



Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian, Assalaamu Alaikum (Peace Be Upon You).

I hope that this letter finds you in good health.

Please note the following important messages about arrangements for the forthcoming blessed month of Ramadhaan. Ramadhaan will start during the Easter Holidays around the **12<sup>th</sup> April** and the new timings for school will end on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May**.

### **School timings will be changed during Ramadhaan.**

We recognise that an early finish during Ramadhaan would make things easier for students and for our staff if they are fasting. Therefore, we would like to inform you of the following:

- Lesson times will remain the same length during Ramadhaan
- Lunch will still be available from the canteen (information below)

Pupils will be returning to school on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April** and the normal Friday timings will apply. However, from Monday to Thursday the end times below will apply:

- Year 7 and Year 8 will finish at 2:30pm
- Year 9 and Year 10 will finish at 2:40pm
- Year 11 will finish at 2:45pm unless they have intervention which will finish at 3:30pm

These new timings will be in place **till Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May**, thereafter the normal school timings will apply. There will be Enrichment clubs on offer, Monday to Friday, till 3:30pm for the duration of Ramadhaan.

### **Attendance During Ramadhaan**

Fasting during the months of April and May will be challenging for our learners and our teachers will be sensitive to this when planning activities during lessons. For example, in Physical Education, students will need to wear their full PE kit. However, PE activities are planned which will be less strenuous and more rest breaks will be incorporated into the lessons.

I would appeal to all parents to ensure that your **daughter attends school on time every day** during this crucial period. There will be important lessons with serious learning in each subject, especially for the preparation of internal assessments. I am very grateful to all parents for their support in helping us to deliver a normal school during Ramadhaan.

### **Catering During Ramadhaan**

Students who are not fasting will be able to buy a meal from the school canteen at lunchtime. Students who normally receive a 'Free School Meal' can collect a sandwich from the canteen to take home (if they are fasting).

### **Completing Assessments During Ramadhaan**

Many of our students will be completing important assessments (Y10-11) whilst fasting during Ramadhaan. We want all our students to succeed in their assessments whilst benefiting from the blessings that the holy month has to offer.

Please help your daughter to do well in assessments whilst fasting by:



- Ensuring that she participates in 'Iftaar' and 'Suhoor' and eats healthily. Fruits and vegetables can increase the feeling of fullness and contain important vitamins. High-fibre carbohydrates such as brown rice, wholemeal bread and wholegrain noodles provide energy over a longer period of time.
- Encouraging her to drink plenty of water when not fasting.
- Advising her to sleep at least seven hours each day. This may mean she needs to rest immediately after school.
- Checking on her health regularly and letting us know if she is unwell.

### **Faith Activities During Ramadhaan**

During Ramadhaan, there will be several optional activities offered by the school to encourage students to get the most out of this holy month. This includes:

- A special Ramadhaan Challenge for each day of the holy month.
- Activities to listen to and reflect on the stories from the Qur'aan.
- Special Assemblies and Spiritual Weekly Circles at lunchtime.
- Activities and competitions to learn more about Ramadhaan and its importance, including Laylatul Qadr (Night of Power).
- Fundraising for charity. We will be asking each student who is fasting to consider offering their lunch money to charity each day. Further details will be provided on this in the coming weeks.
- An opportunity for students to prepare and give an Eid gift pack to another student as well as to the homeless and the elderly in our local community.
- Activities to learn about the blessings of the festival of Eid-ul-Fitr, which will mark the end of Ramadhaan.

### **Charity Programme 2021**

In addition to the daily acts of donating lunch money (outlined above), we will also have an official Ramadhaan Charity Programme to raise funds for orphans and donate Eid Gifts for children affected by the conflict in Syria as well as support efforts to tackle poverty in the UK.

Ramadhaan is a time to be grateful for the countless bounties with which we have been bestowed. It is a time for giving and gaining extra reward as each good action is multiplied during this noble month. It is also an opportunity to remember those in our communities and around the world who are in great need and are not as fortunate as ourselves.

We are keen for our students to learn about charitable giving during this blessed time, so would really appreciate your support with this.

We will provide more details of our Ramadhaan Charity Programme in a letter to parents in the coming weeks. We hope that you will encourage your daughter to participate in these activities fully. Thank you for your vital support with this – we sincerely appreciate it.

Finally, with Sha'baan coming to an end and Ramadhaan starting soon, I would like to ask for your prayers for the school over the next few weeks. I pray that the Almighty grants us all the ability to value every single moment of the coming days and to undertake only those actions which please Him and refrain from those that displease Him. Aameen.

Yours sincerely,



Sajid Khaliq  
Principal