



Al-Ashraf Primary School
Al-Ashraf Centre
Stratton Road
Gloucester
Gloucestershire
www.al-ashraf.org.uk

Alhamdulillah, Al-Ashraf primary School continues to build on the success of previous years and continues to grow from strength to strength. The school has been providing National Curriculum based education in keeping with Islamic morals and ethics to Primary School students since September 2006. It now successfully operates and offers Infant level education thereby completing the first three years of Foundation and Key Stage1 education at Primary level.

It is a vision of all whom are involved in the school that children should enjoy their school, find satisfaction in their achievement and realise their potential to the full. Our target is to continuously assess and positively reward the effort and progress made by our pupils. We aim to Insha Allah, deliver education in stimulating and challenging ways, setting tasks and goals that are achievable to all. The school endeavours to create tolerant individuals; we all aim to help your child respect and appreciate others, their cultural background, feelings, views and all capabilities in an Islamic perspective.

We have high expectations of our pupils not only in academic excellence but also in standards of behaviour and character, both inside and outside school. We also hope to equip our pupils with skills to confidently accept the challenges of today's changing world. At Al-Ashraf Primary School we aim to create a happy, safe and secure environment where each child is given the opportunity to learn and live with others

The school operates an extremely successful madrasah within the school day combining a "*learn and enjoy*" attitude to Islamic teachings of Quran, Hadith, Morals and Manners. It is without doubt, the day-to-day hard work of each member of staff at Al-Ashraf from the classroom staff, administrators & lunch time supervisors which continues to make the school a success. The demand for places in Reception continues to outstrip places available, and the school is forced to operate a waiting list of parents wishing to enrol their children.

The summer of 2007 brought a lot of changes in the school. Our respected Principal Mufti Abdullah Patel in consultation with the Governing Board created a new post for a Deputy Head Teacher and Islamic Advisor to the school, both of these positions was created to support the Principal & the teachers. After significant planning and a lot of hard work the Year 2 classroom was completed. The school offices where moved from the shared facilities with the Nursery to purpose built on-site offices with adjoining waiting and staff rooms.

An extensive programme of work was undertaken to significantly extend the school play ground to make it fit for purpose and allow the children to fully explore their playtime sessions.

Throughout the year the school and its pupils have been involved in several fund raising activities from Sponsored Fasting, Mums & Munchies events, Cricket in the Community (with support from local business and cricket teams), Burma Disaster Appeal, Netball Tournament, Children In Need Appeal and most recently the children of Al-Ashraf Primary School have been encouraged to help those less fortunate themselves and contribute what they can to the Gaza Appeal fund.

Reception Class continue to make use of many of the facilities and events in and around the community, they regularly make visits to Motala & Sons, where Mr Motala always gives a warm welcome to the school children. This year the children also took part in an Islamic workshop as part of "Discover Islam" week. They continue to learn using hands on techniques with 2D & 3D shapes through cooking.

Year 1 Class have been studying stories from different cultures and examining predicted patterned language, they investigate the concepts of light & dark in a scientific arena and explore the information around us in ICT. The children are encouraged to create moving pictures in design & technology whilst in geography they surveyed the local area. The pupils in Year 1 have been introduced to writing poems and have been studying rhymes and patterns. Their studies have taken them on trips to the Gloucester Folk Museum where they have participated in a historical workshop about Victorian toys & games.

Year 2 Class are studying to sit their level 1 SAT examinations this year. They have started the literacy curriculum examining instruction language and poetry. Mathematics has introduced them to portioning & calculation, understanding the geometry of shapes and handling data. History has been a special time for them as the pupils have been given the opportunity to study the Great Fire of London and learn about Florence Nightingale and the benefits she provided to nursing. This recently culminated with a visit to the Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum and a special "Florence Nightingale" workshop session.

The pupils who attended Reception class back in September 2006 will have completed their infant years of Primary level education by July 2009 and will soon start their education into Key Stage 2 and the junior years. Plans & preparations for their junior classrooms, teaching resources are already underway.

The school continue to invest heavily in ICT, (and has secured funds via donation) to purchase specialist education software based around the national curriculum teaching standards. In the future the school is looking into introducing internet access and interactive technology within the ICT suite and classrooms, in order to truly bring teaching and learning session to life. The children will then have at the tips of their fingers access to information from the world wide web and the teachers will have automatically at their disposal a whole collection of teaching resources and techniques which previously would have been inaccessible to the school.

To provide a fully implemented Primary School for ages 4-11, the school still needs much support and help from everyone. The whole Muslim Community needs to be involved, in allowing our children to develop into wholesome and strong Muslims that project the true peaceful teachings of Islam.

To find out more please visit the school website on www.al-ashraf.org.uk or email info@al-ashraf.org.uk

Shahid M. Vaid
Chair of Governors