

AL ZAHRA  
Academy



# ALZAHRA ACADEMY SCHOOL PROPOSAL



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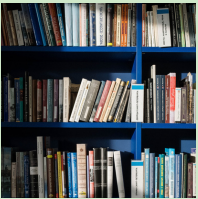
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# OUR TEAM

We are a team of highly committed, enthusiastic and determined individuals who have come together with a common goal; to establish a Melbourne-based independent school to preserve the future of our Muslim Alawite community.

We have a diverse professional background that consists of a construction manager, business owners, teachers, an engineer, a social worker, an accountant, a financial planner, a historian and geopolitical researcher.

With each contribution and volunteer, our team grows bigger and stronger everyday; bringing us one step closer to achieving our goal.





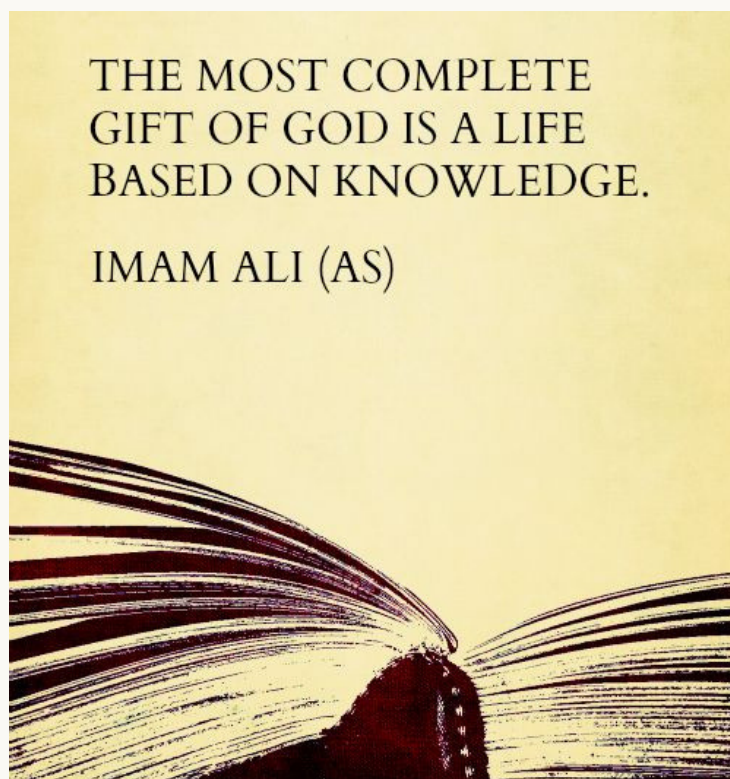
# VISION

Our vision is to establish a safe learning environment, where children can acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, Islamic values and character to enable them to reach and further expand their potential as global citizens, whilst preparing them for adulthood.

Our ethos is to “continually improve;” as the famous saying goes, “Never stop learning, because life never stops teaching”.

Our aim is to create a sense of community and belonging to equip students with the faith and education required to be ambitious, productive and inspirational members of society.

Only with education and faith-based guidance can we prepare our children with the vital skills needed to manage and thrive in modern society; both economically and sociologically, making the world a better place.



# THE AL SADIQ STORY

AL SADIQ COLLEGE NSW



Early on in the year 2000, the Sydney Muslim Alawite community understood the need for a dedicated school. Many other religious groups and organisations had managed to establish a community based school with the exception of the Muslim Alawite community.

Children would pass each other in public like strangers, not knowing that they were fellow Muslim Alawite brothers and sisters. It dawned on the newly elected young and progressive board that a school was not only an institution, but a conduit that could bring our community together.

It was in March that same year that the decision was made to begin the process of establishing the very first Muslim Alawite School. The next four years were spent planning and developing a curriculum, seeking local Council and State Government approval and most importantly fundraising.

An enormous fundraising campaign took place; this was received with overwhelming support by the community in both Sydney and Melbourne. When the future of our children's education and faith were at stake, tribalism took a back seat and the community came together to make this dream a reality.



# SITE ACQUISITION

At the end of 2023, Al Zahra Academy signed a contract on a 6,121m<sup>2</sup> parcel of land located in the Rathdowne Estate in Wollert.

The purchase price of the land was \$3,000,000, where a 10% deposit of \$300,000 was paid.

The settlement date of the land will be in June 2024.

Town Planning documentation has commenced as of December 2023, with drawings currently in progress with our chosen architects and engineers.

Al Zahra Academy were advised by Whittlesea Council to acquire the land as it is already zoned for an Independent school.

Pre-application meeting with the VRQA to take place in early 2024.



# START UP CAPITAL & FUNDS RAISED

The overall target we need to raise is \$5,000,000. This will allow us to not only purchase the land outright, but also fund the construction costs for the initial 3 years post-establishment of the school.

This is based on our purchase price of \$ 3 million for the land in Wollert, as well as the current cost estimate for construction.

