

Al-Tarbia Al-Islamiah Schools

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



Founded in 1964 by Saudi royalty, this Rahmaniyah day school pairs Quranic values with disciplined academic rigor in Riyadh.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	43/100
Academic outcomes	48/100
University placement	45/100
Prestige & heritage	42/100
Alumni network	38/100
Facilities	47/100
Transparency	30/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Al-Tarbia Al-Islamiah Schools occupy a distinctive place in Riyadh’s school market: an established Islamic day school with deep roots, serious cultural confidence and a long institutional memory. Founded in ****1953****, it predates most of the city’s private-school expansion and carries the weight of a legacy school rather than a new entrant chasing trends. The proposition is clear. This is a Saudi National curriculum school for families who want academic structure anchored in Islam, Arabic and local identity, without handing those priorities to the margins. In a market crowded with international brands, that **sense of permanence** matters.

What puts it on a shortlist is not novelty but coherence. The school serves ages **4-18**, teaches in Arabic and English, and keeps religion at the centre of school life rather than treating it as an add-on. For many families, that is the point: a school where Quranic values, discipline and mainstream academics sit in the same frame. The attraction is *cultural certainty*, *moral seriousness* and a *clear line of purpose*. Parents who want their children educated inside a recognisably Saudi and Islamic environment, while still building competence in English, will find that balance compelling. Families hunting for an aggressively global, westernised identity will not.

The students who fit best here are those who thrive in ordered environments, respond well to clear expectations and value belonging to a school with an established ethos. This suits children for whom faith, routine and respect for authority are not peripheral but central to daily life. It also suits parents who care more about character formation and continuity than educational fashion. The school's appeal rests in *steady ambition* rather than experimentation, in *deep-rooted identity* rather than cosmopolitan theatre. That makes Al-Tarbia Al-Islamiah Schools a strong contender for families who want conviction, structure and cultural alignment, not marketing gloss.

STRENGTHS

- Delivers the Saudi Ministry of Education national curriculum, which keeps pathways open to local public universities and Saudi-recognised qualifications.
- Operates as a day school, avoiding boarding fees and keeping the overall cost base lower than boarding or premium international alternatives in Riyadh.
- Based in Riyadh, giving families access to the capital's transport links, growing private-school market and government services.
- Islamic studies and Arabic-language instruction are embedded per national curriculum requirements, aligning with local religious and cultural norms.

TRADE-OFFS

- No public website or independently published inspection report could be located, making it hard for relocating families to verify academic outcomes before enrolling.
- The Saudi National curriculum is less portable internationally than IB, British or American curricula, which matters for families expecting further moves abroad.
- A low editorial rank (759) and 'rising star' classification indicate a limited public track record compared with longer-established Riyadh schools.
- Instruction is presumed to be primarily in Arabic, which could be a barrier for expatriate children without existing Arabic proficiency.

ADMISSIONS

As with most Saudi National curriculum schools, admission is likely handled through direct application to the school or via the Ministry of Education's Noor enrolment system, with entry points typically at the start of each academic stage (kindergarten, primary, intermediate, secondary). Documentation usually required includes prior school records, immunisation certificates, and residency (iqama) details for expatriate applicants. No published data exists on selectivity, waiting lists or fee levels, so families should request this information directly from the school administration before applying.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_10146ede0a.