



STATEMENT OF FAITH

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Last Review Date: November 2024

Review Date: November 2026

Ratified by AIAE Board: 1st December 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Australian International Academy of Education (**AIAE**) is committed to establishing a compassionate learning atmosphere that honours Islamic values and principles. Our *Statement of Faith* articulates the core beliefs that direct our purpose, educational program, and community.

OUR CORE BELIEFS

Belief in Allah (Allah)

We firmly affirm that Allah (SWT) is the Sole Creator of the universe, recognising the profound significance of Tawhid (the belief in His Oneness). Central to our faith is the understanding that Allah (SWT) is the ultimate repository of knowledge, wisdom, and guidance. Our fundamental purpose lies in worshipping Him and fostering a deeper connection with His divine presence. Allah (SWT) says:

"And your Allah is one Allah. There is no deity [worthy of worship] except Him, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful." [Quran 2:163]

Belief in the Angels

We acknowledge the existence of angels, who are unseen heavenly beings who carry out divine commands and serve as messengers between Allah and humanity, reinforcing the profound connection between the spiritual and material worlds for believers. Allah (SWT) says:

"And the Angels will be on its sides, and eight Angels will, that Day, bear the Throne of your Lord above them." [Quran 69:17]

Belief in His Books

We affirm our belief in the divine Scriptures, encompassing the Tawrat (Torah), Az-Zabbour (Psalms), the Injeel (Gospel), and final revelation of the Holy Qur'an. The Qur'an, revered as the unaltered and perfect word of Allah (SWT), represents the final divine revelation for humanity. We emphasise the significance of comprehending and adhering to the teachings of the Qur'an as a guiding principle for fostering moral integrity and righteousness in our lives. Allah (SWT) says:

"Indeed, we sent Our messengers with clear proofs and with them We sent down the Scripture and the balance of justice, so that people may administer justice." [Quran 57:25]

Belief in the Prophethood (Nubuwwah)

We affirm our belief in the prophethood of all the Messengers sent by Allah (SWT), beginning with Adam and concluding with the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon them all). We firmly acknowledge the finality and prophethood of the last and seal of all Prophets, Muhammad (PBUH), who serves as the essence of a life guided by faith, exemplifying perfection in his character and actions. Allah (SWT) says:

"Certainly, in the Messenger of Allah here is an excellent guide / example for anyone who has hope in Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah often." [Quran 33:21]



Belief in the Hereafter

We believe in the Hereafter as a core pillar of faith, affirming our conviction in divine accountability and an afterlife. This belief comforts us with the promise of a Day of Judgment, motivating virtuous living and fostering a deeper understanding of our purpose beyond this world. Allah (SWT) says:

"We shall set up scales of justice for the Day of Judgment, so that not a soul will be dealt with unjustly in the least." [Quran 21:47]

Belief in the Divine Decree (Qadr)

We believe in Qadr, the sixth and final pillar of Iman, acknowledging divine predestination and decree, affirming that everything unfolds according to the will of Allah (SWT). This conviction underlines our trust in the divine plan, guiding us to accept both blessings and trials as part of Allah's decree with patience and gratitude. Allah (SWT) says:

"Indeed, we have created everything, perfectly preordained. Our command is but a single word, done in the blink of an eye." [Quran 54:49-50]

Belief in the Five Pillars of Islam

We affirm the significance of adhering to our testimony of Faith (Shahada), offering regular prayers (Salah), observing fasting during Ramadan (Sawm), giving alms and charity (Zakat), and performing the pilgrimage to Mecca (Hajj) for those with the means, recognising these as foundational acts of worship and obedience to Allah (SWT). These pillars not only serve as pillars of Islam but also as guiding principles shaping a believer's spiritual journey, fostering a profound connection with Allah and strengthening the bonds of community and compassion.

Belief in the Purpose of Creation

We believe in the temporary nature of our existence in this world and the changes we encounter throughout life, which are intended to test our faith and behaviour. We believe that the creation of the heavens and the earth, man and woman, as well as the orderly direction of their affairs, is intended to raise our level of knowledge, awareness, and consciousness about Allah's absolute power and knowledge. Allah (SWT) says:

"O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, who created you from a single person (Adam), and from him (Adam) He created his wife (Eve), and from both He created many men and women; and fear Allah through Whom you demand (your mutual rights), and (do not cut the relations of) the wombs (kinship). Surely, Allah is Ever an All-Watcher over you." [Quran 4:1]

Belief in the Guidance of the Prophet Muhammad

We stand for the values of compassion, justice, tolerance, and peace, as exemplified by the teachings and actions of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and seek to instil these values in our students and within our school community. In line with "Ahl Sunnah Wal Jamah" - *the Islamic tradition*, our school is dedicated to nurturing the faith, knowledge, and character of our students while fostering a deep understanding of and reverence for the teachings and principles of Islam and the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Allah (SWT) says:

"Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah you have an excellent example for whoever has hope in Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah often." [Quran 33:21]

Belief in Teaching Ethical and Moral Values

Our main goal is to teach our students ethical and moral values such as honesty, compassion, humility, empathy, and social responsibility. We strive to instil in them a sense of dignity and respect for every individual, regardless of their background. Allah (SWT) says:

