



**FURQAAN  
ACADEMY**  
A DIVISION OF AL-FURQAAN FOUNDATION

**Online**

**THE COAST TO COAST NETWORKED SCHOOL**  
FULL-TIME ISLAMIC SCHOOL WITH INTEGRATED HIFDH

## Furqaan Academy Online Newsletter

Newsletter edited by Jenna A. Duniya R.

Quarter 1 newsletter

### Principal's Address

I am delighted to lead and witness the growth of Furqaan Academy Online. Al-Hamdullillah, students from different states have been attending our school. We are working tirelessly to raise awareness of the presence of Furqaan Academy Online all over the United States of America.

Furqaan Academy Online delivers a comprehensive curriculum that includes core and religious studies. Although our classes are conducted virtually, daily LIVE instruction actively promotes interaction between students, their peers and teachers.

Recognizing the need for Islamic education in communities without full time Islamic Schools due to limited resources, we have initiated a project to establish Networked Learning Centers around the United States. Our administrative team is reaching out to different Masajid, and Islamic Cultural Centers to bring Islamic Education to their communities.

Furqaan Academy Online aims to collaborate with Masajid or Cultural centers, to provide a platform for students from the community to gather daily at a physical location for online classes.

Al-Hamdulillah this academic year, we have opened our first Networked Learning Center in El Paso, Texas. Students at the Islamic Center of El Paso Networked Learning Center attend classes within a designated classroom under the supervision of a dedicated supervisor, ensuring a safe and conducive learning environment. Students engage in interaction with their peers, enjoy lunch and recess times, and have the opportunity to pray Salah in congregation. Another group of proactive parents are helping us establish a Networked Learning Center in their community Masjid in Maryland.

We encourage parents to identify suitable locations and engage with their local masjid board members to explore partnerships with Furqaan Academy Online as Networked Learning Centers, ensuring that more students have the opportunity to access quality Islamic education.

Mrs. Haiat Bousmaha  
FAO Principal

**Upcoming**

**Events!**

**October 13 2023**

**Quarter 1 ends**

**October 16th 2023**

**Quarter 2 begins**

**November 3rd 2023**

**Parent Teacher**

**Conference**

**November 23-24 2023**

**Fall Break**

**December 4-6th 2023**

**Winter MAP testing**

**FAO CLUBS**

**Mondays - 6-12th Newsletter club**

**Tuesday, Wednesday - 6-12th Homework club**

**Tuesday - Elementary**

**Reading Club**



## Student Interview

Allow me to introduce myself: I'm Faduma Abdisalam, a 14-year-old student at FAO (Furqaan Academy Online). Currently residing in the vibrant state of Illinois. My family's roots trace back to the beautiful land of Somalia, while the twist in my tale is that I was born in Sweden, embracing a world of diverse cultures right from the start. When the clock strikes "me-time" on weekends or during those precious moments of freedom, you'll find me immersed in the enchanting world of books, crafting my thoughts into words on paper, and occasionally letting my imagination run wild with doodles, but there's more to my story; recently, I embarked on captivating journeys to Dubai and Somalia, soaking in their unique landscapes and cultures and as I eagerly await my next adventure to Germany. The world keeps unfolding before my eyes. Speaking of books, one holds a special place in my heart: "Fish in a Tree." It's a story that's not just ink on paper; it's a wellspring of inspiration and warmth, reminding me of the boundless power of determination and kindness. Now, let's talk about my academic sanctuary, Furqaan Academy Online. It's not just a school; it's a treasure trove of learning. With a focus on Islamic studies and the Arabic language, it's where my knowledge deepens, and my faith finds its roots. Among the subjects I delve into, Science and Writing stand out as my favorites—each is a unique journey of discovery and expression. As I step into this semester and the upcoming year, my heart is set on one goal: to shine in my studies and work relentlessly toward my dreams. The pages of my life keep turning, and with each chapter, I'm discovering the world's mysteries, one adventure at a time.

