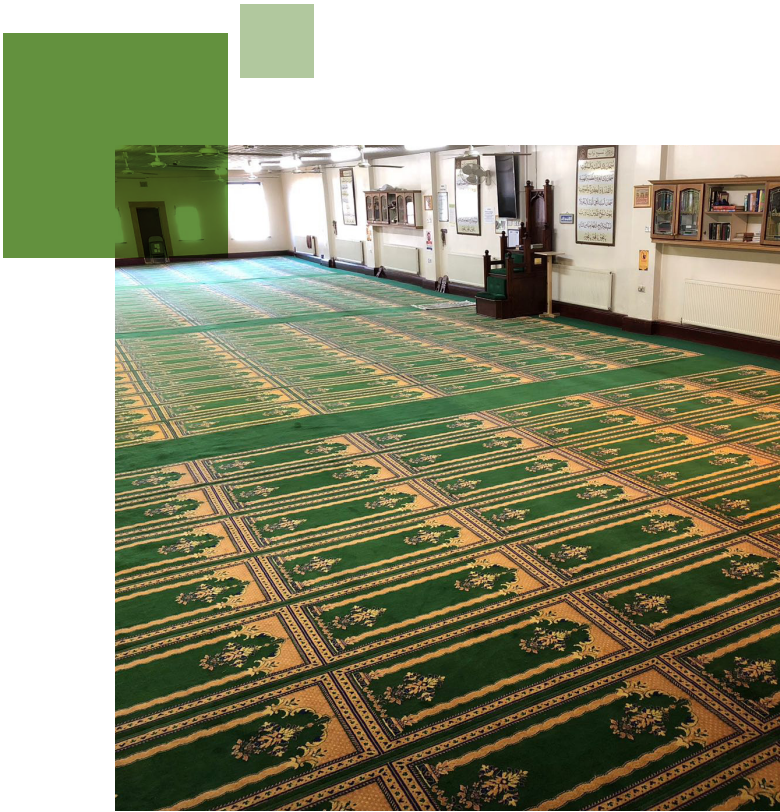




Madrassah  
Taleemul Islam



Foundation  
Programme Guide  
on Islamic Education



Main prayer hall

## **Assalaamu Alaikum,**

Masjid Bilal is an integral part of the community it serves in the Manningham, Girlington and surrounding area. Along with holding five daily prayers, the Mosque also has facilities for funeral prayers, bereavement services for both men and women, and Madrassah for boys and girls which accommodates over 250 students. I am proud to share the fact we are a diverse community serving people from various backgrounds and cultures. We have a warm and welcoming environment which helps those attending the Mosque feel comfortable and secure. This helps build trust and unity in the wider-community.

As a student at Masjid Bilal, you will become part of our diverse community joining a group students at varying stages of their journey in achieving completion of the foundation programme in Islamic Studies. This is a good foundation which covers the basics of ones duties as a Muslim. It is also sufficient to go on further for higher education in Islamic Studies or enrol at a Madrassah or Institute to complete the syllabus in becoming a qualified scholar (Aalim).

As one of Bradford's major and central Mosques, you will enjoy the varying experiences and connections we have to offer from addressing a multitude of issues and concerns from cultural and traditional, to providing opportunities for you to build and develop invaluable skills. Masjid Bilal is a diverse and inclusive Mosque and Madrassah and we are extremely proud of all our staff, students and congregation who join us from all over the city. I hope that you will join us for this important step and journey in serving humanity whilst pleasing our creator.

**From the Committee,  
Imams,  
and Principal.**

# Education and Knowledge in Islam

The purpose of Islamic education is not to overload the student's head with facts but to prepare them for a life of purity and sincerity. This commitment to character-building, based on the ideals of Islamic ethics, is the highest goal of Islamic education. This helps prepare each individual as a member of a society that both supports and serves humanity. To help achieve this, students are taught with two aims; **1)** to educate each student to a level wherein they can fulfil the rights of their creator (**Huqooqullah**) in the way of their belief (**Aqaaid**) and worship (**Ibaadat**). **2)** to build a strong foundation of recognizing and fulfilling the rights of the creation (**Huqooq Ul Iba'd**) in the way of good character (**Akhlaaq**), social responsibility (**Ma'sharaat**), and financial dealings (**Ma'malaat**).

