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Statement:

Of the two departments, Madrasah education is core in ascertain the beliefs and ethos that the school sets itself upon. Consisting of several areas of study [see Curriculum policy] the Madrasah Education is distinguished as three different sectors: Nazirah, Alimi and Hifz. Nazirah is the compulsory milestone needed achieving before progressing into either Alimi and Hifz, in which students establish their literacy in terms of Arabic and develop the fundamentals of Islam.

1. Nazirah

Emphasis is given to the importance of Tajweed (Phonetics of the Qur'an) and rules of recitation. The Hafiz (one who memorises the whole Qur'an) has historically played a key role in the preservation of the Qur'an, and continues to do so today.

We at Darul Uloom Islamic High School Birmingham, have many experienced teachers to maintain the high standards that we expect of ourselves. We have a unique structure in the Hifz course promoting excellence, high standards and healthy competition between students.

• All new students should be able to read the Qur'an by looking, fluently and correctly with basic Tajweed.

• If any student fails to meet these conditions then he will be referred to the Nazirah class.

• In the Nazirah class students learn how to read the Qur'an with the requirements of the Hifz section.

Qur'an Nazirah

The learning of the Quran is very important for those students who have successfully completed the Basic Quran Reading Course. Quran Nazirah is designed to help students to recite the Quran correctly without relying on transliteration not reading Arabic text or translation in English or just memorization without recognising the shape of the Arabic letters. At the end of the course participants should be able to read the Quran Tajweed proficiently.

Learning Objectives

- Read in Quran accurately and fluently with the correct recitation of the sounds (Mukharij al Haroof)
- Having knowledge of stopping and pausing signs (Ramoozul Auqaf)
- Recognizing and implementing the stopping signs in the Quran
- Reading Quran without making mistakes
- Reading Quran with all the Tajweed rules
- Completions of the whole Quran with Tajweed rules

Once a student is deemed capable of reading the Qur'an with the requirements of the Hifz class he will be required to take a Nazirah exam to test whether he posses the relevant competences. The results will be recorded on the 'Nazirah Test' form. A copy of the form will be given both to the student and the main Hifz class teacher.

Initially the student will be accepted into the Hifz section for a trial period of one term minimum before admitting then into the main Hifz class. The trial should determine if they have the basic capability of memorising 10-15 lines of new sabaq per hour and maintain this consistently on a daily basis alongside 4 pages of sabaq para. If this capability is not apparent over the term , i.e. there are gaps in their progress etc they will be deemed too weak for the main Hifz course and will be put in a support class where they will receive targeted support.

Once placed in the support Hifz class a support plan will be developed and will be used to target interventions for that student. The students will be tested weekly on these targets. Once these targets are achieved the student will be returned to a main Hifz class.

If a student despite receiving targeted support for an agreed period is unable to reach the required standard for the main Hifz class, he will be moved to the Alimi Section where he will pursue an alternative course of study. The Head of the Alimi Section will access which class the student will join. Parents will be notified at each stage of each of the above processes.

2. Hifz

Students on the Hifz course embark on the noble task of committing the whole Qur'an to memory. They undergo a rigorous routine of memorization designed to enable completion within three to five years in addition to their daily assessments, regular evaluations and weekly progress reports.

Emphasis is given to the importance of Tajweed (phonetics of the Qur'an) and rules of recitation. The Hafiz (one who memorises the whole Qur'an) has historically played a key role in the preservation of the Qur'an, and continues to do so today.

Darul Uloom Islamic High School Birmingham, has many experienced teachers to maintain the high standards that we expect of ourselves and our students. We have a unique structure in the Hifz course promoting excellence, high standards and healthy competition between students.

- All new Hifz students should be able to read the Qur'an, fluently and correctly with basic Tajweed
- If any student fails to meet these conditions then he will be referred to the Nazirah class
- In the Nazirah class students learn how to read the Qur'an with the requirements of the Hifz section

Once a student is capable of reading the Qur'an in line with the requirements of the Hifz class, he will be moved into the special Hifz class for a trial period of 1 term minimum before transferring to a permanent Hifz class. Following this he will be formally admitted to the Hifz section.

The trial period will seek to determine if a student has the basic capability of memorising 10-15 lines of new sabaq per hour and maintain this consistently on a daily basis alongside 4 pages of sabaq para (recent-previous memorisation revision 4-5 days), as well as passing a para test on completion of every section of the Qur'an. If this capability is not apparent over these 2 months, i.e. there are gaps in the students' progress he will be deemed too weak for the Hifz and will either remain in the Nazirah section or be admitted into the Alimi section depending on the areas of development needed to become competent to successfully memorise the whole of the Qur'an. Parents / carers will be kept notified throughout this period in respect to how their son is doing and which class he has progressed to.

