



Handbook for Islamic Prayers at Hujjat Primary School





Introduction

Welcome to our Islamic Prayer Handbook, crafted especially for dedicated prayer leaders at Hujjat Primary School. This guide aims to support us in fostering a spirit of unity and togetherness among children from diverse Islamic backgrounds and traditions. As we lead them in their daily prayers, we will celebrate the rich tapestry of shared beliefs, whilst respecting the unique practices of each denomination. Through these prayers, we will nurture the children's spirituality and deepen their relationship with God, helping them to connect with The Divine in a meaningful and heartfelt way. Let this handbook be a beacon of harmony, assisting us in nurturing a community where every child feels included and valued, praying together with open hearts and united minds.



HUJJAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ethos and Values

The values and ethos of praying together will be explained to the children and modelled by adults.

Ethos of Praying Together

We are praying together as one ummah/community, united by our love and devotion to Allah/God. There is strength in us being united, as together we can help each other and are harder to waiver. We pray that this united prayer will strengthen our faith and love for Allah/God and our brotherly/sisterly connection with each other.

Values

Our school values shown below are encouraged throughout the school day. In prayer/ reflection time, adults should again model these values and children should also demonstrate these values.

We **SHINE** by demonstrating our values:



Service

To serve Allah (swt) and His creation

Gratitude
To be thankful



Excellence

To strive for the best

Respect
To treat people and the environment with care



Integrity

To speak the truth and do the right thing

Compassion
To be kind





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Call to Prayer

A part of the adhaan/call to prayer will be played on the Tannoy speaker across the whole school at the **dhohr and asr prayer time of that day**. Children will be encouraged to pause for a moment of prayer/reflection during the adhaan, making them aware that it is prayer time and we should pray as soon as it is possible. Opportunity for prayer will be provided after this time as detailed on the following pages.

The call to prayer played on the tannoy at the time of prayer will be as follows:

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

Allahu Akber x4

Allah is the greatest x4

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

Ashhadu an laa ilaaha illAllah x2

I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allah x2

أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

Ashadu anna Muhammadar Rasulullah

I bear witness that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah x 2



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Logistics of Prayer Times

Location and Timing of Prayer

EYFS: Children will have the opportunity to pray in their classroom reflective area , during their lunch break or another unstructured time in the timetable after the call to prayer.

KS1: Children will have the opportunity to pray in the reflective/prayer room during their lunch play or afternoon play depending on the timing of salah.

KS2: Children to assemble in the hall at 13:15 where they will be encouraged to pray salah. All children will be required to be present and are encouraged to pray salah, although there will be no compulsion to participate.

Set up of hall

A group of children from KS2 will be given the role of setting the hall up for prayer every day.

Children will roll out prayer mats facing the direction of prayer (Qiblah)

There will be a box of turbah/mohr/prayer stones for children to pick up if they wish to use for prayer, when entering the hall for prayer.

Praying in Unity

- Children will pray together in the hall, following the lead of a Muslim male, to bring about the values and ethos of jamaat/congregational prayers.
- Although praying in unison, children will make the intention of praying individually as not all children praying will be baaligh/of age.

Prayer Lead

A rota of male volunteers to lead prayers will be established by the faith committee of Hujjat Primary School. This rota will contain a mixture of Muslim men from various backgrounds and sects of Islam. All individuals leading the prayer must follow the guidelines in this handbook.



HUJJAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Guidelines for Prayer Leader

The leader of prayer must be mindful that the school consists of a mixture of denominations. There must be no attempt to teach anything that is specific to one denomination. As such, the leader will not teach salah but rather be an example for children to follow and enable for the building of unity amongst the school community through praying together. **Children are encouraged to pray and prepare for prayer in the way that their parents have taught them.**

Format

- The leader will give a brief talk/explanation as outlined below before beginning, making clear the denomination of Islam that he follows..
- After the explanation adhaan and iqamah will be recited, followed by prayers in line with the teachings of his stated denomination of Islam.
- Children will pray in time with the leader and together in the hall to create unity but will be praying separately rather than in 'Jama'ah', reciting everything individually and performing actions according to how they have been taught to pray at home.

Explanation before prayer

Explain to the children that: *We have gathered in this hall to pray together, united in our love for Allah/God as one Muslim ummah/community. We treat each other with respect and compassion and are grateful to Allah for this opportunity to pray together. Being united makes us stronger as a community and in our faith. Today, I will be leading the Salah. We will all pray together following me, as the leader, but as we are not all baaligh we will make the intention of praying individually/furadah and each recite everything ourselves. I will lead the prayer, reciting everything, except the surahs, aloud, according to the teachings of the Ahlus Sunna/Shia sect of Islam. Try to pray in time with me as the leader, but make sure you recite everything yourself and pray according to the teachings of your denomination of Islam that you have been taught at home.*

The lead of prayer will thereafter begin the prayer according to the rulings of their denomination of Islam.