



Feedback from Head Teachers Forum

Head teachers were divided into two groups (primary and secondary) and were asked to identify the urgent issues facing Muslim schools today. They were then asked to categorise each issue as very urgent, urgent, or not so urgent. A summary of the feedback is outlined below:

Very Urgent

- Professional development for middle & senior management
- Development of effective behaviour management and positive discipline
- Instilling Islamic ethos and values in the children, through tarbiyah and the curriculum
- Links with mainstream schools
- Values of schools shared / supported by parents
- Cooperation between Muslim schools
- Fundraising & resources
- Recruitment & retention of qualified staff

Urgent

- Use of modern technology and ICT
- Training for governors
- Awareness of new legislation
- Recognised Arabic qualification for primary schools
- Support for management

Not so Urgent

- Time management
- Parental involvement
- Special Educational Needs provision and Inclusion
- Voluntary Aided Status
- Scholarships for needy families
- Relationship with the LEA



Head teachers were then asked to provide practical solutions to most of the issues that were categorised as 'Very Urgent'. A summary of the feedback is outlined below:

Professional development for Middle & Senior management

- Network of subject leaders
- In house subject specific training
- Increased training for head teachers

Development of effective behaviour management and positive discipline

- Creating role models within the school to promote positive behaviour
- Training days to develop strategies for effective behaviour management
- Coaching and mentoring of pupils
- Reviewing whole school ethos, values, and strategies for ensuring positive discipline
- Recruitment of more male teachers within primary schools to act as positive role models for male students

Instilling Islamic ethos and values in the children, through tarbiyah and the curriculum

- Development of a tarbiyah programme
- Work on Islamicising curriculum areas and resources

Cooperation between Muslim schools

- Mentoring and peered observations
- Visiting other schools and sharing good practice

Fundraising & resources

- Develop awareness of funding sources
- Organising cooperate events

Recruitment & retention of qualified staff

- Increase support
- Continuous professional development
- Provide recruitment and retention incentives
- Develop strategies to boost morale within the school
- Create links with university ISOCs and generate database of CVs