



Our Ref: AM/hph/OFSTEDAR 2017

AlJumaa 23 Muharram 1439 AH | Friday 13 October 2017

**By Hand via Pupils**

**Dear Parents/Guardians**

*As-salaamu 'alaikumwa-rahmatullahiwa-barakatuhu*

**Re: OFSTED Court of Appeal Ruling**

We hope and pray that this letter finds you in the very best of imaan and health.

You will already be aware of legal proceedings relating to an Ofsted report of Al-Hijrah school from mid-2016 and publicity regarding some of the issues involved.

The Court of Appeal has now reached a decision and you may already have seen this in the news or heard it discussed.

It is therefore important that you hear the facts from us.

The court upheld Ofsted's appeal about sex discrimination, meaning it decided that gender separation at mixed schools is unlawful. I understand that you will be concerned about what this means for the school and your child's education.

The court made it clear that schools must be given time to address the findings given that there has previously been no suggestion from either Ofsted or the Department for Education that this is a concern. However, while there will be no immediate changes, given that the ruling means gender separation at mixed schools is unlawful, the matter does still urgently need addressing.

We are very grateful for the ongoing support of Birmingham City Council which has been very open and very clear about their commitment to ensuring that Al-Hijrah School continues to prosper.

There will be an opportunity to discuss these issues further at our regular Head Teacher meetings and parents are always welcome to come into school to meet Senior staff to discuss these or any other issues.

Finally, may we assure you that as always, and as shown by our excellent results, our staff are continuing to manage the various issues that have arisen over the last two years and to focus on pupils and their progress, growth and achievements.

Jazak'Allah hu khayrun for your continuous support and cooperation.

*Wa salaam*

**Br. Arshad Mohammed**

Head Teacher

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