings (brothers and sisters) in the school



Attendance and punctuality

The school has a strict policy on regular attendance and punctuality. Children are expected to attend school on time every week. Children may be taken off roll if they are late for 3 consecutive weeks or miss 2 weeks in a row without prior authorisation from the teacher in-charge or the Headteacher.

Financial Contribution / fees

SIS is a non-profit making organisation which runs with financial *contributions* from parents and guardians. Partners who support the school subsidise much of the premises related cost. Without their support it would be difficult for the school to function without raising the current *financial contribution* (fee) from parents which is:

- A starter kit - £30 (only payable in the first year of admission – includes a school bag with goodies)
- Yearly contribution Class 1 to 8 - £200 (for each child attending the school – include books and all materials; the school does not operate a sibling or other discount)

Parents are requested to pay their contribution as one payment, preferably by bank transfer (Name: SIS; Sortcode 60 02 63; Account: 1 0 1 8 9 0 0 9). Kindly talk to Branch In-charges if there is a need and note that contributions made are non-refundable.

Home-learning (homework) and parental support

At SIS home-learning is integral to the curriculum. All parents are expected to spend at least 30 minutes every week talking to their children about learning at school. Children have a SIS diary so that parents know what home-learning has been set and are expected to give additional time with their children. Parents are requested to communicate with the teachers using the homework diary and sign the diary on a weekly basis.

Assessment

Teachers assess children through observation as well as setting structured tasks as and when appropriate. Children also have the opportunity to evaluate their own work at the end of each term. The school holds a mid-year report-to-parents meeting, usually in January.

Parents are provided with information throughout the year. At the end of the year children have the final assessment which is used to decide whether individuals are ready to move to the next level or need to remain in the same class.

"SIS has been providing quality education and learning since April 1996"