



Education Plan

2024 - 2027

For more information regarding Al Faruq Islamic School *2024-2027 Three Year Education Plan*, please contact:

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You can view this document on our website at: www.alfaruqislamicschool.com

Accountability Statement

The Education Plan for Al Faruq Islamic School was prepared under the direction of the Board in accordance with its responsibilities under the Private Schools Regulation and the Education Grants Regulation. This document was developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board has used the results reported in the document to the best of its abilities, to develop the education plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the plan to improve student learning and results.

Al Faruq Islamic School 2024-2027 Budget can be accessed from www.alfaruqislamicschool.com

The Board has approved this Education Plan on May 30, 2025.

Abdirazak Said
Downtown Islamic
Association
Executive Director

Downtown Islamic Association (DIA) - Al Faruq Islamic School

Founded in 1998, the **Downtown Islamic Association (DIA)** is a Canadian, independent, faith-based charitable organization committed to serving Muslim communities through inclusive programs, spiritual services, and educational initiatives such as Al Faruq Islamic School. DIA creates welcoming spaces that promote personal growth, lifelong learning, and community empowerment.

DIA's mission centers on nurturing strong, engaged Muslim individuals who actively contribute to the fabric of Canadian society. Through partnerships with diverse cultural and faith groups, DIA works to strengthen neighbourhoods, foster mutual respect, and build bridges across communities.

Our approach is rooted in the holistic principles of Islam, emphasizing compassion, integrity, and social responsibility. DIA encourages a balanced understanding of faith that aligns with Canadian values, institutions, and traditions. We believe that fostering well-rounded individuals—spiritually, intellectually, and socially—is essential to building vibrant and resilient communities.

DIA & Al Faruq Islamic School Expansion Update

The **Downtown Islamic Association (DIA)** currently operates **Al Faruq Islamic School – South Campus**, located on the **5-acre property purchased outright in 2016**, for approximately 1.5M at:

4410 127 Street SW, Edmonton, AB T6W 1A2

In addition to our in-person program, we also provide **online learning** to serve families who cannot access the centre due to distance limitations, such as in COVID days, with a certified teacher through video conferencing, directly linked to the classrooms in the South.

North East Campus – Opening 2026/2027

We are preparing to open a **second location in Northeast Edmonton** for the **2026–2027 academic year**:

12903 54 Street, Edmonton, AB T5A 5E5

To ensure compliance and readiness, we are actively working on:

- **Accreditation with Alberta Education**
- **Municipal zoning approvals with the City of Edmonton**
- **Regulatory requirements with Alberta Health Services (AHS)**

Interim Programming

While preparations are underway, **some of our online learners** will benefit from:

- **Religious studies blocks and Islamic learning seminars** at the upcoming North site.
- **Community gatherings and special events** at the South campus.

This expansion is part of our commitment to **accessible, high-quality Islamic education** that serves families across Edmonton.

Educational Commitment

Providing high-quality educational alternatives is a top priority for DIA. We are deeply invested in giving parents the ability to choose the educational paths that best serve their children's needs. Our educational framework is built on two foundational principles:

1. **Every child has leadership potential.** Inspired by the prophetic saying, *"Each of you is a shepherd, and each of you is responsible for his flock,"* we aim to instill a sense of accountability, confidence, and agency in every student.
2. **Every individual has capacity.** With the right support and nurturing environment, that potential can be developed and realized.

DIA's educational model is designed to guide students through all stages of growth—from early childhood to adolescence—with a focus on:

- Enhancing academic achievement and spiritual awareness
- Strengthening moral and ethical foundations
- Building civic engagement and community connection
- Encouraging responsibility and self-motivation

Strategic Focus Areas

Our strategic planning is guided by the following objectives:

1. Creating Safe and Inclusive Learning Environments

- Acquire or lease modern facilities tailored to the needs of our schools and community programs
- Maintain a welcoming, secure, and inclusive atmosphere conducive to effective learning

2. Ensuring Financial Accountability and Growth

- Implement clear financial protocols for budgeting, reporting, and auditing
- Allocate resources effectively to maximize impact
- Develop new revenue streams to maintain financial health and sustainability

3. Promoting Excellence in Teaching and Learning

- Develop leadership opportunities for students both in classrooms and school-wide
- Introduce engaging academic programs that encourage forward-thinking and problem-solving
- Embed strong character development and Islamic values into the curriculum
- Attract, support, and retain dedicated educators and staff who embody our vision