This overall target does not include any potential government grants or loans we may acquire to cover any shortfalls.

Our current position in terms of funds raised, as of February 2024, are;

- Actual Contributions: \$703,063
- Number of Contributors: 370
- Projected Contributions: \$1,078,611

## How will the funds be held?

Al Zahra Academy has been registered as a not-for-profit Incorporated Association.

All funds will be held in Al Zahra Academy's bank account which will be independently audited on an annual basis.

To ensure complete transparency, we have set up the accounting software to not only track and issue remittances for all contributions, but to also aid in the audits of the account.

# 3 YEAR PLAN

## YEAR ONE



To have the school registered and open for operation with a total enrolment number of 80 students from prep to grade two. In the first year, there will be nine staff members consisting of a principal, teachers and admin staff.

## YEAR TWO

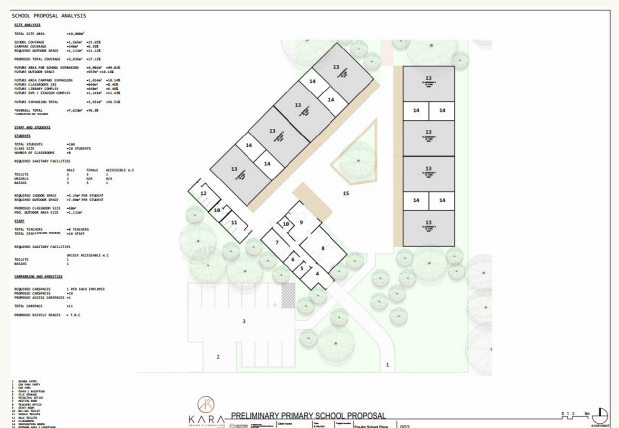
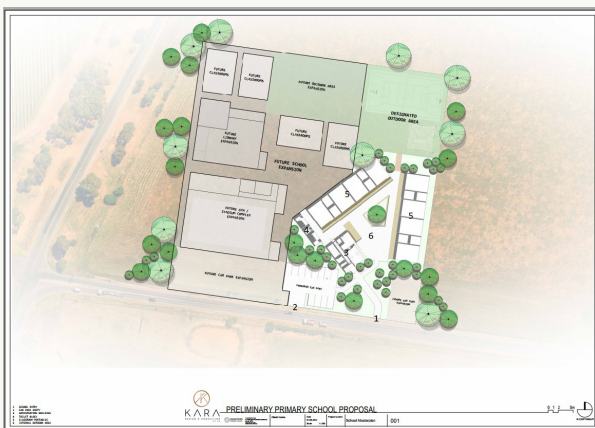


To grow student enrolments to 120 students. The goal will be to add an additional two prep classes whilst the existing classes progress to the next year level. Thus, the school will grow from prep to grade three in its second year of operation.

## YEAR THREE



To continue to grow student enrolments to 160 students. The goal will be to add an additional two prep classes whilst the existing classes progress to the next year level. Thus, the school will grow from prep to grade four by the 3rd year of operation.



# REVENUE DISTRIBUTION

Total Revenue is dependent on student numbers. As student numbers increase, government funding will also increase.

As per the forecasted student numbers in our 3 year plan, the following revenue is projected over the first 3 years of operation:

- Year 1 \$1,428,188 (80 students)
- Year 2 \$2,107,668 (120 students)
- Year 3 \$2,772,761 (160 students)

