

“It takes a whole community, to bring up a child”



Ark Boulton Academy

1st May 2018

Dearest Parents / Carers

The Holy month of Ramadan is nearly upon us, with the beginning of Ramadan starting on or around 15th May 2018.

Ramadan falls within the examination season in 2018 and will do so for the next few years. In 2018, the middle of Ramadan will also coincide with summer solstice. The combination of long days and examinations will put extra pressure on young Muslims however they wish to decide to observe Ramadan.

There is a wide and diverse range of possible interpretations of Islamic Law. Scholars differ in their opinions on what age Muslims become obliged to fast, how long they should fast for and the legitimate exemptions. On our website we have made available a paper put together by [ASCL “ The Associating of School and College Leaders”](#) to present various positions from which parents, carers and young people can draw their practice, rather than one Islamic answer. The paper is endorsed by a wide spectrum of British Muslims, who come from a range of different theological persuasions.

As well as the “spiritual space” we will be supporting students who choose to observe the holy month of Ramadan by providing additional inside spaces to sit during break and lunch time. In addition the academy will be providing ‘grab bags’ from the academy canteen for those students who wish to take some food home in order to eat later.

During the holy month of Ramadan our young people demonstrate humility and powerful self-discipline which is appreciated by the academy and is respected by everyone regardless of their own background. It is precisely because we recognise and respect the sacrifice students make during the holy month of Ramadan that the normal expectations and routines of the academy will continue to apply, to do otherwise would compromise and undermine the decision that students make to demonstrate their commitment to their faith.

Our relationship with parents is central to the success of our students, and the academy as a whole. If you have any queries the academy host a drop-in session for parents every Friday morning from 9am to 10.30am, during which they can meet with me and other members of the academy’s Leadership Team. This is an informal environment to ask questions, raise concerns, and discuss matters of interest.

May the Holy month of Ramadan and this Eid be a peaceful and blessed occasion for our families and communities.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H K Channa JP
Principal

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“Growing together, reaching higher”