In Islam, the duty of seeking knowledge and learning is obligatory for every Muslim, without gender discrimination. Knowledge can be broadly divided into two types, one is the knowledge of religion, and the second is the knowledge required by the community. It is the duty of every parent that we educate our children with proper knowledge of both. With regards to religious knowledge, we have outlined briefly above. The second type of knowledge is the knowledge required by the community i.e. knowledge that qualifies a person to become a builder, civil servant, doctor, engineer, lawyer, nurse, scientist, teacher, plumber or electrician etc. This too is required for the betterment of the community and society. But when acquiring any knowledge we should make sure that it brings one closer to almighty Allah, and not make one distant and taken further away.



Islam is more than just worship and going to the Mosque of which much of it also covers the obligatory worship (Fardh). Islam is a way of life which supports humanity and the betterment of the community. This is done primarily through charitable giving (Sadaqah). This is not just about giving money of which it has been reported of British Muslims giving over £100 million to charity in the holy month of Ramadhan alone in 2017. This figure equates to £38 being given per second during the month. Even though this is spent on those in need, less fortunate around the world, and for the running of Mosques and Madrassahs, there are other variations and methods of charity. Respecting and or helping the elderly with their daily necessities, clearing a path for others, being kind to children, picking up rubbish/litter, smiling and showing good character, giving way or opening a door for someone, etc. are all classed as charity. The best form of charity is that which is continuous wherein the benefits to the community are ongoing. This could be the likes of a Well providing clean water, building or financially supporting a Mosque or Madrassah to help in the cultivation of young Muslims to support and contribute to their community, a hospital, orphanage, etc. The most rewarding of all these are to teach and educate our children in Islam (Dheen) which is both an ongoing charity (Sadaqah) for us, as well as being the best of optional worship (Nafl Ibaadat).

We emphasise in teaching and nurturing our students in both knowledge and character so that they may become an investment for both us as parents and the community in the form of sincere and committed individuals. This we aim to do by giving a good and strong foundation from which they have the means and tools to take this further in becoming a positive contributor to their community and wider society.



# The Foundation Programme

We have broken down The Foundation Programme in Islamic Studies we offer in to simple modules which outline the units that make up each module along with a brief purpose and objective for those Units that are not obvious and are asked about. Although there are additional topics and units, listed below are the necessary units which have to be completed in order to complete the relevant module and subsequent course. This programme has been put together with the units making up the modules which are outlined in related topics and fields. These are broken down and taught at varying levels over the years and not necessarily in the order listed below. This has been done merely to simplify and outline the outcome of the course.

## Module 1

### Arabic alphabet, morphology, syntax

Unit 1: Learn, recognise, and correctly pronounce the Arabic alphabet.

Unit 2: Complete Qai'dha with full Tajweed, recognition of its rules for implementation, pausing, and stopping.

Unit 3: Recite the Qura'n with fluency, full Tajweed, and recognition of its rules for implementation.

(Additional units include reciting the Qura'n daily to achieve fluency.)

## Module 2

### Memorisation of essentials

Unit 1: The Five pillars of Islam

Unit 2: Seven Kalimas

Unit 3: Essential Daily Duas

Unit 4: Eighteen Surahs

Unit 5: Forty Hadith

Unit 6: The Islamic Months – Key and important dates

(Additional units include memorising additional Duas, Surahs, Hadith, 99 Names of Allah, and 99 Names of the beloved Prophet Etc. for those showing an interest.)

## Module 3

### Essential History

Unit 1: Seerat e Paak of the beloved Prophet Muhammad.

Unit 2: The companions of the beloved Prophet Muhammad  
- The four Caliphs.

Unit 3: The big Prophets.

Unit 4: The four Imams.

Unit 5: Journey of Islam - From first creation to the day of resurrection.

Unit 6: Good character, etiquette, and chivalry.