RECORDING PROGRESS

- Student progress is recorded in their 'Daily Progress' diaries
- In Hifz class a student is required to complete three tasks (Revision: Old, Sabaq Para and Sabaq Para)
- Once each task is completed, the teacher records the progress in the student's diary along with their attendance. This procedure is continued each day throughout the month
- Recording progress in this manner allows teachers to review the progress of students while keeping an eye on the progression path
- At the beginning of the year students will be set targets, divided as weekly and daily targets
- If a student fails to meet the daily target, he will be given extra support during his breaks or during 'Hifz Booster' to help ensure he keeps up with his targets.
- The diary is used by the teacher and student to ensure set targets are being reached

WEEKLY HIFZ REQUIREMENTS

• Each student is required to complete the three tasks set by the teacher (Sabaq, Sabaq Para and Revision) during the week.

- The weekly tasks are set out as follows: Monday will be dedicated to Dhor; Tuesday till Thursday will the Sabaq days in which the teacher will listen to the Sabaq (new lesson); Friday will be dedicated to the Sabaq Para.
- In the evening, students are required to prepare their task for the following day. Approximately two additional hours per day should be given to the memorisation of the Qur'an outside of the school.
- Students are also encouraged to ensure that they read their Sabaq in their Sunnah prayers to ensure better memory of their Sabaq

EXAM

Two major assessments per academic year with at least one week of revision time before each. In the first assessment students will be tested on what they covered from September to mid year. In the second assessment students will be tested on what they covered from mid year to end of year.

HIFZ CONTRACT

Successful progress and completion of the Hifz course requires much dedication from pupils and also supervision from parents. To ensure pupils and parents are aware of their responsibilities, pupils and parents are required to commit time and effort to their Hifz by agreeing to specific terms; they will give time at home so the pupils can prepare their Sabaq, Sabaq para and Dhor and their children will be required to attend a supplementary hifz class if the school need to arrange during holidays and on the weekends to ensure the student remains on target to complete his memorisation.

HOLIDAYS

During school holidays the pupils will be given set targets which they will need to complete fully. Upon return to school after the holidays they will be tested by their class teachers. If students are recommended for para test and if they pass it will be considered a completed target and if not then they need to give that Juz/Para as sabaq to the teacher.

If the school arranges the supplementary classes for the Hifz students then it will compulsory for all Hifz students to attend the classes during school holidays and there will be extra charges for these classes. These classes will only be arranged after consultation with the students parents.

REWARDS/ INCENTIVES

- Pupils are motivated via rewards
- Students will be recommended for awards recognised and given via assemblies
- Year end awards

2.1 Hifz Para Test

This policy is intended to direct all staff in respect to the expectations of the 'Para Test'. It serves to standardise the testing procedure at Darul Uloom Islamic High School, Birmingham.

Once a student has completed the memorisation of a whole section (Juzz or Para – approximately 20-21 full pages) of the Holy Qur'an with his Hifz teacher, he will be entered for his Para Test. Only students who have been recommended by their Hifz teacher and certified as ready for the test may take the test. Testing takes place every Tuesday and Thursday.

The student being tested will be asked to recite seven randomly picked pages from the Juzz (Para) they are being tested for.

The Para Test evaluates the following:

- 1. The strength of the student's memorisation
- 2. How well the student follows the rules of recitation (Tajweed)
- 3. How well the student recites the words and letters of the Qur'an (Mukharij al Haroof).

The results of the Para Test are recorded on the 'Para Test Sheet' and a copy will be given both to the student and the teacher after the test. This record will help both the student and the teacher to understand more clearly the areas of development for the student and should be used to plan any interventions needed inside or outside of the classroom.

There are four possible outcomes of the Para Test. Each outcome is summarised below.

Grade A: No mistakes whether in Tajweed or in memorisation.

Grade B: Up to two mistakes in Tajweed and memorisation each.

Grade C: Up to five mistakes in Tajweed and memorisation each.

Grade D: More than five mistakes and will be considered a fail.

If a student does not pass the Para Test with a minimum grade C due to excessive mistakes in his Tajweed and / or memorisation he will be required to retake the test before continuing with new memorisation. The student may retake the Para Test as many times as necessary to achieve a minimum grade. However, the retake test must be recommended by the student's Hifz teacher only once he deems the student ready to obtain a pass grade.

Appendix

Hifz Para test sheet

Student Name:	Hifz Class:	Juz no:	Date:
Tajweed mistakes			
🗌 🗆 Ikhfa			
🗌 Idgham			
□ Mad			
🛛 Gunnah			
Other Tajweed rules			
Hifz mistakes			
Makharij Al Haroof mistakes (Pronuncia	ation of letters an	d words)	
Grade A			
□ Grade B			
Grade C			
Grade D			
Remarks:			
Assessor name:			
Date:			
Signature:			