4. Strengthening Organizational Leadership and Capacity

- Encourage stewardship and responsibility at all levels of the organization
- Share proven strategies and best practices across the organization.
- Continually evaluate and refine programs to enhance quality and effectiveness

With a firm foundation and a forward-looking vision, **DIA's Al Faruq Islamic School continues to grow as a beacon of education, service, and spiritual connection for the Edmonton Muslim community and beyond.**

Our Education Plan

At **Al Faruq Islamic School**, operated by the Downtown Islamic Association (DIA), our Education Plan outlines clear strategic priorities aimed at fostering continuous improvement and ensuring meaningful, successful learning experiences for all students. This plan is guided by thoughtful actions and reflective practices rooted in the five interconnected domains of Alberta's Assurance Framework and is fully aligned with the school's **2024–2025 budget**.

The development of this plan is informed by a range of **evidence-based data**, including the Annual Education Results Review (AERR), Student Learning Assessments (SLA), stakeholder feedback, and other localized performance measures. These insights guide our mission to deliver **high-quality teaching and learning** that supports holistic student growth and measurable academic achievement.

We recognize the unique context of delivering **Islamic education within an accredited Alberta school system**, and we continuously refine our approach to address the diverse learning needs of our students. Our curriculum adheres to Alberta Education's requirements while integrating Islamic values and principles. The school fosters **academic excellence** through developmentally appropriate standards that help each student achieve their personal best.

Key pillars of our educational programming include:

- Mastery of foundational knowledge across core subject areas
- Character and spiritual development grounded in Islamic teachings
- A strong emphasis on service, civic engagement, and respect for diversity

Our commitment to community responsiveness drives us to **build internal capacity**, strengthen school culture, and remain agile in meeting evolving needs. A continuous improvement model—built on cycles of inquiry, applied research, purposeful action, and reflective evaluation—ensures that our strategic efforts remain focused, responsive, and impactful.

Through this Education Plan, DIA's Al Faruq Islamic School reaffirms its dedication to nurturing confident, capable students who are grounded in faith and prepared to contribute positively to Canadian society.

Assurance Domain #1: Student Growth and Achievement

School Priorities:

1. Academic Excellence within an Islamic Framework

- Al Faruq Islamic School is committed to being a *community school of academic excellence*, where students achieve high standards in core subjects while being nurtured in a values-based Islamic environment.

2. Islamic Character and Leadership Development

- Students are expected to demonstrate strong *Islamic character and leadership qualities*, integrating faith into daily practice and embodying the principles of honesty, respect, and responsibility.

3. Specialization in Quran, Arabic, and Islamic Studies

- All students benefit from a *comprehensive and specialized curriculum* in Quran, Arabic language, and Islamic Studies, fostering both fluency and deep understanding of faith.

4. Support for English Language Learners (ELL)

- Targeted interventions and supports are in place to ensure that *ELL students thrive academically* while integrating linguistically and socially into the school community.

5. Implementation of New Alberta Curriculum

- The school is actively *implementing the new Alberta Education Curriculum*, ensuring alignment with provincial standards while maintaining faith-based contextualization.

6. Curriculum Update at Al Faruq Islamic School

- As part of school improvement, *Kindergarten to Grade 6 English Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Physical Education and Wellness* will reflect the newly introduced curriculum changes at Al Faruq Islamic School, starting this academic year.

Outcome:

- Student learning, development, and academic growth are consistently supported through intentional strategies and assessments.

Strategies:

- **Arabic Language Instruction** for all students to build proficiency and cultural identity.
- **Integration of Islamic Studies and Quran** into daily routines and across subjects to nurture faith-based learning.
- **Literacy Integration** in English Language Arts (ELA) across grade levels through daily reading, writing, and comprehension strategies.
- **Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)** administered to Grades 6 and 9 students in the spring.
- **Student Learning Assessments (SLA)** administered to Grade 3 students in the fall.

- **Surveys** for students, parents, and staff conducted in the spring (provincial, national, and school-based).
- **Diagnostic Reading Assessments** administered in fall, winter, and spring to monitor reading development.
- **Math Assessments** conducted in the fall and spring to track numeracy progress.
- **Writing Assessment (HLAT)** administered school-wide in the spring.
- **Use of HLAT Writing Rubrics and Exemplars** to ensure consistency and clear expectations.
- **Empowering Writers Program** implemented as a writing framework across the grades.
- **ELL Professional Development and Mentoring** to support teaching practices for English Language Learners.
- **Professional Development on New Alberta Curriculum Implementation** to equip teachers with tools and understanding to deliver updated content effectively.

