

Directorate of Government Schools Reviews

Short Review Report

Ahmad Al-Umran Secondary Boys School Manama - Capital Governorate Kingdom of Bahrain

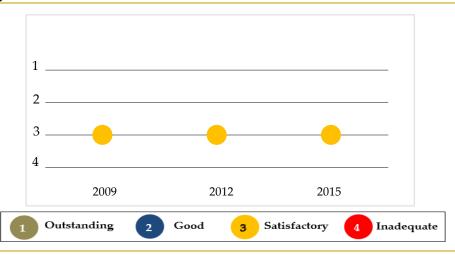
Date of Review: 5-7 October 2015 SG041-C3-R025

Introduction

The Directorate of Government Schools Reviews (DGS), which is a part of the National Authority for Qualifications and Quality Assurance of Education and Training (QQA), conducted this review over three days by a team of eight reviewers. During the review, reviewers observed lessons and other activities, scrutinised students' written works and analysed the school's performance data and other documents. They met with the school staff, students and parents. This report summarises their findings and recommendations.

Summary of review judgements									
Outstanding 1	3	Inadeq	uate <u>4</u>						
	Grade								
	Elementary / Primary	Middle / Intermediate	High / Secondary	Overall					
Quality of outcomes	Students' academic achievement	-	-	3	3				
	Students' personal development	-	-	2	2				
Quality of magazoo	Teaching and learning	-	-	3	3				
Quality of processes	Students' support and guidance	-	-	2	2				
Quality assurance of	Leadership, management and			3	3				
outcomes and processes	governance	-	-	3	3				
Capacity to improve			3						
The school's overall effectiveness			3						

The chart demonstrates the school's overall effectiveness throughout the review cycles.



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Grade	Relative words used	Interpretation						
Outstanding	All / Almost all	Indicatescompletenessandcomprehensiveness/abouttoreachcompleteness and comprehensiveness.						
	The vast majority	Indicates an amount that exceeds most.						
Good	Most	Indicates an amount that exceeds majority.						
Satisfactory	Majority / Adequate / Suitable / Variable	Indicates more than average.						
	Minority / Few Indicates less than average.							
Inadequate	Limited	Indicates less than minority.						
	Very limited	Indicates scarcity/rarity.						
None Indicates unavailability/nothing.								

Percentile words used in relation to different judgements

□ School's overall effectiveness 'Satisfactory'

Judgement justifications

- The results of most aspects covered at this review match those of the previous two reviews, being 'satisfactory', with an improvement in students' personal development, and support and guidance, which are both 'good'.
- Self-assessment of all schoolwork aspects is comprehensive and underlines the school plan. However, use of results to focus on priorities varies, particularly in monitoring the impact of professional development on improving the effectiveness of teaching practices and students' basic skills in Arabic and English.
- Students' varied proficiency rates reflect their inconsistent standards in lessons. They achieve positive levels in the Scientific and Internship Tracks, but accomplish less in the Commercial one. Students' standards in the Literary Track are low, particularly in Arabic and English.
- Students' positive awareness, discipline and 'good' behavior contributes to their sense of psychological safety and security at school.
- The effectiveness of teaching and learning processes in most lessons is satisfactory due to teaching methods, which inconsistently meet the students'

different needs, without considering their individual differences, particularly the low achievers.

• Students' active participation in good lessons, with many extra-curricular activities and various events and programmes, in which students' selfconfidence and ability to take responsibility are reflected. However, such participation is not equally present in all lessons.

• Personal and educational support provided to students of all categories, particularly those with special needs is 'good'.

Main positive features

- Students' positive awareness, discipline and good behaviour, which contributes to their sense of psychological safety and security at school.
- Personal support provided to students of all categories, particularly those with special needs.
- Enhancement of students' experiences and interests, with various extra-curricular activities and internal and external contests; in which they achieve remarkable positions.

Recommendations

- Benefit from the self-evaluation results by focussing on developing the school plan to ensure raising students' academic achievement and improve the teaching and learning processes.
- Monitor the impact of professional development programmes on developing teaching and learning strategies, to include:
 - students' acquisition of learning skills in core subjects, particularly Arabic and English
 - providing students with more opportunities to develop their self-confidence and take on responsibility in lessons
 - observing differentiation in lessons and written work
 - employing assessment techniques to diagnose and meet students' educational needs, especially the low achievers.
- Fill the shortfalls in administrative and teaching staff, namely senior teachers in English, science and computer departments and a learning resources centre specialist.

□ Capacity to improve 'Satisfactory'

Judgement justifications

- The comprehensive self-evaluation which, covers all schoolwork aspects and use of its results to focus on developing school priorities to be in line with the school plan, particularly those associated with improving students' basic skills and monitoring the impact of professional development on teaching and learning.
- The school's self-evaluation of itsoverall effectiveness and most aspects matches the review team's judgement.
- The improvements made in various aspects of the schoolwork, particularly in the areas of students' personal

development and quality of support and guidance programmes.

- Challenges encountered by the school include, in particular:
 - students' poor basic skills in Arabic and English
 - inconsistent effectiveness of educational practices
 - shortfalls in middle leadership, namely senior teachers in English, science and computer departments and a learning resources center specialist, and their adverse impact on performance improvement.

Appendix: Characteristics of the school

Name of the school (A	rabic)					للبنين	ثانوبة	مران الن	أحمد ال				
Name of the school (English)		أحمد العمران الثانوية للبنين Ahmad Al-Umran Secondary Boys School											
Year of establishment		1962											
Address		Building 948 - Road 1812 - Block 318											
Town /Village / Governorate		Manama / Capital											
School's Contacts		17531656 Fax 17532665											
School's e-mail		umran.se.b@moe.gov.bh											
School's website		-											
Age range of students		16-18 years											
Grades (e.g. 1 to 12)		Primary			Middle				High				
			<u> </u>	-		-					-12		
Number of students		Boys 835		Girl					Total 835				
Students' social background		Most students belong to middle-income families											
Classes per grade	Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	11	10
	Level (Grade)	Distribution of classes over streams											
Classes per level in	1 (10)	10 Unified Track and 1 Internship											
the secondary stage	2 (11)	5 Scientific, 1 Literary, 4 Commercial and 1 Internship											
	3 (12)	4 Scientific, 1 Literary, 4 Commercial and 1 Internship										2	
Number of administra	8 administrative and 10 technical												
Number of teaching staff		109											
Curriculum	Ministry of Education (MoE)												
Main language(s) of instruction		Arabic											
Principal's tenure in the school		6 years											
External assessment and examinations		MoE examinations and QQA National Examinations											
Accreditation (if applicable)													
Major recent changes in the school													