

Al Mustafa Academy & Humanitarian Society

2021-2026 Education Assurance Framework for Al Mustafa Academy and Humanitarian Society



2021-2026 Education Assurance Framework

Dear Education Partner,

We are proud to present to you the Education Plan for the Al Mustafa Academy and Humanitarian Society for the next five years. This document was developed in consultation with our education partners and stakeholders.

We have chosen to focus in this education plan on what we believe are key areas of discussion to inform our families and education partners on our future and current goals. The areas of discussion that you are presented with in this document covers the following topics: our local and societal context, our goals for student growth and achievement along with our plans to increase awareness around our First Nations communities, as well as our plans to achieve all of these goals with proper learning supports. Some of the goals mentioned in the plan are due for implementation as early as this coming school year (i.e. 2021-2022) and are highlighted accordingly in the Strategies section of each of the topics discussed in this document.

This Education Plan is an ambitious agenda but it reflects the goals of our community as we strive together to provide our children a sound education in an Islamic environment. We pray for the success of this plan as outlined, but we also appreciate that it is an ongoing project that is subject to revision and updates based on the feedback that we receive from our students, families and other education partners. We are committed to incorporating these changes into the plan to benefit our current and future students.

We take this opportunity to thank the government of Alberta and Alberta Education for allowing us the opportunity to articulate our goals for the education of our students in their school of choice through this platform.

Our focus is and will continue to be on meeting the needs and aspirations of our growing community. We remain confident that with Divine blessing and the continued support and input of our education partners that we will attain these goals, InshaAllah. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or comments.

Your partner in education,

Ebrahim H. Dhooma

Principal

M.Ed; B.A.(Hons.); Dipl.(Arabic/Islamic Studies)

Message from the Parent Council

Assalaamualaykum, Peace be with you.

My name is Dr. Ghassan Elzein and I was honored to have been selected by the parents of Al Mustafa Academy this year as the head of the school parent council. I am writing this letter to highlight the experiences of our families at the Al Mustafa Academy.

On a personal note, my children have been registered at the Al-Mustafa Academy for three years. I am confident that I represent the views of the families of Al Mustafa Academy when I say how proud we are of the progress Al Mustafa has made over the years. Building a school is based on strong relationships. This is an outstanding quality of this school. The school has an open door policy of engagement where families can keep in touch directly and in an accessible manner.

The Al Mustafa Academy serves the needs of our Edmonton Muslim community by offering our families not only the Alberta curriculum but also unique programming such as Advanced Quran Studies, Arabic language, and Islamic Studies under the guidance of experienced and distinguished teachers.

As families we are grateful for the regular communications we receive from the school, as well as opportunities to be involved in our how our children are educated. This report is a reflection of our close collaboration with the administration and board as well as our ambitions for our children. We pray for the successful implementation of its goals, inshaAllah.

We especially appreciate the efficient manner in which the school switched to online learning during the Pandemic. The school took many steps to support student learning during these past months. They delivered to our families learning materials for those who could not pick up the school work as well as offered computers for families who did not have them. The school even provided technical support for those families who are not familiar with computers. These efforts greatly helped our families during this difficult time. Our families also continue to enjoy an excellent relationship with the teaching staff.

The families at Al Mustafa School appreciate the efforts of Alberta Education in providing a choice in our children's education. We are grateful for the opportunity to educate our children in the safe and supportive environment of the Al Mustafa Academy.

Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to our board chair Mr. Syed Hassan and to our principal Mr. Ebrahim Dhooma as well as the entire staff of Al Mustafa Academy for their tireless efforts in educating our children in a compassionate and caring way. Indeed, our children are our future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ghassan Elzein

Message from the Board Chair

Assalaamualaykum (Peace Be With You)

Al Mustafa Academy prides itself in playing a pivotal role in our local community by providing a proper Islamic environment and quality educational experience for our children. We adhere to the Alberta Education Curriculum as well as offer a thorough training in the Islamic sciences to reflect the needs and aspirations of our local Muslim community. Our focus is to make our students lifelong learners that will be productive and valuable members of the Canadian and global societies.

Al Mustafa Academy has had quite a journey and has gone from holding classes in a mosque basement, community center, and finally to the two school buildings we currently occupy. Our student population has increased exponentially over the years. Throughout all of these changes we have continued to build a school with the needs of our students at the center of all our efforts. Our objective is to offer our students an education that will help them develop their character, fulfill their potential, and become excellent leaders which will allow them to contribute to the continued prosperity of our beloved country.

Today the school serves our growing community in two locations in Edmonton. Our goal is to collaborate with our community partners to provide expanded services that meet their emerging needs.