Donya R. 10th Grade

## My FAO beginning of the school year Experience

Being a Muslim student who currently attends Furqaan Academy Online is a unique experience that allows me to learn about Islam, Arabic, and other subjects in an environment that respects my faith and culture. The school's curriculum was exhaustive. However, I learned a lot from my experience at Furqaan Academy Online. The school's rules helped me develop discipline and time-management skills. The school's curriculum helped me develop a strong work ethic and a love for learning.

The school's curriculum at Furqaan Academy online offers a comprehensive and balanced education for Muslim students. The school follows the Common Core State Standards for all academic subjects such as core subjects as well as Quran, Arabic, and Islamic Studies. The online platform is user-friendly and engaging, with interactive lessons, quizzes, games, and projects. Students can access the curriculum anytime and anywhere and also join live sessions with their teachers and peers. Furqaan Academy Online aims to provide a high-quality and authentic Islamic education that prepares students for success in this life and the hereafter.

In conclusion, my experience at Furqaan Academy Online was challenging. The school's policies and curriculum helped me develop important skills that will be useful for me in the future. I learned the importance of discipline, time management, and hard work. I also learned to appreciate the value of education and the role it plays in shaping our lives. I am grateful for the opportunity to study at Furqaan Academy Online and for the lessons I am learning every day.

Arfa A. 6th Grade

## My Experience at FAO

Before attending Furqaan Academy Online, I did not know how to read Arabic;

I couldn't even read the Quran. When I had conversation with my family, I would sound like a baby trying to say its first words in Arabic. After two to three weeks in Furqaan, I was able to say the entire alphabet, and now I am trying to read the Arabic Language through my Quran class on a daily basis. My journey with the language just started. Furqaan Academy Online follows a strict policy which states that students should not memorize if they do not know how to read!

Students must first be able to read words, sentences and lines. Furthermore, learn the right pronunciation (Makharij) of the alphabet. Students strive to pronounce well the Quran and they are working so hard to achieve their greatest goal; Flipping the Quran to a random page and be able to read fluently. After two months of attending Furqaan Online, I learned amazing things in the Islamic studies class. We learned the meaning of shirk, and tawheed. We learned the rights and wrongs of life, as well as how to express our love for the Prophet (SAW) by completing salah on time, imitating his life, and giving charity. Alhamdulillah, after I signed up for Furqaan academy Online classes, I am able to achieve more. I am certain that I will learn a great deal at FAO.

Waleed R. 7th Grade

# Furqaan Academy Online in El-Paso Masjid, Texas

What is an NLC? NLC stands for Networked Learning Centers. This network has been introduced this year by Furqaan Academy Online staff members. These school networks are to be found in different Masjid. El Paso Masjid, in Texas belongs to this network.

This is a group of masjid that have taken FAO as their main school. I am part of the NLC at ICEP (Islamic Center Of El Paso). Furqaan Academy Online provides classes in El-Paso Masjid since the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. This is a new addition to the masjid of El Paso in Texas. This masjid has had an elementary school for years and now the Masjid's board members added a middle school and a high school through Furqaan Academy Online programs. This is the first step from a big journey in the masjid of El Paso.

A group of students enrolled with Furqaan Academy Online programs from El Paso community. Students are taking 7th and 8th grade classes. Classes are live and open from morning 7:45 am (MDT) to 3:15 pm (MDT) daily. Friday is a half day for all students in Furqaan Academy Online. As stated above students are meeting teachers live for every minute of the day to take different subjects such as Literature, Social Studies, Math and Sciences. The religious subjects are also taken daily; The Islamic Studies, Quran and Arabic classes.

FAO of El-Paso NLC will grow and soon inshallah and it will be known all around Texas. If we want to hit our goal, we will need to put in a lot of efforts to attract more students insha'a Allah.

Here is a picture of what our masjid looks like. This is one of many masjid around the world, but this one is special to us because this masjid is connected to a school that teaches students how to read and write Arabic, the language of the Quran.