## Module 4

### Jurisprudence in acts of worship & theology in Islamic creed

Unit 1: Cleanliness and being Paak - How to perform Wudhu and Ghusl.

Unit 2: How to perform Namaz - including Janaza and Eid Namaz.

Unit 3: Fiqh of worship including the five pillars and its associated subsidiaries.

Unit 4: Aqaaid

### Full Madrassah Core Syllabus

SUBJECT	Reception Qaida	Senior Qaida	Beginner Quran	Intermediate Quran	Senior Quran
		Revision of Previous Years	Revision of Previous Years	Revision of Previous Years	Revision of Previous Years
KALIMAHS	Tau'z & Bismillah First Kalimah	Fourth Kalimah Fifth Kalimah	Tau'z, Bismillah, & Four Kalimas with meanings	Seven Kalimas with meanings	Islamic Months with key dates
	Second Kalimah	Imani Mujmal		Islamic Months with key dates	<i>After compulsory / core Syllabus Duas, Kalimahs, Surahs, A' &amp; P' Names etc. are satisfactorily covered – additional Surahs and Duas to be covered along with topics / Subjects covered in further detail. Further topics would be Usool of Tafseer &amp; Hadith.</i>
	Third Kalimah	Imani Mufassal	On hearing good news	When wearing new clothes / Getting Dressed	
DUAS	Before Eating	Entering & leaving home	Before, during, & after Wudhu	When looking in the mirror	
	After Eating	On Entry & Exit of Masjid	After hearing the Azaan	Entering Market / Town / Mall	
	Entry & After Exit of Toilet	Sneezing – Intend Something	After drinking milk	Seeing difficulty – Bad experience	
	Before & After Sleeping	After drinking water	When getting on transport & when traveling	When angry – When in difficulty	
SURAHS (With full Tajweed & Mashk)		Surah Fatiha	Surah Lahab	Surah Ma'oon	Surah Takaathur
		Surah Ikhlaas	Surah Nasr	Surah Kuraysh	Surah Qaari'ah
		Surah Falaq	Surah Kaafiroon	Surah Feel	Surah Aadhiyaat
		Surah Naas	Surah Kawthar	Surah Humazah & Asr	Surah Zilzal & Bayyinah
FIQH	Full Practical Wudhu	Full Practical Salah	Full Salah	Janaza & Eid Salah	Practical Full Janaza
	Salah Names	Thana, Tashahhud, Azaan	What breaks Salah	Scenarios of late / Sajda Sahw	Practical Hajj & Umrah
	Ruku & Sajda	Faraidh & Mufsidaat of Wudhu	Learn and understand Fiqh, cover topics in depth from syllabus	Learn and understand Fiqh, cover topics in depth from syllabus	Learn and understand Fiqh, cover topics in depth from syllabus
		Tas-Heelul Fiqh 1	Tas-Heelul Fiqh 2	Tas-Heelul Fiqh 3 & 4	Tas-Heelul Fiqh 5 & 6 (7)
AQAID	Basic Aqaaid on Tawheedh	Learn and understand Aqaaid, cover topics in depth from syllabus	Learn and understand Aqaaid, cover topics in depth from syllabus	Learn and understand Aqaaid, cover topics in depth from syllabus	Learn and understand Aqaaid, cover topics in depth from syllabus
	(Meaning of First & Second Kalimah explained)				
		About a Mother	Intention - Manners - Salaam	Happiness of Parents	Brotherhood - Non-concerning
40 HADITH (Memorise with meaning)		On Eating	Anger - Kindness	Animal Care - Mercy	Companionship - Trust
	What is Hadith	On Truth	Advice - Dua - Silence	Feed Poor/ Salaam - Humbleness	Permission sitting - Eat Halal
		On Beauty	Relations - Modesty - Icons	Gratefulness - Cursing - Laughing	Belief in Allah
		On Charity	Cleanliness - Health - Time	Admiration - Suspicion - Hate	5 Hadith on Prophet's Character
TAREEKH	Who was the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)	Basic Seerat of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)	In-Depth Seerat / 4 Kaliphs / & Major Prophets	In-Depth Seerat / 4 Kaliphs / & Major Prophets	4 Imams & Aqaaid
	Names of some Major Prophets	About Major Prophets	Cover history outlined in syllabus including good character, manners, and chivalry	Cover history outlined in syllabus including good character, manners, and chivalry	Cover history outlined in syllabus including good character, manners, and chivalry
		Four Kaliphs			
		Tas-Heelut Tareekh 1	Tas-Heelut Tareekh 2	Tas-Heelut Tareekh 3 & 4	Tas-Heelut Tareekh 5 & 6 (7)

