

AL NOOR

WEEKEND ISLAMIC SCHOOL

Student - Parent Handbook



INTRODUCTION

Assalamu Alaykum – Peace be with You!

Welcome to the Al Noor Weekend Islamic School. Please read this handbook carefully. Parents must sign and return the agreement form with registration form and fee.

Weekend Islamic school has always been an important component of the Muslim community in Manitoba. The first weekend school in Manitoba was established by Manitoba Islamic Association (MIA), not long after the first mosque was built (located in St. Vital, 247 Hazelwood Avenue) in 1975. In the early 1990s, it was named Al Noor (pronounced “un-noor”), which is an Arabic word that means “The Light”.

TIME & LOCATION

Al Noor Weekend Islamic School is held on Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm at Churchill High School. It runs all year, but is closed during school holidays (please see calendar).

Address

Churchill High School
Fort Rouge
510 Hay Street (off Osborne Street)
Winnipeg, MB R3L 2L6

CONTACT INFORMATION

Online Registration: www.miaonline.org

Principal: Yasmin Ali yasminali@shaw.ca

Imam: Hosni Azzabi hazzabi@hotmail.com

ADMISSION

Admission is open to boys and girls ages 4 to 18. Students should be able to understand and communicate in English, since the main medium of instruction is English.

A placement test will be conducted at the time of registration. Students will be assigned a level based on their age and scores of the placement test. This test will assess their current knowledge in the areas of Islamic Studies and Qur'anic Arabic.

The Principal in consultation with the classroom teacher will make the decision about placement. Students may be transferred from one level to another during a school year, depending on his or her progress.

REGISTRATION & FEE

Registration is open to children ages 4 to 18. Parents can register their child online www.miaonline.org or in person at Churchill High School on the first day of school.

To register, parents must provide the following:

- Fee of \$100.00 *
- Signed Registration Form
- Signed Agreement Form

* The fee covers: staff salaries, school materials and school events

* Cost of books will be extra and vary depending on the level

* Fees are non-refundable

* Method of payment: cash, cheque, or money order

CURRICULUM

The curriculum at Al Noor is designed for weekend schools, which have limited learning time. Al Noor has only about 28 days of school in a year, and each school day is 3.5 hours long.

Each child will be assigned a level in the following areas:

- Islamic Studies (Levels 1 – 11)
- Qur’anic Recitation (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)

Each level will have specific objectives. A student can advance in level throughout the year if capable.

ISLAMIC STUDIES

Each year, students will work towards the following goals:

- 1) To learn about the basic beliefs in Islam:
 - a) God (Allah)
 - b) Angels
 - c) Books
 - d) Messengers and Prophets
 - e) Day of Judgment/Afterlife
 - f) Predestination
- 2) To learn about the basic practices or Five Pillars of Islam:
 - a) Declaration of Faith (Shahadah)
 - b) Daily Prayer (Salah)
 - c) Fasting (Sawm)
 - d) Annual Charity (Zakah)
 - e) Pilgrimage (Hajj)
- 3) To learn how to offer salaah/pray independently
- 4) To recite the Qur’an in Arabic with proper pronunciation of letters and sounds
- 5) To learn about Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and begin to develop a respect and appreciation for his life and contributions
- 6) To contribute positively towards family and community by participating in a community project or act of goodness, such as:
 - a) Manitoba Muslim Newsletter
 - b) Visiting a Sick Person
 - c) Winnipeg Harvest
 - d) Planting a Tree
 - e) Cleaning Up Our Environment

7) To make Muslim friends.

Another essential aspect of the curriculum at Al Noor is socialization with other Muslim children to develop a stronger Muslim identity. Each day students will have an opportunity to play and interact with other Muslim students during the lunch break. Working in pairs and larger groups in class will also help to foster positive friendships with peers.

QUR'AN

Al Noor will teach students how to read the Qur'an, not the Arabic language. Students are not expected to memorize long surahs (chapters) of the Qur'an. Parents should not expect their child to know how to read the Qur'an fluently if they begin the school year as a beginner.

Level	Objectives Students will be able to:
Beginner 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- recognize and recall letters of the Arabic alphabet by name and sound- begin to recognize how letters appear in the beginning, middle, and end of words
Beginner 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- recognize how letters appear in the beginning, middle, and end of words- recognize and recall short and long vowels (fatha, dhamma, kasra, alif, ya, wow)- begin to read short words
Beginner 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- recognize vowel combinations (tanween, shadda, noon sakina)
Intermediate 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- science of Tajweed part 1
Intermediate 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- science of Tajweed part 2
Advanced 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- recitation of selected surahs with Tajweed
Advanced 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- recitation of selected surahs with Tajweed

CLASSROOMS

Al Noor School Committee strives to provide a classroom and teacher for each level. However, if there is not an adequate number of teachers, some classrooms may have more than one level. Classes may be grouped as such:

- Age 4-5
- Age 6-8
- Ages 9-11
- Ages 12-14
- Ages 15-18

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Al Noor requires parent volunteers to supervise children during lunch break and to help organize special events and fieldtrips. To volunteer, please contact the principal.

FEEDBACK

Informed and concerned parents make great partners in the educational process. Al Noor School Committee hopes that the staff, students, and parents can act as a team to improve all aspects of the school.