Assurance Domain #2: Teaching and Leading

School Priority

Al-Faruq Islamic School is guided by dedicated teachers and visionary leaders who strive for academic excellence and spiritual growth. Our priority is to cultivate future leaders who embody Islamic values, integrity, and service to their community.

Outcomes:

Al Faruq Islamic School learners are supported through **engaging, high-quality learning environments** that nurture both academic excellence and Islamic values. Students are provided with meaningful **opportunities for Islamic leadership, character development, and community involvement**, preparing them to thrive as responsible Muslims and contributing members of society.

Strategies – Al Faruq Islamic School

- **Professional Development & Growth**
Ongoing staff training focused on both academic excellence and Islamic pedagogy, including individualized professional growth plans and whole-school development goals.
- **Teaching & Leadership Standards**
Commitment to high-quality teaching practices, mentorship, and continuous improvement aligned with Alberta Education standards, enhanced by Islamic leadership values.
- **Supervision & Support**
Regular supervision, classroom walkthroughs, constructive feedback, and mentorship to ensure quality instruction and student success.
- **Islamic Leadership & Character Building**
Structured opportunities for staff and students to engage in Islamic leadership, community service, and faith-based initiatives that strengthen identity and responsibility.
- **Curriculum & Instructional Planning**
Integration of the new Alberta Education Curriculum with Islamic values, supported by digital tools, instructional planning documents, and shared resources for staff.
- **Collaborative Learning Cycles**
Evidence-based teaching cycles, data-informed instruction, and collaborative planning among staff to strengthen student learning outcomes.

- **Technology & Digital Support**
Use of digital platforms and IT support to enhance learning delivery, communication, and resource accessibility for both staff and students.
- **Faith-Based Professional Development**
Specialized sessions and workshops for teachers on embedding Islamic principles into teaching practices, student engagement, and classroom management.

Measures – Al Faruq Islamic School

- **Provincial Student, Parent, and Teacher Surveys**
Participation in Alberta Education accountability and assurance surveys to gather feedback on school climate, teaching quality, and student learning.
- **Al Faruq School Community Surveys**
Annual internal surveys for students, parents, and staff to measure satisfaction, engagement, and areas for improvement.
- **Student Leadership & Islamic Character Development Rubrics**
Tools to evaluate growth in Islamic leadership, responsibility, and character-building opportunities provided to students.
- **Supervision & Evaluation**
Ongoing teacher supervision and performance evaluations to ensure instructional quality and professional growth.
- **Assessment Practices**
Use of pre-assessments, formative assessments, and summative assessments to monitor student progress and guide instruction.
- **Continuous Improvement Data**
Collection of evidence and data from classroom observations, academic results, and feedback cycles to inform decision-making.

Assurance Domain #3: Learning Supports

School Priority:

Effective planning and delivery of **faith-based learning supports** that foster academic achievement, spiritual growth, and character development, ensuring that every Al Faruq Islamic School student is equipped to thrive both in their education and as contributing members of the Muslim community.

Outcomes:

Students at Al Faruq Islamic School are successful in achieving **academic excellence, strong Islamic character, and leadership skills**, preparing them to contribute positively to their community and society.

Strategies – Al Faruq Islamic School

Specialized Supports

- Access to **Program Unit Funding (PUF)** for early learners requiring developmental support
- Targeted assistance for students with low-incidence needs (e.g., Deaf/Hard of Hearing)
- **Occupational Therapy (OT)** and **Speech-Language Pathology (SLP)** services to address developmental and communication needs
- **Mental health supports and life coaching** to strengthen student resilience and well-being
- **Parent workshops and education** to promote awareness and engagement with specialized supports
- **Educational Assistants** supporting English Language Learners and students with diverse learning needs

Safe & Caring Learning Environment

- Integration of **Islamic character education and leadership opportunities** to promote values of respect, compassion, and responsibility
- School-wide focus on **student safety, well-being, and inclusivity**, ensuring a welcoming environment for all learners
- Adherence to **Alberta Health Services (AHS) and environmental public health guidelines** to maintain a safe and healthy campus

Measures – Al Faruq Islamic School

- **Provincial Student, Parent, and Teacher Surveys**
Participation in Alberta Education accountability and assurance surveys.
- **Al Faruq Community Surveys**
Annual internal surveys for students, parents, and staff to assess satisfaction, engagement, and growth areas.
- **Supervision & Evaluation**
Ongoing teacher supervision, classroom observations, and performance evaluations to ensure instructional quality and student success.