# Purpose / Objective for some Units that are frequently asked about

## Memorising The Kalimas

The five Kalimas (statements) with an additional two are taught for the purpose of instilling in a child's heart the roots of faith (Iman) and belief (Aqidah).

The first two of the five Kalimas are necessary and important for every Muslim, for it is bearing testimony (Shahadah) on the fact that there is no God but Allah, and Muhammad (Allah bless him & give him peace) is his Prophet and Messenger.

The third Kalimah is actually a Dhikr of Allah in glorifying and praising Him. There are great rewards promised in the Ahadith upon this Dhikr of Allah. The Companion Abu Hurairah (Allah be pleased with him) narrates that the Messenger of Allah said: "That I say "Subhan Allah wal hamdu li Allah wa la ilaha illa Allah wa Allahu Akbar" is more beloved to me than whatever the sun has shed its light on." (Meaning its rewards are more beloved to me than the whole universe and whatever it contains). (Sahih Muslim, 2695 and Sunan Tirmizi, 3591)

The wording of the fourth Kalimah has also been mentioned in the Hadith. Sayyiduna Abu Ayyub al-Ansari (Allah be pleased with him) relates that the Messenger of Allah (Allah bless him & give him peace) said: "Whosoever says: "La ila ha illa Allah wahdahu la sharik lah lahu al-mulk wa lahu al-hamd wahuwa ala kulli shay in qadir" ten times, will receive the reward of freeing four slaves from the children of Isma'il (Allah bless him)." (Sahih al-Bukhari, 6404 and Sahih Muslim, 2693)

The fifth Kalimah is a supplication (Dua) in disapproving of disbelief (Kufr) and seeking protection of Allah from associating any partners with Him.

Now, the first two or one of the two Kalimas are essential and must be taught to the children, as they represent the basic belief of Islam. However, the other three Kalimahs are the words of Dhikr and Dua. The additional two Kalimas of Iman-e Mujmal and Iman-e Mufassal are declarations of one's Iman (Faith).



# Memorising Surahs from The Quran

Students memorise Surahs from the Quran as this is what we read when praying our Namaz. Memorising the Quran is a form of worship in itself which is highly rewarding as it is the word of Allah. The Surahs they memorise are small Surahs with some moving on to specific bigger Surahs which have significance in the way of Barakah and protection.

# Memorising 40 Hadith

Although the narration of reward for memorising 40 Hadith is weak, the students memorise 40 short Hadith for two purposes; 1) The Hadith is a narration of the word or action of our beloved Prophet Muhammad, 2) The Hadith chosen are focused on good manners, etiquette, care and support of others which is given further importance and emphasis.

# Fiqh

The understanding of worship and compulsory duties as a Muslim derived from the Quran and Hadith. This is the five pillars of Islam, their rulings, and correct manner of performing.

# Memorising Daily Duas

Students memorise Duas which are read at varying times of the day from morning to evening. These Duas have been narrated by our beloved prophet Muhammad which are beneficial on two levels; 1) It is both a form of worship and a Sunnah which is rewarding, 2) Daily recitation of these Duas help in one being content, and protection against Shiatan, Nazar, and calamities.



# Memorising 99 Names of Allah

The Companion Abu Hurairah (Allah be pleased with him) narrates that the Messenger of Allah said: "Allah has ninety-nine names, whoever memorises them will enter paradise."