Parents and students who have any comments or constructive suggestions regarding any school activity should contact the school committee.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Attendance and Tardiness

Parents are advised to drop off their children at least 5 minutes before school starts. Parents are to arrive on time to pick up their children. All parents should avoid tardiness at the time of arrival and leaving the school as it places an additional burden on School volunteers.

Abuse of School Property

Al Noor Weekend School is privileged to use Churchill High School and its facilities. Students are required to maintain cleanliness and gentle use of the property. If a student is found to have caused damage to the school property in any manner, his or her parents will be liable to remedy the damage in a manner decided by Churchill High School authorities. Furthermore, a student may be subject to suspension or expulsion from Al Noor Weekend School as determined by the School Committee.

Harassment, Disrespectful or Racist Acts

All students will refrain from verbally or physically harassing other students, teachers or staff of the school. No type of violent and abusive behavior will be tolerated and will result in expulsion of the student.

A student shall not intimidate, disgrace, incite, provoke, threaten, or discriminate against any other student or school employee or otherwise disrupt the school environment. The act of harassment or intimidation includes, but is not limited to: physical acts which are legally defined as assault, slurs, profanity, obscene gestures, verbal or non-verbal abuse. Such acts may subject the student to expulsion or can result in police/legal action by the offended party.

Dangerous Weapons

A student shall not bring to school actual or look-alike counterfeit dangerous weapons, firearm, knives, explosives, or any such devices. If any such item is found with a student, he or she will be removed from the school and will be expelled. Depending on the severity of the case, the student will be reported to the police.

Dress and Expression

Dress in accordance with Islamic guidelines is encouraged while at school. Boys or girls will not be admitted to class if their outfits reveal bare waist line, abdomen, deep neckline, bare legs. Outfits must not display profane language.

Lost and Found Policy

Students are responsible for their belongings. The School is not responsible for any items lost on the premises of the school.

Lunch

Student must bring a lunch to school. Parents are highly encouraged to pack a healthy lunch for their child, and avoid foods high in sugar.

Here are Some Examples of Healthy Food:

Tuna/salmon/egg salad sandwich	Water
Fruit (banana, orange, pear, apple)	Milk
Vegetable (eg. carrots, celery, cucumber)	Soup
Cheese and crackers	

Cell Phone Use

Students must turn cell phones off during class and prayer time.

Radios, Walkman, MP3 and Other Devices

Use of any radio, walkman, MP3, ipod and other electronic devices is not permitted in the school at any time. Items will be confiscated and returned to the parent at the end of the day.

Complaints

Parents can express their complaints verbally or in writing to the Principal. We welcome constructive criticism as well as positive feedback.

Dispute Resolution

In cases where parents want to appeal a decision made with regard to a complaint, the Principal and the Imam shall take part in a dispute resolution procedure to settle things in a peaceful manner. Parents hereby agree that they shall utilize and exhaust this procedure.

Expulsion of Student

The Principal, in consultation with the School Committee, may expel a student from the school for various wrongdoings such as harassment and disrespect of students, staff, or parents, chronic disruption in class, bringing weapons to school, bringing/using/selling drugs, or other misconduct as expressed in this handbook. The School committee retains the right to pursue legal action if deemed as warranted.

Parents of the student will be notified in person, or over the phone and in writing about the decision.

Not a Daycare Facility

Parents must understand that the school is not a daycare centre. Children should not be sent or enrolled in the school with the intention to provide them daycare services while parents are busy. To that end, children are expected to study for classes, be attentive in class, and participate in school activities.

ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES

Homework

Homework involves revision of what was covered in class. Students may be quizzed each class to review previous lessons. Parents are strongly encouraged to remind and help their children review and learn their lessons as these children generally perform better.

School Supplies

Students are required to bring their prescribed textbooks, notebooks, pens, pencils, erasers, etc. for each class. The school will not provide these items.

Please understand that the classes will be held in a public high school and we are privileged to be allowed use of the classrooms. The students are required to keep the rooms clean and take all their belongings with them when they leave. The school will not

take any responsibility for safekeeping any books, student supplies etc. left behind by a student.

Student Evaluation

Teachers will provide parents with regular feedback on their child's progress with reference to academic achievement, performance on quizzes, class participation, attendance, and conduct. Teachers will contact parents to set up the best means for communication (eg. phone calls, email, short in-person meetings at school).

FOOD ALLERGY ADVISORY

ATTENTION PARENTS:

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PACKING PEANUT PRODUCTS IN YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH.

IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE ALLERGIC TO ANY FOODS, SUCH AS PEANUTS, MILK, ETC., PLEASE MAKE SURE TO ADVISE THE PRINCIPAL AND YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.

AL NOOR WEEKEND SCHOOL CALENDAR

This calendar may be updated during the school year. The latest calendar will be posted on the MIA Website: www.miaonline.org.

AL NOOR WEEKEND ISLAMIC SCHOOL

Acknowledgment of Receipt and Review of Student Code of Conduct and Parent Handbook

I, _____, hereby acknowledge and agree that I have received the Student Code of Conduct and Parent Handbook for Al Noor Islamic Weekend School.

I further acknowledge and agree that I have read, conveyed the information to my children and fully understand the contents of the Code of Conduct and the Handbook.

I agree to abide by the provisions of the Code of Conduct and the Handbook and shall endeavor to ensure that my child is also in compliance with the Code of Conduct and the Handbook.

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