"O mankind, indeed, We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Aware." [Quran 49:13]



Belief in Community and Brotherhood/Sisterhood

We are dedicated to nurturing a culture of togetherness and inclusivity among both our students and staff, fostering mutual support, cooperation, and tolerance not only within the Islamic community but also extending beyond its boundaries. Our aim is to cultivate a spirit of unity and brotherhood/sisterhood that transcends divisions and fosters a sense of belonging and solidarity among all members of our community. Allah (SWT) says:

"Cooperate with one another in goodness and righteousness, and do not cooperate in sin and transgression. And be mindful of Allah. Surely Allah is severe in punishment." [Quran 5:2]

Belief in the Value of Education and Knowledge

At our core, we hold in high regard the continuous pursuit of knowledge, echoing the wisdom of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who stated: *"Whoever seeks a pathway to knowledge, Allah eases a pathway for them to Paradise". [Muslim, 2699]*

We advocate for critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and the integration of Islamic principles with modern disciplines, fostering a harmonious synthesis of tradition and contemporary scholarship.

Belief in Embracing Inclusivity and Diversity

We wholeheartedly embrace and value the richness of cultures and backgrounds inherent within the global Muslim community, promoting unity and inclusivity by embracing individuals from diverse walks of life, irrespective of their cultural heritage, background, or ethnicity.

"O mankind, indeed, We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Aware." [Quran 49:13]

Belief in Service to Humanity

We advocate for and encourage active participation of our students in acts of kindness, charity, and social service, aligning with the teachings of Islam. This initiative aims to foster a positive impact on society and extend support to those in need. Our overarching objective is to nurture individuals who exemplify robust moral values, demonstrate intellectual curiosity, and exhibit a dedication to effecting positive change within their communities.

Prophet Muhammad, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said, *"Every act of kindness is (Sadaqa) a charity. Part of kindness is that you offer your brother a cheerful face and you pour some of your bucket into his water vessel." [Quoted from Al-Adab Al-Mufradh, Book 14, Hadith 304]*

VISION IN PRACTICE

Australian International Academy of Education is committed to translating our *Statement of Faith* into practical, real-world actions that guide our daily endeavours and enrich the lives of our students, staff, and community.

Our vision is to have graduates who are self-motivated to advance Australia and to participate effectively as world citizens with Muslim values.

This is driven from the understanding of the teachings of Islam based on the many Ahadith of our prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Such as the following Ahadith where he said: *"Never a Muslim plants, or cultivates a land, and it out of that men eat, or the animals eat, or anything else eats, but that becomes charity on his (planter's) behalf." [Quoted from Sahih Muslim, Book 22, Hadith 8]*

The prophet (PBUH) also said: *"Whoever initiates a good practice that is followed, he will receive a perfect reward for that, and a reward equivalent to that of those who follow it, without that detracting from their reward in the slightest. And whoever introduces a bad practice that is followed, he will receive the complete burden of sin for that, and a burden of sin equivalent to that of those who follow it without that detracting from their burden in the slightest." [Quoted from Sunan Ibn Majah, Book 1, Hadith 204]*

Hence, our *Vision in Practice* is a testament to our dedication to foster an educational environment deeply rooted in Islamic principles and values that include:

- **Faith-Centred Learning:** We are dedicated to instilling every aspect of our academic curriculum with Islamic teachings, fostering a perspective that encourages students to perceive the world through the lens of faith. Our aim is not solely to cultivate intellectual development but also to nurture the spiritual growth of our students.
- **Character Development:** We are devoted to encouraging our students to be compassionate, just, and morally upright individuals. Our school actively promotes the development of strong character by exemplifying and teaching Islamic virtues such as kindness, humility, honesty and integrity.
- **Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusivity:** While adhering to our '*Islamic tradition*', we are committed to instilling in our students a deep respect for the diverse cultures and faith traditions that make up our global community. We actively promote interfaith dialogue, tolerance, and a spirit of unity.
- **Community Engagement:** We believe in the importance of serving the community and instil this value in our students. Our aim is to produce future leaders who are not only academically proficient but also socially responsible and eager to contribute positively to society.
- **Prayer and Worship:** Our school provides an environment where students can perform their daily prayers (Salah) and fosters a love for worship. We encourage them to establish a strong connection with Allah (SWT) through regular religious practices.
- **Excellence in Education:** We are committed to maintaining high standards of education and continuously improving our teaching methodologies. We equip our students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in this world while instilling the values that will guide them through the Hereafter.
- **Social Justice and Ethics:** We actively engage our students in discussions and initiatives related to social justice and ethical behaviour. We strive to produce graduates who are not only knowledgeable but also advocates for positive change in the world.
- **Inclusivity and Diversity:** Our school embraces students of all backgrounds, cultures, and abilities. We celebrate the richness that diversity brings to our community and seek to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.
- **Respect for All:** We cultivate a culture of respect, where every member of our school community is treated with dignity and kindness, echoing the teachings of Islam that encourage good manners and respect for one another.
- **Service to Humanity:** We inspire our students to engage in acts of charity and community service, reinforcing the importance of giving back and helping those in need.