Al Mustafa Academy maintains robust academic and religious studies programs, and we are proud of the achievements of our students in both the religious and academic subjects.

This Education Plan is a reflection of the collaboration of the school with our stakeholders and community partners, and it represents our collective ambitions for the success of our students and community. It is our prayer that the goals outlined in it come to fruition.

Yours in Learning,

Syed Hasan
Board Chair

Accountability Statement

The Education plan for for the Al Mustafa Academy and Humanitarian Society commencing September 3, 2021 was prepared under the direction of the Board in accordance with its responsibilities under the Private Schools Regulation and the Education Grants Regulation. This plan was developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board has used its performance results to develop the plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the plan to improve student learning and results.

The Board approved the Education Plan for 2021- 2026 on May 30, 2021.



North Campus



South Campus

Foundation Statements

- Vision

To build an environment of good behavior coupled with Islamic education, to instill strong values; while at the same time, building an extremely strong Academic and multicultural program.

- Mission

To build an environment of excellent morals and strong academic standards while producing highly capable graduates excelling in all aspects of life.



A Profile of the School Authority

Al Mustafa Academy and Humanitarian Society (Al Mustafa Academy) is a religious, social, cultural, and non-profit organization that provides services and programs designed to assist in the educational and spiritual development of the Muslim individual and family. A primary tenet of the Al Mustafa Academy is community involvement and service not only with the Muslim community but with every community regardless of faith or background.

Al Mustafa Academy is dedicated to humanitarianism and to providing a high quality Islamic and secular education rooted in Canadian and Albertan values to the Edmonton community.

Al Mustafa Academy's roots are deeply enshrined in the message and teachings of the Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him). Its modern roots can be traced to the vigorous intellectual revivalist effort that took hold in Muslim societies starting in the early 20th Century. This revival aimed at reconciling faith with the challenges of modernity and providing a clear articulation of balance and moderation in understanding Islam. Al Mustafa Academy's core message concentrates on constructive engagement with society, focus on personal and communal empowerment, and organizational development.

Al Mustafa Academy is a wholly Canadian organization that operates only in Canada. Al Mustafa Academy cooperates with other like-minded organizations for the betterment of our members and the community as a whole. Al Mustafa Academy believes that maximizing the potential of every individual is key to the proper development of the community.



Social Project by Students at Home



Math Club



Fire Drill



Virtual FNMI Project by Students at Home



Virtual Class



Technology in the Library



Virtual Parent Teachers Meeting



Science Project by Students at Home



Neighborhood Cleanup Drive



In School and Online Students during Class



A Guest Speaker on Orange T-Shirt Day



Student using technology in Class



Virtual Live Class with Students

Local and Societal Context

School Priorities

1. Al Mustafa Academy will provide the Edmonton and surrounding area with a quality Islamic learning environment offering the Alberta curriculum as well as specialized subjects including Quran Studies, Islamic Studies and Arabic language
2. Al Mustafa Academy will serve the emerging learning needs of the Edmonton and surrounding area Muslim community based on Islamic and humanitarian values. All families who seek to provide their children an opportunity to learn in an Islamic environment will not be denied this request regardless of financial circumstance.
3. Al Mustafa Academy will work with community partners to identify and implement the learning needs of Muslim children in the Edmonton and surrounding area.
4. Al Mustafa Academy will serve as a culturally sensitive environment to facilitate the successful integration into Canadian society of our first generation students and their families.
5. Al Mustafa Academy staff will serve as a resource for the study of Islamic themed educational practices.
6. Al Mustafa Academy will provide an environment of excellent Islamic morals and strong academic standards.
7. Al Mustafa Academy will work with community partners to serve the needs of our students and their families and invest in resources and services to achieve this goal.
8. Al Mustafa Academy will produce highly capable graduates excelling in all aspects of life who will positively contribute to Canadian society while maintaining their Muslim identity.
9. Al Mustafa Academy students will have an understanding of the history, traditions, and current realities of our First Nation peoples including the legacy of the residential schools and treaty obligations impacting them.
10. Al Mustafa Academy students have a keen sense of being global citizens and 21st century learners.