- **Assessment Practices**
Use of pre-assessments, formative assessments, and summative assessments to track student progress and guide instruction.
- **Student Well-Being & Supports**
Monitoring student access to learning supports and services (OT, SLP, PUF, etc.) to ensure needs are met.
- **Staff Training & Capacity**
Teachers and staff trained in **mental health literacy** and **first aid** to support student well-being and safety.

Assurance Domain #4: Governance

School Priority:

Al Faruq Islamic School is **well governed and effectively managed**, ensuring transparency, accountability, and alignment with both Alberta Education standards and Islamic values.

Outcomes:

Al Faruq Islamic School provides **high-quality educational services** through effective strategic planning, sound policy implementation, and responsible management of fiscal resources, all while upholding Islamic values and Alberta Education standards.

Strategies – Al Faruq Islamic School

- **Implementation of Al Faruq Islamic School's Vision and Mission**
Ensure all programs, policies, and initiatives reflect the school's Islamic values and Alberta Education standards.
- **Ongoing Communication with Stakeholders**
Maintain transparent and consistent communication with parents, staff, students, and the broader community.
- **Clear Governance Roles**
Define and uphold clarity in the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors, administration, and staff.
- **Responsible Financial Stewardship**
Manage and allocate fiscal resources effectively in alignment with school priorities and long-term growth.
- **Evidence-Based Decision Making**
Use data, assessments, and feedback to guide continuous school improvement.
- **Stakeholder Engagement**
Involve parents, staff, and community members through advisory committees, focus groups, and surveys to inform school direction.
- **Policy & Practice Review**
Regularly review feedback and adjust policies and practices to ensure accountability and responsiveness.
- **North East Campus Expansion**
Open the new **North East Edmonton location** with phased growth, starting in **Fall 2026–2027**, to meet the needs of a wider community.

Measures – Al Faruq Islamic School

- **Provincial Student, Parent, and Teacher Surveys**
Participation in Alberta Education accountability and assurance surveys.
- **Al Faruq Community Surveys**
Annual surveys for students, parents, and staff to gather feedback on learning, school culture, and satisfaction.
- **Stakeholder Feedback**
Input from families, staff, volunteers, and community members through advisory committees, meetings, and focus groups.
- **Continuous Improvement Data**
Collection and review of evidence from assessments, surveys, and stakeholder input to guide school policies and practices.

Assurance Domain #5: Local and Societal Context

School Priority:

Al Faruq Islamic School **actively engages stakeholders** and provides **comprehensive support to meet the diverse learning needs** of all students in alignment with Islamic values and Alberta Education standards.

Outcomes:

Stakeholders at Al Faruq Islamic School are **actively engaged in supporting the diverse academic, social, and spiritual needs of students**, ensuring their success within both Alberta Education standards and an Islamic learning environment.

Strategies – Al Faruq Islamic School

- **Integration of Islamic Principles**
Embed Qur'an, Sunnah, and Islamic values into all aspects of teaching, learning, and school culture.
- **Islamic Leadership Development**
Provide students with meaningful opportunities to practice leadership through service, community involvement, and faith-based initiatives.
- **Compassionate Support for Families**
Maintain funds and resources to assist families in financial need, ensuring equitable access to education.
- **Commitment to Reconciliation**
Develop and apply First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) knowledge and perspectives in the curriculum to contribute to reconciliation.
- **Mental Health & Wellness**
Promote mental health awareness, resilience, and wellness programs for students, staff, and families in a supportive, faith-centered environment.

Measures – Al Faruq Islamic School

- **Provincial Student, Parent, and Teacher Surveys**
Participation in Alberta Education accountability and assurance surveys.
- **Al Faruq Community Surveys**
Annual surveys of students, parents, and staff to assess satisfaction, engagement, and school improvement needs.
- **Stakeholder Feedback**
Ongoing input from families, staff, volunteers, and community members through meetings, focus groups, and advisory committees.
- **Fundraising & Resource Allocation**
Tracking of fundraising efforts and financial stewardship to ensure resources are allocated responsibly and equitably.