



Calgary Islamic School
Omar Bin Al Khattab

A Guide to the Tahfeeth Program

1. Overview

The prosperity of any community is strongly associated with the education they pursue and the care they offer to the wellbeing of youth. The most important education that our community aspires for is the combination of the worldly knowledge and that of the Qur'an. To meet the needs of our community and youth, CIS-OBK introduced the Tahfeeth Program. The program offers students the opportunity to memorize the Qur'an while simultaneously completing grade level curriculum outcomes set out by Alberta Education. This program requires constant partnership of hard work from home, school, and community. Our students, being our first concern, must receive our primary attention. In pursuing this great task, CIS- OBK strives to educate each student to become the best they can be.

2. Objectives

Because of its unique essence and great goal, the Tahfeeth Division assists students in becoming self-sufficient decision-makers, progressively becoming responsible for determining their own learning purposes and developing skills to achieve them. The CIS-OBK Tahfeeth program is aimed at building all components of the student's personality; personal and life skills develop side by side with the academic curriculum.

2.1 Personality and Life skills

We strive to help the students become:

- Clear and effective communicators
- Self-directed and life-long learners
- Responsible and involved citizens
- Leaders in the community

2.2 Qur'an and Academics

By the end of the program, students will:

- Memorize and recite the Qur'an according to the required rules of Tajweed simultaneously with their respective academic studies. (Achievements might vary based on the memorization plan the student chooses)
- Gain the comprehensive knowledge of **Taharah** and **Salah** that qualifies them to lead the Salah publicly.
- Learn the detailed theory behind the Tajweed rules application
- Deliver the Friday sermon and/or conduct halaqa

3. Admission

Admission to the Tahfeeth program is based on a strict criteria:

Admission Criteria

- 3.1 A student can be admitted to the Tahfeeth program if he/she is promoted to grade **4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9** in **September** of the relevant school year.
- 3.2 Student should have an overall grade of 3 or 4 in the four core subjects of English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Science and Social Studies.
- 3.3 Student must know how to read (decode) the Quran independently and having memorized juzz and/or surah is additional asset.
- 3.4 Student must pass the Quran memorization test which is scored on the basis of accuracy and time taken to memorize the ayats. CIS students and new students entering the Tahfeeth program are required to take a Qur'an Test. The application is decided based on the recitation, accuracy skills and the time required to memorize the ayats. The recitation quality will determine whether the applicant possess the skills required to memorize Quran.
- 3.5 Student must qualify a student interview illustrating their interest, commitment to and ability to meet the behavioural expectations required by Tahfeeth students. .
- 3.6 Both parents must qualify an interview conducted by administration illustrating their commitment to supporting their child in the program.

At the Calgary Islamic School – Omar Bin Al- Khattab campus, a student who is admitted to the Tahfeeth Division cannot transfer to a different class of the equivalent grade level in the same school year. For the following year, parents who choose to place their child in a regular grade homeroom will need to consult with the school administration before taking any further actions.

Students need to meet and maintain their academic, memorization and behavioral criteria for the program at the end of each school year. If a student is not meeting the criteria, he/she will either be asked to leave the program or maybe put on a one year contract. It is important to note however, that being a Tahfeeth student does not give a child any priority over other applicants to the program. At the same time, current CIS-OBK students of grade 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 who apply to the Tahfeeth Division do not take any priority over new applicants to the Tahfeeth Division.

4. Required Documents

4.1 New Students

Students entering the Tahfeeth program, who are new to the CIS-OBK system, are expected to go through the on-line admission application procedures. They are required to present the same legal documents as required by other students. Please contact the front office to get an update on the support documents required for admission to Tahfeeth program.

4.2 CIS Students

CIS students, who are interested in the program from their relevant grades, need to fill an application form for admission into the Tahfeeth program and provide the required documentation such as a copy of a recent report card. A Quran recitation test will be arranged with the program administrators. If the student qualifies academically and passes the Quran recitation test, the student and parent will be asked for an interview with the school administration.

5. Uniform

All students registered in the CIS Tahfeeth program are required to abide by the school dress code. For Tahfeeth student's uniform, they are to follow the dress code required for students of their grade as per the school uniform policy. Parents of new students can verify the accurate dress code by contacting the school front office.