(Sahih al-Bukhari, 2736 and Sahih Muslim, 2677)

# Importance of Tahaarat and Being Paak (Cleanliness) in Islam

Muslims throughout the world have extremely high standards of personal hygiene, because Islam places great emphasis on both physical and spiritual, cleanliness and purification. While humankind in general usually considers cleanliness to be a pleasing attribute, Islam insists on it. Muslims are required to take care of their personal hygiene by assuring that they are well groomed, and that their bodies, clothing, and surroundings are clean. Prophet Muhammad, may the mercy and blessings of God be upon him, informed his companions and thus all of us, about the importance of cleanliness when he said, "cleanliness is half of faith." The Quran is more specific and says, "Truly, God loves those who turn unto Him in repentance and loves those who purify themselves." (Quran 2:222)

# Aqaaid

The principles of Aqeeda are those which Allah has commanded us to believe in, as mentioned in the Quran. The Muslim must believe in his heart and have faith and conviction, with no doubts or misgivings. Aqaaid forms a major and fundamental part of our being a Muslim.



Students sitting a written exam

# Additional Classes at Masjid Bilal

## Booster Classes for Mature Students

We are aware that not everyone is fortunate enough to have been through Madrassah and covered what has been outlined earlier in the Foundation Programme in Islamic Studies. Many adults have been to see us with varying requests of what they missed out on or units and or modules they would like to polish up on or learn from scratch. We can proudly say we have had some senior members of the community come forward to learn the Arabic alphabet with Tajweed and have successfully started reading the Quran now for the first time in their lives. This is down to the individuals' effort and commitment along with Masjid Bilal being open, welcoming, and accommodating. Others attend to learn various modules or units from Tajweed and fluency in their recitation to learning to read and understand Islamic books in Arabic on topics of Jurisprudence. Others have attended for a short period to rectify their Salah, pronunciation of Azaan, or memorise a few Surahs to recite whilst praying their Salah.

The booster classes are held daily, one starts before Zohar Salah with some joining after as the class carries on for a while after. Some classes are seasonal due to the fluctuations in the length of day as there is another class starting after 7:30 dependent on the time of year and subsequent Namaz. These classes are run by Ulema who are Teachers at the Madrassah in addition to being Imams. This is a huge sacrifice on their part for which we are forever grateful and is appreciated by us and the community.

## Higher Education Classes for Advanced Students

For students that have completed the Foundation Programme in Islamic Studies, we have set-up a higher education class for those students who are willing to study further. Alongside focusing on achieving further fluency in the recitation of Quran etc, these classes will be held on a weekend and cover topics from going further into understanding Islamic Jurisprudence and creed to understanding the Quran and its translation.

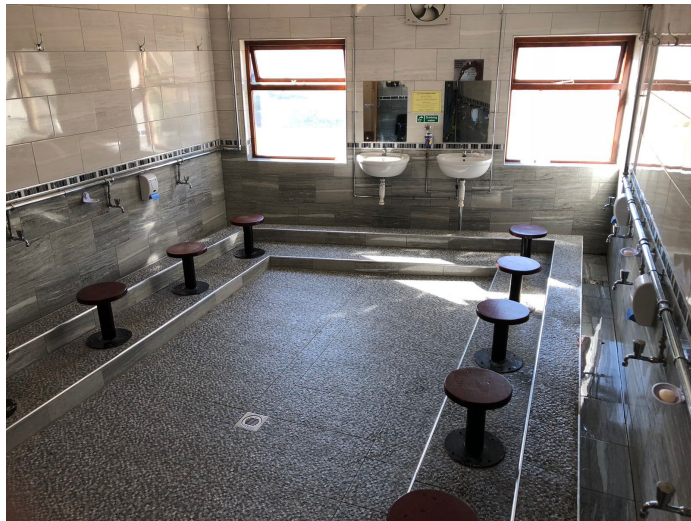
## Quran Tafseer

Every Sunday after the Zohar prayer, we have a gathering for Tafseer of the Holy Quran. This is delivered in English with in-depth commentary from various sources. This is and has been a great benefit to all those attending. Along with helping understand the Quran, it is also a tremendous means of refreshing ones belief in Allah and his beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). This is highly recommended for everyone from young students and young people to elders and seniors alike.