Faisal H. 7th Grade, El Paso NLC



# My Hifdh Adventure

Alhamdulillah, I have finished memorizing the Quran, and I will be talking about how I did this.

I started memorizing the Quran when I was younger. I was around six years old, and finished memorizing two Juz. I stopped memorizing until I started fourth grade. When I started fourth grade, I joined a full-time Hifdh program, and started attending a public online school that would teach all of the core subjects such as math, social studies, English, and science, but the only difference is that it was what would be after school after. I was done with my Hifdh program.

The Hifdh program would start at 8 and finish at 3:30. It was basically a substitute for school and doing light schoolwork later. When I started memorizing the Quran, I thought that I would never finish memorizing it, but Alhamdulillah I was able to. With the help of my teachers and classmates, I was able to finish the whole Quran with the fewest problems. In the morning I have to complete memorizing the new lesson, which would vary the more advanced I became. At first, I would do half a page, then one page, and after that, I would do two pages. Towards the end, I would even do up to three pages. After that, I would do my review and review a juz from the old memorized Ajzah (chapters).

The Islamic school that I attended before starting the Hifdh program offered a side program that would give the parents an option to send the kids to memorize with a renowned Sheikh in Dallas and they would provide him with a room to teach in.

The Sheikh I learned with was Sheikh Ramadan El-Sabagh from Dallas. The school had provided him with a room to teach in. My parents decided to enroll me in this program.

Finally, after two years, I concluded memorizing the whole Quran and I cannot describe the feeling of completing the Hifdh program successfully. It gives you a very big sense of accomplishment and fills you and your parents with pride. This is something that every single one of us should strive to do. Remember that no matter how hard the process of memorization gets, it will all pay off in the end. I wish you the best of luck in your journey insha'a Allah.

Omar I. 8th Grade, (El-Paso NLC)



## What skills do I want to develop this year at Furqaan Academy Online?

I would like to develop the skills of reciting the Quran smoothly and doing my math faster than before so I'll be good at school. My favorite studies are Arabic and Reading. I like Arabic because it is fun. I love writing in Arabic because it is satisfying, and it will also help me improve my reading in my Quran and understand the language.

I like reading because our teacher gives breaks. I also want to expand my vocabulary and even become a writer one day to write English novels. Another reason why I like English is because we write paragraphs and poems and I love to write my own stories!

Islamic studies is a subject that looks very interesting.

I like to learn about the prophet's stories and I am learning more about Allah. It is a fascinating subject that I try to excel at. This subject is very informative and I enjoy learning more about that subject. For example, in Islamic studies we learned about tawheed and shirk and it is good to know about these things so we don't commit any sins. Furqaan Academy Online is a great school and I wish to try my best in my years learning here.

Alishba M. 7th Grade

## What is Islamic Studies at Furqaan Academy Online?

### Advanced Islamic Studies at Furqaan Online

Islamic studies in general refers to the academic study of various aspects of the Islamic faith, including its history, teachings, beliefs, and practices. It involves learning about the Quran, Hadith (sayings and actions of Prophet Muhammad), Islamic law, and other related subjects.

### Components of advanced Islamic Studies

Islamic Studies at Furqaan Academy Online (FAO) is one of the major subjects in the curriculum. The most important components of this course, which students learn is Tafseer, or the translation of the Quran. Students learn what the Quran says by attending this class daily. They go over six ajza'a in a school year.

They also learn about the Prophet's seerah in Advanced Islamic Studies. A person's seerah is that person's journey through life, or biography, encompassing their birth, events in their life, manners and characteristics, and their death. It is very enjoyable learning about the Prophet's past life.

Jacob W. 8th Grade (El-Paso NLC )

## Mastering Arabic: My Learning Journey

I would like to develop my Arabic Language skills by practicing, using apps, and attending Arabic class every day until I get better and better and finally know how to speak Arabic fluently. When I fully learn Arabic, I might know how to understand my grandma and other people who speak Arabic, by remembering the Arabic words I have learned, putting them together to make sense.

