

Directorate of Government Schools Reviews Short Review Report

Um Al-Qura Primary Intermediate Girls School Al-Nuwaidrat - Capital Governorate Kingdom of Bahrain

> Date of Review: 27-29 April 2015 SG020-C3-R011

Introduction

The Directorate of Government Schools Reviews (DGS), which is a part of the National Authority for Qualifications and Quality Assurance of Education and Training (QQA), conducted this review over three days by a team of eight reviewers. During the review, reviewers observed lessons and other activities, scrutinised students' written works and analysed the school's performance data and other documents. They spoke to the staff, students and parents. This report summarises their findings and recommendations.

Summary of review judgements									
Outstanding 1	Good 2 Satisfactory 3	3	Inadeq	uate 4					
	Grade								
	Elementary / Primary	Middle / Intermediate	High / Secondary	Overall					
Quality of outcomes	Students' academic achievement	3	3	-	3				
	Students' personal development	2	2	-	2				
Quality of processes	Teaching and learning	3 3		-	3				
	Students' support and guidance	2	2	-	2				
Quality assurance of outcomes and processes	Leadership, management and governance	2	2	-	2				
Capacity to improve			2						
The school's overall effectiveness			3						

The chart demonstrates the school's overall effectiveness throughout the review cycles.



Grade	Relative words used	Interpretation					
Outstanding	All / Almost all	Indicates completeness and comprehensiveness/about to reach completeness and comprehensiveness.					
	The vast majority	Indicates an amount that exceeds most.					
Good	Most	Indicates an amount that exceeds majority.					
Satisfactory	Majority / Adequate / Suitable / Variable	Indicates more than average.					
	Minority / Few	Indicates less than average.					
Inadequate	Limited	Indicates less than minority.					
	Very limited	Indicates scarcity/rarity.					
	None	Indicates unavailability/nothing.					

Percentile words used in relation to different judgements

□ School's overall effectiveness 'Satisfactory'

Judgement justifications

- Students achieve high success and proficiency rates in Cycle 1, and high success rates in core subjects in Cycles 2 and 3, except in Grade 9 mathematics. Proficiency rates are inconsistent in Cycles 2 and 3, being between high and average, and low in English in Grades 6 and 8 and in mathematics in Grade 9.
- Students' acquisition of basic skills in all three Cycles is variable. The least skills acquired are in mathematical and geometry skills as well as composition in English in Cycles 2 and 3.

- Most students are self-confident and enthusiastically participate in school life. They work together in harmony.
- Personal and academic support programmes that meet the needs of different groups of students, particularly inclusion students, are effective.
- There is reinforcement of most students' experiences and interests through various effective extracurricular activities.
- The self-evaluation processes and strategic planning, which focus on achieving the school's vision and mission, are of good quality.

- Teaching and learning strategies and utilisation of educational resources in outstanding and good lessons, which form approximately half of the lessons observed, were effective.
- Teachers' utilisation of time is erratic, as is their making use of assessment results in supporting and meeting

students' different needs, especially low achievers.

• Parents' participation in completing the e-questionnaire, though of limited number, reflects students and their parents' satisfaction with the school's provision.

Main positive features

- Senior leadership's awareness, the quality of strategic planning, and motivation of the school staff.
- Harmonious relations among students, their self-confidence and their enthusiastic participation in school life.
- The effectiveness of support and guidance programmes and availability of a wide range of extra-curricular activities that promote students' various interests and experiences.

Recommendations

- Develop students' basic skills, particularly in English and mathematics in Cycles 2 and 3.
- Implement more effective teaching and learning strategies, where lessons are studentcentred with a focus on:
 - utilising assessment results to meet students' educational needs
 - supporting low achieving students
 - optimal utilisation of time to ensure better productivity within lessons.
- Address the shortage in human resources represented in:
 - senior teachers for classroom teaching and mathematics
 - learning difficulties and gifted student specialists.

□ Capacity to improve 'Good'

Judgement justifications

- The common vision and quality of strategic planning is based on an accurate and comprehensive selfevaluation.
- Senior leadership inspires and encourages the staff and has the ability to create leaders among teachers and

students, who participate in leading developmental projects at school.

- The quality of students' personal development, and the effectiveness of support and guidance programmes provided to them, is sound.
- Most classroom educational practices have improved, due to following up the previous review recommendations.
- Cooperation between the school's senior leadership and the stakeholders enables it to face challenges, such as:
 - students' density in classrooms
 - the shortage of human resources represented in senior teachers for classroom teaching and mathematics, as well as gifted and learning difficulties specialists.

Appendix: Characteristics of the school

Name of the school (Arabic)		أم القرى الابتدائية الإعدادية للبنات												
Name of the school (English)		Um Al-Qura Primary Intermediate Girls School												
Year of establishment			1990											
Address			Building 81 - Road 44 - Al-Newydrate 624											
Town /Village / Governorate			Al-Newydrate - Capital											
School's Contacts		17701925				Fax					17702838			
School's e-mail		umalqura.in.g@moe.gov.bh												
School's website		-												
Age range of students		6-15 years												
Grades (e.g. 1 to 12)		Primary				Middle					High			
		1-6			7-9					-				
Number of students		Boy	S	_		Girls 708			То	tal	708			
Students' social background			Most students come from middle-income families											
Classes per grade	Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	Classes	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	4	3	-	-	-	
Number of administrative staff		17 administrative and 4 technicians												
Number of teaching staff		60												
Curriculum		Ministry of Education (MoE)												
Main language(s) of					Arabic								
Principal's tenure in th	incipal's tenure in the school			3 years										
External assessmer examinations	nt and	d MoE's examinations and QQA's National examinations and QQA's National examinations and QQA's National examples and the second					examinations							
Accreditation (if applicable)								-						
Major recent changes in the school			 Changes in 2014/2015: a second deputy is appointed an inclusion class is added transferring the gifted and talented teacher without providing a substitute. 											