Alberta Priorities

Local and Societal Context

Outcomes

1. Al Mustafa Academy is the school of choice for the Edmonton and local Muslim community
2. Al Mustafa Academy addresses the need of the Edmonton and local Muslim community for their children to be educated in a Muslim learning environment reflecting their Islamic values and which also promotes high academic standards.
3. Families are consulted in the development of plans and are apprised of their progress through various platforms.
4. Al Mustafa Academy acquires resources, facilities, personnel and services to address the needs and aspirations of the Edmonton and local Muslim community for the development and advancement of the learning needs of their children in a quality Islamic learning environment which promotes successful outcomes.
5. Al Mustafa Academy academic staff and religious scholars are recognized as a resource in providing information and knowledge to their peers regarding Islamic schools and Muslim student learning experiences.
6. Al Mustafa Academy students achieve outstanding results in curricular outcomes while developing proficiencies in the specialized programs offered by the school i.e. excellent Quranic recitation skills, a proper understanding of Islamic principles, acquiring Arabic language skills.
7. Al Mustafa Academy students achieve success in their learning journey and are recognized as positively contributing members of Canadian society who have a sound civic consciousness while maintaining their Muslim identity and values.
8. Al Mustafa Academy students are 21st century learners who can flourish in our contemporary and future work and learning environments.
9. Al Mustafa Academy students are spiritual, compassionate, tolerant and civic minded.
10. First generation and refugee children from our student population are demonstrating an understanding and comfort in their integration into Canadian society, as well as displaying a proper understanding of Canadian values and traditions.
11. Al Mustafa Academy students are informed about the history of our First Nations peoples as well as the issues facing them in contemporary Canadian society including the legacy of residential schools and treaty obligations. Al Mustafa Academy students express support and solidarity with our First Nations peoples in their pursuit of social justice.
12. Al Mustafa students display good civic mindedness and citizenship qualities in their daily lives.

Context

1. Al Mustafa Academy is a safe and caring learning environment for the Edmonton Muslim community where students can achieve their potential and be successful in society while maintaining their Islamic values.
2. Al Mustafa Academy's focus will be to provide our students with a quality learning experience in a safe and caring environment taught by competent teachers who have the training and resources to promote academic success and spiritual growth in students.
3. Al Mustafa Academy students will achieve academic and spiritual growth that will allow them to become positively contributing members of the Canadian and global societies.

Budgetary Principles

Al Mustafa Academy will provide resources to promote student achievement based on a thorough review of requirements and fiscal prudence.

Strategies for 2021- 2025 (Strategies to be implemented starting in 2021-2022 are identified with an asterisk):

1. Address the emergent needs of our learners.****
2. Respond to the learning priorities identified by our community and learning partners.****
3. Identify and respond to the priorities expressed by the Edmonton and local Muslim community for continued growth in learning opportunities and facilities for Muslim children in an Islamic learning environment.****
4. Refine and improve the learning environment for our students by enhancing learning programs offered, expanding extracurricular opportunities, investing in resources, upgrading infrastructure and facilities, and providing counseling supports for academic and personal advancement.****
5. Improve academic outcomes and increase proficiencies in the specialized subject areas i.e. Quran, Islamic Studies and Arabic.****
6. Increase the language proficiency of all ELL students by at least one level per academic year as per the criteria outlined in the Benchmarks of language proficiency.****
7. Add a numeracy focus to our existing strategy of improving fundamental learning skills in students.

Local Measures

1. Surveys will assess the impact of goals and also inform Al Mustafa Academy of the satisfaction level of students, families, staff and community partners.
2. Focus groups will inform the school of areas of concern that need to be addressed, changes required, and strategies to consider.
3. Graduation rates and the success of students in post-secondary environments.
4. Retention rates and recruitment patterns of students.

Provincial Measures

1. AERR results explaining student performance in different subject areas.
2. PAT and high school diploma exam results.
3. Provincial metrics relating to parent, student and teacher satisfaction showing how the school is meeting the learning needs of students in a safe and caring learning atmosphere
4. Provincial reports on how the school is maintaining fiscal and budgetary standards.

Data Used

1. Surveys
2. Feedback information
3. Focus group results
4. Analysis of performance in specific areas of concern
5. Academic results

Stakeholders

1. Students
2. Families
3. Staff
4. Community partners
5. Government agencies

Strategic Priority

Addressing the aspirations and needs of the Edmonton and local Muslim communities to educate their children to their potential in all subject areas in a safe and caring Islamic environment.

Student Growth and Achievement

School Priorities

1. Improve student performance and learning outcomes in all subject areas while preparing them to be 21st century learners and assets to their local and global communities.
2. Expand student knowledge and awareness of the First Nations of Canada, their history and heritage, contemporary issues facing them, as well as providing them information relating to the legacy of residential schools and treaty obligations towards First Nations peoples.