I'll learn Arabic by learning the colors, nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs and adjectives; and I will learn the parts of speech in Arabic Language. I will learn how to form sentences with the words I learn. I will also learn a few sentences and then I will go onto the numbers, but it might take time as I might forget some words as time goes on. I need to learn how to remember them and pronounce words better so I can speak Arabic fluently.

Maybe in a few years, I'll know how to speak Arabic fluently.

Languages take time to learn, so it might take even longer as Arabic is one of the hardest languages to learn. I wish I were able to know how to speak it fluently so I can understand my grandma, other people who are speaking Arabic, and understand the Quran. Arabic might sound easy to learn, but it's way harder than you think.

Sakinah M. 6th Grade



## A Book that Lingers.

### I Read!

Assalamualaikum. I read a book called "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah and it was really interesting. The story takes place during World War II in France and follows two sisters, Vianne and Isabelle.

They have to deal with all the problems and scary things that happen during a war. The main idea of the book is about being strong and not giving up when things are tough.

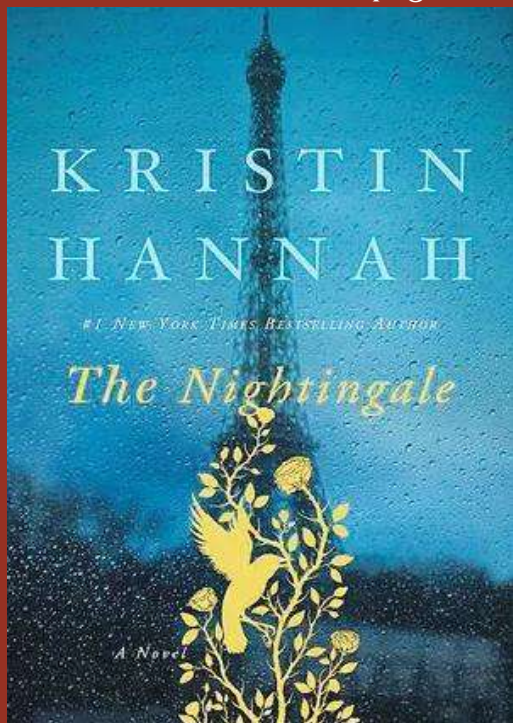
The author shows the sisters' journey and how brave and determined they are. The book talks about love, family, and how people can be strong even in hard times. It made me think about how we can find strength within ourselves. The book is accurate to history, the characters are well-written, and it has lots of emotions. Overall, "The Nightingale" is a really good and thought-provoking book to read. I think this book is really good and it made me think about finding strength in myself.

The book has lots of emotions, so it can make you feel happy, sad, or excited. Overall, I would recommend this book to anyone who likes stories about World War II and strong characters. Give it a try and see if you like it too!



Noor K. 7th Grade

Like our facebook page



## My Summer Journey

I had one trip during summer to the Wisconsin Waterpark and it was three hours away from our house in Illinois.

I packed my bags and got ready to go, and we left at seven in the morning. We traveled there by car. As we went along the way to the Waterpark; it was half an hour in when we stopped at the gas station and we found this little glass museum. It was very interesting. After this short visit, we continued traveling until we reached the Waterpark hotel. We went to the registration counter. We waited for half an hour and finally received the key to our room, which was next to the Waterpark. This was a good location for us. We were happy to have a room like that. After getting in our hotel room, we changed and got back in the car to head to the waterpark which was three minutes away.

We parked the car, ate lunch and headed to the Lazy River. We spent about an hour at the Lazy River, then we went to the indoor part of the Waterpark and went on a spinning water slide called Medusa's slide wheel. We stayed at the Waterpark for two more days. On the last day when we left back home, we had pizza for dinner. We reached home at one in the morning and went straight to bed. We were very tired but very happy.

