AL ZAHRA Academy

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Responsibility:

TBD

Statement of Faith

Revised: 30/11/24 Next Review:

Introduction

The purpose of the Statement of Faith for our school is to clearly articulate the foundational beliefs and values rooted in the Islamic Jaafari traditions that guide our educational philosophy and practices.

The Islamic Jaafari teachings are derived from the Quran, the Prophet and his holy progeny, as per the Prophets tradition where he states;

"I leave for you two weighty things, the Quran and my Ahlul Bayt (his Progeny), if you hold onto them you will never go astray"

Referenced in texts such as Al-Kafi and Sahih Muslim

Faith is one of our fundamental values at Al Zahra Academy, rooted and inspired by our namesake, Fatima Al Zahra, the Lady of Light, daughter of the Prophet (PBUHAHF) and wife of Imam Ali (AS). Fatima Al Zahra is an important figure for our students to aspire to and learn from. Our faith plays a crucial role in their education, inspiring them with teachings from Fatima and her family, fostering confidence in their Islamic identity, and equipping them with the skills to integrate into the Australian community.

Identity is critical in the development of the students at Al Zahra Academy, with relation to their faith and integration within the Australian community, which is described in the following Ayah (Quranic Passage) in the Holy Quran;

"O Humanity, Indeed! We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another."

Surah Al Hujurat (49:13)

Educational Principles

Holistic Development

We focus on nurturing the spiritual, moral, intellectual, and physical development of students.

Academic Excellence

High academic standards and intellectual inquiry are central to our ethos, guided by the wisdom of Imam Jaafar Al Sadiq (AS):

- "The most perfect of men in intellect is the best of them in ethics."
- "To consider knowledge very much opens intellect."
- "Knowledge is a shield; truthfulness is might."

Moral and Ethical Education

We teach Islamic ethics, including honesty, integrity, and respect for others. Imam Ali (AS) encapsulates this in his words:

"A person is either your brother in faith, or your equal in humanity."

Community Service

Students are encouraged to engage in charitable activities and contribute to society, in line with:

"And cooperate in righteousness and piety." (Surah Al-Ma'idah, 5:2)

School Environment

Inclusive and Respectful Atmosphere

Al Zahra Academy fosters an environment where all students feel respected and included. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUHAHF) taught:

"Manners precede religion; learn manners and then learn religion."

Islamic Etiquette and Behavior

Students are guided by Islamic teachings in dress, behavior, and interactions. Imam Jaafar Al Sadiq (AS) emphasized:

"Be humble in the presence of the one from whom you learned knowledge.

Parental and Community Involvement

Partnership with Parents

We actively involve parents in the educational journey of their children.

Community Engagement

Al Zahra Academy is committed to building strong ties with the community, as stated by Imam Jaafar Al Sadiq (AS):

"Strengthen your ties with each other; be kind and generous to each other."

Commitment to Continuous Improvement

Professional Development

The academy provides ongoing training for teachers and staff in both Islamic and academic education.

Adaptability and Growth

We remain dedicated to adopting innovative teaching methods while staying true to our Islamic values.

This statement reflects the commitment of Al Zahra Academy to create an inclusive, faith-based, and academically excellent learning environment that nurtures well-rounded, confident, and community-minded individuals.