Through our *Vision in Practice*, we aim to not only educate but also nurture well-rounded individuals who embody the essence of our *Islamic tradition* and its principles. Our students will graduate well equipped with the knowledge, values, and skills to make a positive impact on the world, guided by the core beliefs expressed in our *Statement of Faith*.

Overall, worship is practiced in Islam for the purpose of total submission to Allah, being the connecting step between the creatures and the creator, and the key to righteousness in dealing among the creatures of Allah. This comprehensive worship includes all the pillars of Islam, i.e., prayer (salah), fasting (sawm), charity (zakat), and pilgrimage (hajj), as well as the entire Shari'ah, the Islamic laws and teachings.

Building upon our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals rooted in Islamic tradition, it is essential to explore the foundational elements that guide our beliefs and practices. These include the intrinsic dignity of 'Humanity', the importance of cultivating 'Personal Islamic Conduct', adherence to the 'AIAE Code of Conduct', and the articulation of a 'Final Statement on Belief and Conduct'. These elements are underpinned by the 'General Islamic Principles', which encompass the ten guiding principles that help Muslims discern what is lawful and prohibited in Islam. Together, these sections provide a comprehensive framework for living a life aligned with Islamic values and contributing positively to society.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF FAITH AND PRACTICE

Humanity

Allah has created Adam and his children and honoured them above all the other creations. Allah (SWT) says: *"Indeed, we have dignified the children of Adam, carried them on land and sea, granted them good and lawful provisions, and privileged them far above many of Our creatures."* [Quran: 17:70]

Allah has created humanity as distinctly believers and disbelievers based on their freedom of choice subject to accepting the responsibility of the individual's decision and facing the consequence of their choice. Allah (SWT) says: *"There is no compulsion in religion, for the truth stands out clearly from falsehood. whoever renounces false Allah's and believes in Allah has certainly grasped the firmest, unfailing hand-hold. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing."* [Quran: 2:256]

Allah has created humanity as distinctly male and female and has ordained a normative connection through marriage as a special relationship based on love and compassion. Allah (SWT) says: *"And one of His signs is that He created for you spouses from among yourselves so that you may find comfort in them. And He has placed between you compassion and mercy. Surely in this are signs for people who reflect."* [Quran: 30:21]

Allah Almighty made humanity, composed as families and tribes, and made the family the foundation of society. Fathers and mothers were entrusted with raising their children in a good manner, beneficial to themselves and their society, and Allah Almighty made this a form of worship and protection in this world and the hereafter. Allah (SWT) says: *"O you who have believed, protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones, over which are [appointed] angels, harsh and severe; they do not disobey Allah in what He commands them but do what they are commanded."* [Quran: 66:6]

Allah Almighty has created humanity and gave them freedom of choice. However, he opened the door for them to repent, to erase their sins, address their mistakes and gave them an opportunity to correct what they had corrupted as a result of their mistakes. Allah (SWT) says: *"Allah wants to make all this clear to you, and to guide you to the ways which the righteous have followed in the past. Allah wants to lighten your burdens, for man was created weak."* [Quran: 4:26-28]

Personal Islamic Conduct

Muslims are called to practice personal Islamic conduct which conforms to the example of prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and follows his footsteps. Allah (SWT) says:

"Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah you have an excellent example for whoever has hope in Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah often." [Quran: 33:21]

Personal Islamic conduct opposes sinful actions and strives to accomplish good deeds. Allah (SWT) says:

"You are the best nation produced [as an example] for mankind. You enjoy what is right and forbid what is wrong and believe in Allah..." [Quran: 2:110].

Furthermore, it demonstrates a deep understanding of the fact that the main purpose of worship in Islam is perfecting the manners and characters of the individuals and groups.

Code of Conduct Policy:

This *Statement of Faith* supports AIAE's Code of Conduct for staff and students.

Final Statement on Belief and Conduct

The views of AIAE and its members extend beyond what is expressed in the *Statement of Faith*. AIAE and its members uphold the Holy Quran as the inspired, infallible Word of Allah, serving as the ultimate authority on truth, morality, and human conduct.

General Islamic Principles

Justice and fairness should be the ultimate goal in life, even when it requires acting against personal interests or the interests of family, friends, or relatives. Justice must be upheld purely for the sake of Allah Almighty, transcending personal biases or affiliations. It is a divine obligation that prioritises righteousness over individual or collective gain.

The Ten Principles that guide us as Muslims in discerning what is lawful and what is prohibited in Islam are as follows:

- Necessity dictates exceptions.
- Doubtful things are to be avoided.
- Good intentions do not make what is Haram 'unlawful' Halal 'lawful'.
- The Halal is sufficient, but the Haram is superfluous.
- Whatever leads to Haram is also Haram.
- Things are Haram because they are impure or harmful.
- Falsely representing the Haram as Halal is not allowed.
- Only Allah has the right to tell us what Haram is and what Halal is.
- Prohibiting the Halal and permitting the Haram is like committing Shirk.
- The Haram is prohibited to all people in the same way.