Yaamin M. 6th Grade



# Interviewing a new teacher

*What is your full name, please?*

I am Mrs. Hacina Hanafi

*What is your position in Furqaan Online?*

I am the elementary homeroom teacher. I teach Language Art, Math, Science and Social Studies to 2nd and 3rd grade classes.

*When did you join Furqaan Academy Online teaching staff?*

This is my first year joining Furqaan Academy Online.

*Where do you live?*

Algiers, Algeria

*Where were you born/raised?*

I was born and raised in Algeria

*Where did you complete your studies?*

I studied at the University of Boumerdes, Algeria. I hold a Bachelor's degree in English Language and an associate degree in Business law.

*What is your experience with teaching?*

I already taught fourth grade classes in an Islamic school in the state of Florida, USA. I have five years of teaching experience plus teaching English at the University.

*Do you prefer online or in-person teaching?*

Both are fine. Teaching online requires a lot of skills such as technology savvy, patience, and how to get the online learner's attention.

*What are the advantages of learning in an online school?*

The online school offers all core and religious subjects. Plus it saves time as it eliminates the need for commuting to a physical school. Students can study from the comfort of their home. Safety also is an important factor. Finally, parents can monitor their children's progress on a daily basis.

*What is your teaching philosophy?*

It is that everyone has the right to learn and no one should be left behind.

Thank you Mrs. Hanafi for giving me the chance and the time to interview you.

Ibrahim K. 6th Grade



# Elementary writing Sample

Mrs. Hacina Hannafi, the homeroom teacher introduced elementary students to writing journals. We are sharing a student's journal today. We will insha'a Allah share more in future newsletters.

Last night I was sick. I was not feeling well and could not sleep. When I woke up in the morning, I didn't want to go to school. However, my mother convinced me to attend my class by saying it would make me feel better. Fortunately, I am happy I did because my math class was very interesting.

Hooriya Iqbal, 3rd grade

## What I enjoy doing Most ?

Writing stories is a fun, passive way to pass time by, letting go of things clotting your head and using most of your creativity and inspiration. Writing stories allows you to create characters and have them live in a controlled environment where you know everything that is going to happen. Sure, writing takes a lot of effort and time and sometimes the stories don't make sense, but it's a fun way to show what you like. Once you find out you can be a great author, and many other doors open ahead of you, because being an author isn't easy. It takes planning, editing, and spelling checks but, the result is a beautiful written piece to share with friends and family, maybe even the world!

Hanifah S. 7th Grade





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FULL-TIME ISLAMIC SCHOOL WITH INTEGRATED HIFDH



ACCREDITED BY\*



\*Using the same accredited curriculum as our Academy in Bolingbrook, Illinois

## THE ISLAMIC SCHOOL REIMAGINED

INTRODUCING THE FURQAAN ACADEMY ONLINE (FAO) NETWORKED LEARNING CENTERS (NLCs)

Every community in the USA can now have a Full-Time Islamic School

# ENROLLMENT OPEN

## YEAR ROUND FOR GRADES 1-12

### LIVE INSTRUCTION DAILY

8:00 AM - 4:15 PM CDT | 9:00 AM - 5:15 PM EDT | 7:00 AM - 3:15 PM MDT |  
6:00 AM - 2:15 PM PDT

- Balanced Educational Program – Knowledge of Both Deen and Dunya
- Daily Live Instruction in All Subjects
- Builds Foundational Skills in Reading, Writing and Math in Addition to Academic Excellence in Science and Social Studies
- Comprehensive Islamic Education that includes Quran, Arabic and Islamic Studies (Fiqh, Aqeedah, Hadith, Tafseer & Islamic History)
- Hifdh with Focus on Tajweed and Correct Pronunciation
- Academic Credit Recovery Program for High School Students
- Character Education with Daily Assembly
- Engaging Extracurricular Activities and Clubs



HYBRID  
CLASSES



SELF  
PACED



LIVE  
INSTRUCTION



GRADES  
1<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>



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