Alberta Priorities

1. Student Growth and Achievement.
2. Improved FNMI outcomes.

Outcomes

1. Every student is given the opportunity, means, and resources to achieve their potential.
2. Students meet or exceed provincial learning outcomes.
3. Teachers recognize and accommodate the uniqueness of all learners.
4. Teachers are regularly reviewing their teaching to adapt to the evolving needs of their students and to pursue best practices of instruction.
5. Teachers have the resources, training and opportunities to offer their students a meaningful learning experience.
6. Teachers work with their peers to share best practices and resources in order to achieve successful learning outcomes for their students.
7. Students are learning in a safe, comfortable and caring environment where they display respect, tolerance and empathy towards each other and the community.
8. Students are supporting and cooperating with their peers.
9. Students have access to and are benefitting from extracurricular opportunities allowing them to have an active, healthy and balanced learning experience as well as opportunities to display their talent and abilities.
10. Students demonstrate knowledge and skills that should allow them to succeed in 21st century learning and work environments, where they can also apply their knowledge, understanding and skills in real life contexts and situations with confidence.
11. Students achieve improved academic outcomes as well as greater proficiencies in the specialized subject areas i.e. Quran, Islamic Studies and Arabic language.
12. Families/parents are informed of student progress and are as an integral part of student learning.
13. Language proficiency of all ELL students is raised by at least one level per academic year as per the criteria outlined in the ELL Benchmarks of language proficiency.
14. First generation and refugee students are demonstrating an understanding and comfort in their integration into Canadian society, as well as displaying a proper understanding of Canadian values and traditions.
15. Al Mustafa Academy students are better informed about the history of our First Nations peoples as well as the issues facing them in

- contemporary Canadian society including the legacy of residential schools and treaty obligations impacting them.
16. Al Mustafa Academy students express support and solidarity with our First Nations peoples in their pursuit of social justice.
 17. Al Mustafa students experience opportunities to interact with First Nations peoples by attending cultural awareness sessions, engaging in culturally relevant activities, as well as visiting First Nation communities.

Context

1. Al Mustafa students will achieve their potential in a supportive and caring Islamic environment while building their capacity to prosper in a 21st century environment as proud Muslim Canadians.
2. Al Mustafa students will have deeper understandings of our First Nations communities, the issues facing them, and also be partners with them in their pursuit for justice and reconciliation.

Budgetary Principles

Al Mustafa Academy will provide resources to promote student achievement based on a thorough review of requirements and fiscal prudence.

Strategies for 2021- 2025

1. Provide additional supports and resources to staff in order for them to achieve improved results for all students in all subject areas. ****
2. Add a numeracy focus to our existing strategy of improving fundamental learning skills in students.
3. Increase opportunities for students to display their knowledge and skills in a variety of platforms and via various mediums.****
4. Expand interactions with FNMI community partners to provide more presentations and interactions with students to better inform them of the residential school experience and treaty obligations.****
5. Expand opportunities for families/parents to be more actively engaged in their children's learning.****

Local Measures

1. Increased student performance levels in all subject areas.
2. Teachers are implementing strategies to accommodate student needs.
3. Increased student involvement in extracurricular activities.
4. Students display empathy, respect and support for each other.
5. Increased community/parental involvement in school activities.
6. ELL students are demonstrating greater comfort and proficiency in the English language.
7. Newcomer students are demonstrating comfort and confidence in their new Canadian environment.
8. Greater awareness of and interaction with FNMI information and communities.

Provincial Measures

1. AERR results showing advancement in student achievements.
2. PAT and high school diploma exam results.
3. High school graduation rates and post-secondary placement results.
4. Provincial accountability measures showing how the school is addressing the issue of FNMI awareness.
5. Provincial metrics relating to parent, student and teacher satisfaction showing how the school is meeting and advancing the learning needs of all students.
6. Provincial reports on how the school is maintaining fiscal and budgetary standards while providing supports to staff and students to achieve better learning outcomes in all subject areas.

Data Used

1. Parent/family satisfaction surveys
2. Student satisfaction surveys
3. Staff reports on student progress as well as issues impacting student learning
4. Monthly/weekly academic reports from teachers
5. ELL progress reports
6. Program Coordinators' updates and reports
7. FNMI coordinator project initiatives updates and reports
8. Extracurricular activities report

Stakeholders

1. Students
2. Staff
3. Families
4. Government agencies
5. Community partners
6. FNMI elders and cultural ambassadors

Strategic Priorities

Addressing the aspirations and needs of the Edmonton and local Muslim communities to educate their children to their potential in all subject areas in a safe and caring Islamic environment.

Increasing awareness of FNMI issues within our school environment as well as the broader Muslim community.