This is also broadcast live over our radio receivers for which the frequency is 454 . 075.

# Hifz Class

Memorizing the Qur'an is a dream many Muslim parents have for their children. Parents should be aware that doing Hifz of the Qur'an is not a small task. It requires a tremendous amount of effort, focus, and dedication on behalf of the student, parents, and the teacher. Therefore, when deciding whether or not to enrol your child in a Hifz class, you should make sure that you, the child, and the teacher are prepared for this huge and blessed commitment. However, first you, the parent, must make sure that you are willing to expend the time and effort needed to support your child during this endeavour. If not, it may not be best to put this responsibility on the child's shoulders. Of course, even if the parents and teacher put their maximum effort into helping a student, if the student is not willing to strive to achieve his or her goals, then there will be very little progress. The last thing we need is our child lowering the standard of the class and subsequently holding others back. Just being in a Hifz class will not make one a Hafiz.



Students Wudhu Area



Waiting Area for Parents

# Managing and Teaching the Hifz Class

The Hifz Ustaadh will do his part in helping the students achieve progress and success in memorizing the Qur'an. Some of the tasks will include:

- To set targets for the Hifz students and ensure they are regularly reviewed.
- To ensure all teaching is according to best practice.
- To carry out regular assessments of the students.
- To self-assess and on a periodic basis organise independent inspections to assess the quality of Hifz.
- To ensure regular progress reports on student's progress are sent to parents.
- To liaise with parents/carers to promote enthusiasm, interest, and support for memorizing the Qur'an.
- To devise and use a system to record the performance of students and the quality of learning, including the organisation of periodic independent inspections.

As you will be aware, each student will require a considerable amount of time at home to memorise the Qur'an. This will be over and above the time he spends in the Madrassah. We will get a better picture of what is involved in this endeavour when we break things down a little;

- The Quran consists of 850 pages, (when using the 13 lines per page copy). This is broken down in to 30 Paras, each Para consisting of 28 sides on average. That makes a quarter Para 7 sides on average.
- Reading one Para takes an average of 30 minutes to read. That would make reading a quarter Para 7.5 minutes on average and a page 1.5 minutes.
- To listen to one student reading half a side for Sabak, four sides of Sabak Para, and a quarter Para for Dhor, would take an average of 15 minutes per student. In a class of 10 students this would require 2.5 hours.
- To learn a new side of Sabak takes a student an average of 1 hour. (Times differ from student to student) This requires the student to read and learn in their own time outside of the time they have in class. Additional time is needed to go over their Sabak Para and then Dhor. Learning new Sabak is the easy part, the main objective is to retain it which requires consistent repetition through recitation. The ultimate goal is to then build on this by eventually understanding and following it.

There are great rewards and promises for those who have memorised the Qur'an and for their parents. This is because it is no small endeavour and one which requires a few hours a day at least of reciting the Qur'an. This is a sacrifice both child and parents take on hence both being very highly rewarded in the hereafter.



# Health and Safety

At Masjid Bilal, we comply with all the legal requirements set out in the 'Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage'. We work in line with the guidance and procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Government's statutory guidance 'Working Together to safeguard children'. All members of staff undergo an enhanced DBS check along with character references from bodies or personnel that are both reputable and known.

We keep up to date with all the relevant policies from safeguarding to health and safety and First Aid.

Periodically, our staffs are trained on relevant topics e.g. providing safe, supportive and positive environment for students, developing inspiring teaching practices, implementing character building strategies, classroom management, best practices in teaching etc. This is in addition to courses and refresher courses in Child Protection, Behaviour Management, and First Aid etc. which are accredited.



Our staff are educated and qualified in Islamic Studies to teach the relevant subjects in our course. This is in addition to holding other regular jobs or businesses which gives them the additional skills and experiences that they are able to call upon to better deliver essentials like good etiquette and manners to the students.

Our aim is to educate our students in a welcoming and trusting environment to help create future members of our society who will be leaders and a positive asset to their community. This we hope to achieve by working together with parents / guardians / carers so that we may provide the best support and nurturing for them.



## **Madrassah Taleemul Islam**

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