6. Programs of Study

The Tahfeeth program has two main components: Academics and Qur'an. Unlike any other program offered, the Tahfeeth program introduces the opportunity to memorize the Qur'an and Tajweed rules, simultaneously with academic subjects according to the requirements of Alberta Education. The students are offered 8 blocks (each approximately 45 minutes long during the week) for Quran memorization. The rest of the 25 blocks cover the Alberta Program of Studies through English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, Arts and options. Through specialized programming and after school activities, students have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities.

6.1 Qur'an Memorization

This is a primary course wherein students memorize Qur'an and learn its rules of Tajweed. Student's achievement varies from one to another based on their individual skills, capabilities, effort, and plan of memorization they choose for themselves. Teachers of Qur'an consider the fact that every student is different and the speed and assigned tasks will differ according to individual capabilities. Following are the plans of memorization approved by the Tahfeeth Division.

6.2 Model No. 1

	Based on 15 lines per page style		
Plan ID	Pages memorized per school day	Total Juz' memorized per school year (181 business days)	Total school Years to complete the Qur'an
Plan 1	3	27	1.1
Plan 2	2	18	1.6
Plan 3	1 1/2	14	2.1
Plan 4	1	9	3.3
Plan 5	3/4	7	4.2
Plan 6	1/2	4	7.5

6.3 Model No. 2

	Based on 13 lines per page style		
Plan ID	Pages memorized per school day	Total Juz' memorized per school year (181 business days)	Total school Years to complete the Qur'an
Plan 1	3	17	1.7
Plan 2	2	11	2.7
Plan 3	1.5	8	3.7
Plan 4	1	5	6
Plan 5	3/4	4	7.5
Plan 6	1/2	3	10

6.4 Qur'an Recitation

Throughout this course, students are exposed to Tajweed and its relevant applications. Students start first with mastering the Makharij (place of articulation) and improving

their ability to accurately and correctly pronounce the Arabic language sounds. At this point, no theories are taught. Once a student passes this level, they will be introduced to the detailed rules of Tajweed, along with its application, according to their grade level.

6.5 Islamic Studies

To help the students memorize better, general meanings and basic Arabic language is shared with the students when the student is receiving their one on one lesson with the teacher. It is imperative that students build their Islamic character and gain the skills and knowledge needed for their future role and influence. Through extracurricular activities students are introduced to basic concept of Servant Leadership and Fiqh of Ibadah and Fiqh of Dawah.

7. Leadership Enrichment

To put theory into practice, the CIS Tahfeeth Division engages students in leadership activities that will help them implement their learning outcomes and elevate their spiritual influence. The challenging activities will be planned with care regarding the student time and availability throughout the school year. Most of the activities will be scheduled after school.

8. Daily Schedule

The school day starts at **7:50 A.M.** and ends at **2:55 P.M.** On **Mondays**, the day ends at **12:20 P.M.** Recess time is synchronized with the regular school schedule. There is a schedule for Tahfeeth classes.

9. Student Awards and Honours

9.1 Celebrate Students' Success (Per Term)

Students are awarded per term on their achievements in Qur'an memorization, as well as Islamic Conduct. If a student's memorization is exemplary throughout the term, he/she can be nominated for the Quran memorization award where their name will be mentioned in the Honor Roll Wall of Fame and they will be awarded a medal for their performance.

9.2 Honour Qur'an Achievements (annually)

Towards the end of the school year, a celebration is held to honour and recognize the effort of the students in the Tahfeeth program in the memorization of Qur'an.

10. Students' Educational Records

CIS, formally and informally, provide the parents of the enrolled students in the Tahfeeth program with complete, easily understood and accurate evaluations of their child's progress and performance at the end of each term. Parents have the opportunity to get an update half way through the term on their child's progress through parent teacher conferences held during each term.

10.1 Formal Educational Report

Formal report cards communicate to parents and students the academic progress per term. The reports identify student progress and are placed in the Permanent Student Record file. Students not meeting the academic expectations of the program are met with their parents to discuss possible support by school administration. Where necessary, student may be put on academic plan. Report card issue dates are available on the school calendar.

10.2 Informal Educational Report

Informal reports are an important link between home and school and can take a variety of forms, such as:

A. Students' Progress Report

B. Phone Calls

C. Parent-Teacher Conference

11. Discipline

Please refer to the CIS General Discipline Policy

12. Attendance

Please refer to the CIS General Attendance Policy