## Where does the money go?

Teacher Salaries 60%

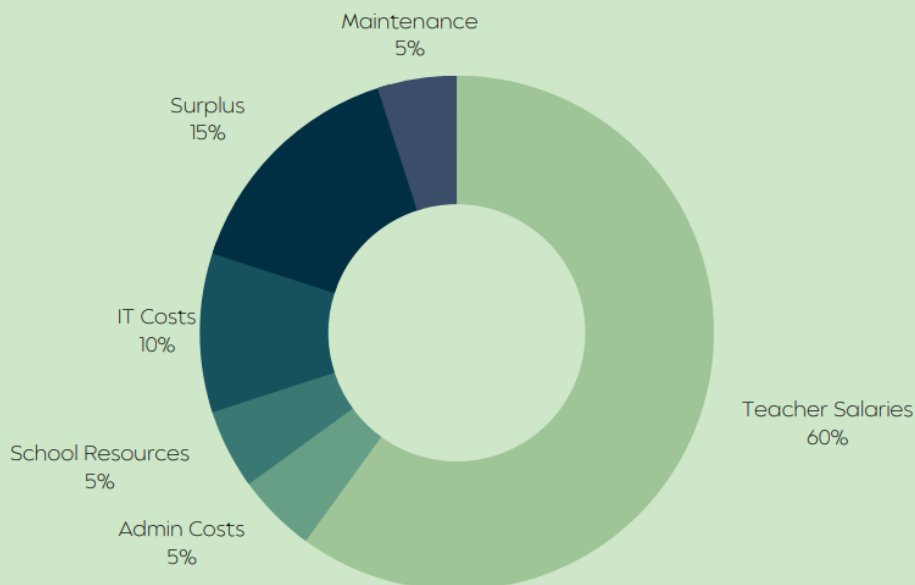
Admin Costs 5%

School Resources 5%

IT Costs 10%

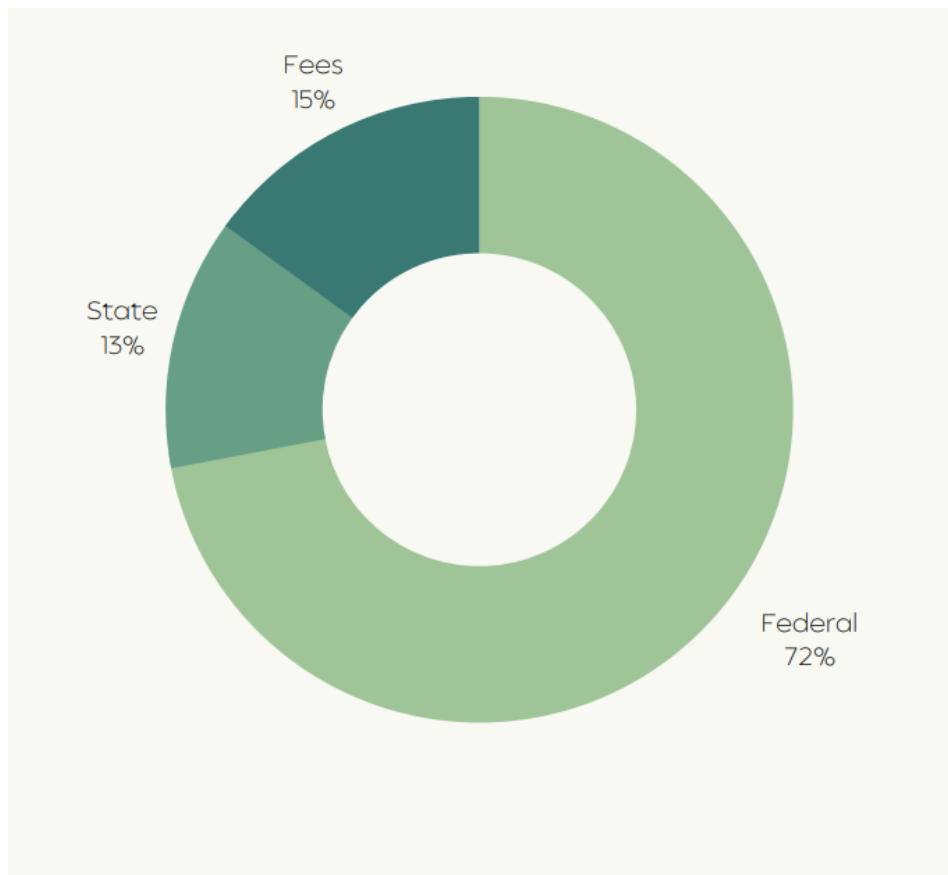
Surplus 15%

Maintenance 5%





# FINANCIAL VIABILITY



- Financial Viability (Ability to generate sufficient income to meet operating costs)
- Private schools are funded through a combination of Federal Government, State Government and Student School Fees.
- The average contribution is as follows:
  - Federal 72%
  - State 13%
  - Fees 15%

# SCHOOL BOARD

The current board is comprised of individuals that have a combined skill sets of engineers, accountants, finance managers, teachers, construction managers and IT specialists. This is what we believe is required to take Al Zahra Academy from concept to establishment.

The board operates in smaller teams, one team are working on the documentation to submit to the VRQA, another towards the policies and procedures, governance, enrolments and curriculum, a social media team to spread the message to the community, and finally a team focusing on the school master plan and construction of Alzahra Academy.

If you would like to reach out, volunteer, contribute or would like to know more about Alzahra Academy, head to our website for more information at;

[www.alzahraacademy.com.au](http://www.alzahraacademy.com.au)



# PURPOSE



## PURPOSE

To provide and empower future Alawite generations with the knowledge required to continue our beliefs, values and traditions long after we are gone and not lose ourselves amongst the rest of society. This school will provide our children with a sense of identity and community that they can not experience at any other school.



## IMPORTANCE

God willing, we can leave something behind that will continue to teach our children the importance of faith and the values that have been passed down from our parents, their parents and all previous generations before them.



## BENEFITS

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) says:  
When a person dies, all his actions cease except for three:

Charity; which lasts by continuing to benefit others.

Knowledge; which he taught to people who continue to benefit from it. AND

A righteous child; who continues to pray for him.



## OPPORTUNITY

This is our opportunity as individuals and a community to come together and do something special that will benefit the children of today; as well as the children of tomorrow.

AL ZAHRA  
Academy



THANK YOU