Learning Supports

School Priorities

1. Al Mustafa Academy will seek and acquire relevant resources to support the academic, social, spiritual and emotional needs of our students.
2. Al Mustafa Academy will work with community partners and government agencies to acquire and sustain learning supports that benefit all our students and which provides them an optimum learning experience.
3. Al Mustafa Academy will acquire and sustain learning supports to ensure that our students achieve and exceed learning goals.
4. Al Mustafa Academy will provide learning supports to ensure that our students can properly function in a 21st century learning and working environment.
5. Al Mustafa Academy will ensure that the unique needs of our school community are addressed by the acquisition of appropriate resources and that these resources are meaningful, relevant and effective.
6. Al Mustafa Academy will ensure that investments in learning supports ultimately reflect the aspirations and needs of students and their families while meeting the goals of providing them a safe and caring learning environment that is also culturally, socially and religiously relevant.
7. Al Mustafa Academy will offer learning supports to our staff and students to allow them to broaden their understanding of our First Nations peoples, their history and culture, as well as the contemporary issues First Nations face especially regarding the legacy of residential schools and treaty obligations towards them.

Alberta Priorities

Learning Supports

Outcomes

1. Al Mustafa Academy acquires the necessary resources and supports to ensure that our students are achieving their potential.
2. Al Mustafa Academy students are achieving high academic standards and experiencing a dynamic learning environment as a consequence of the investments made in learning resources.
3. Al Mustafa Academy has established good working relationships with various government departments, social agencies, and other community partners to ensure that we have access to a range of services and investments that can support student learning and achievement.
4. Al Mustafa Academy ensures that investments in technology, facilities and transportation support student learning and achievement.
5. Al Mustafa Academy learning supports are sustainable and accessible to all students and staff whenever needed.
6. Al Mustafa Academy establishes a committee made up of students, staff and community partners to identify and acquire learning supports that benefit our students and allows them to achieve optimum learning experiences.

Context

1. Al Mustafa Academy's focus will be to provide our students with a quality learning experience in a safe and caring environment taught by competent teachers who have the training, resources as well as learning supports to promote academic success and spiritual growth in our students.
2. Al Mustafa Academy will ensure that we can provide our students all necessary and relevant learning supports to allow them to achieve high academic standards as well as achieve proficiencies in the Islamic sciences.
3. As a consequence of investments in learning supports, Al Mustafa Academy students are academically strong, properly informed of their Islamic faith tradition, and culturally informed so that they can flourish in contemporary Canadian society.
4. Al Mustafa Academy students understand the issues facing the First Nations of Canada, including the legacy of residential schools and the treaty obligations impacting First Nations.

Budgetary Principles

1. Al Mustafa Academy will provide resources to promote student achievement based on a thorough review of requirements and fiscal prudence.
2. Al Mustafa Academy will seek opportunities for financial assistance from community partners and government agencies to support the acquisition and maintenance of learning supports/resources for students and staff.

Strategies for 2021- 2025

1. Expand our partnership with government agencies and community partners to acquire relevant learning supports.
2. Acquire learning supports that meet the immediate needs of learning goals.****
3. Engage in a thorough review of learning supports that are required to ensure a quality and effective learning environment.****

Local Measures

1. Required learning supports are acquired and are being utilized to support academic progress and student achievement.
2. Meaningful and beneficial relationships with government and community partners are established to acquire and maintain learning resources.
3. The learning outcomes and learning environment for students have been enhanced as a consequence of the investments made in learning supports.
4. The students, staff and school community recognize and appreciate the investments made in learning supports and can measure the impacts they have on learning outcomes and the learning environment.

Provincial Measures

1. AERR results showing advancement in student achievements.
2. PAT and high school diploma exam results.
3. High school graduation rates and post-secondary placement results.
4. Provincial metrics relating to parent, student and teacher satisfaction showing how the school is meeting and advancing the learning needs of all students.
5. Provincial reports on how the school is maintaining fiscal and budgetary standards while providing supports to staff and students to achieve better learning outcomes in all subject areas.
6. Provincial accountability measures showing how the school is addressing the issue of FNMI awareness.

Data Used

1. Surveys
2. Feedback information from students, staff and families
3. Focus group results
4. Academic results
5. Audit of learning resources

Stakeholders

1. Students
2. Families
3. Staff
4. Community partners
5. Government agencies

Strategic Priorities

Addressing the aspirations and needs of the Edmonton and local Muslim communities to educate their children to their potential in all subject areas in a safe and caring Islamic environment that is well resourced with adequate learning supports.