



STUDENT–PARENT HANDBOOK

2025-2026

1284 E Bullard Ave, Fresno, CA 93710

(559) 274-6671

www.aia-islamic.school

Building Faith. Shaping Leaders

Vision

To nurture well-rounded, globally minded individuals who are rooted in Islamic values and empowered to excel academically, contribute positively to society, and serve as role model Muslims for their communities.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to ignite a passion for learning by seamlessly integrating all subjects into a unified whole, with Islam as the guiding light and foundation. We strive to inspire excellence by modeling the beauty and principles of an Islamic way of life through the unwavering dedication of our staff, board, and families, who serve as living examples of faith, integrity, and compassion. In a nurturing and empowering environment, we aim to awaken the potential within each student, fostering independent thought, spiritual growth, and intellectual curiosity.

A Message from the Principal

Assalam Alaikom. My name is Jamal Hajsaleh, and I am proud to be the principal of Al-Azhar Islamic Academy. As an educator for more than 30 years in colleges, departments of education, and other institutes, I intend to utilize all research, effective pedagogy and experience in applying constructivism as a way of instruction to maximize the output of the education process.

Due to my experience in teachers' professional development, I have found that it is a fundamental need that teachers receive support and career progress such that they are never left behind.

AIA follows the California state standards for curriculum and uses the McGraw Hill textbooks. Most California school districts use McGraw Hill textbooks, which are excellent resources for students.

I believe that all students can achieve their potential when provided adequate resources and an engaging environment. Safety and well-being are not additional features but instead essential elements that we pride ourselves on having implemented.

At Al-Azhar Islamic Academy, we value our community and consider parent involvement as a true and necessary partnership for student success. As an educational team, we are honored to work with you and are committed to ensuring your students feel valued and supported throughout their academic journey.

We look forward to a wonderful 2025-26 school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jamal Hajsaleh

School Office Hours

The school office is open from 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM Monday to Friday. Parents who wish to speak to a teacher and/or the principal are asked to call the school at (559) 274-6671 to make an appointment. Parents are asked not to meet with a teacher at any time while school is in session without an appointment.

Academic Calendar

IMPORTANT DATES

Teachers Report	11 Aug 2025
Professional Development	Aug 11-15, 2025
School Starts	22 Aug 2025
School Ends	5 Jun 2026

CONFERENCE DATES

Fall	20 Nov 2025
Spring	30 Apr 2026

HOLIDAYS

Labor Day	1 Sep 2025
Veterans Day	11 Nov 2025
Thanksgiving Break	Nov 24-28, 2025
Winter Break	Dec 22, 2025-Jan 2, 2026
Martin Luther King Day	19 Jan 2026
Lincoln's Birthday	9 Feb 2026
Washington's Birthday	16 Feb 2026
Spring Break	Mar 30-April 3, 2026
Memorial Day	25 May 2026

ISLAMIC DATES

Ramadhan	Feb 18 - March 20, 2026
Eid Al-Fitr	21 Mar, 2026
Eid Al-Adha	26 May, 2026

School Uniform

All Students are required to wear uniforms on a daily basis. Parental cooperation is expected. If a student comes to school without the school uniform a parent will be called to pick up the student –OR- bring a school uniform for the student to change into.

Dress Code

All students are required to wear school uniforms from Monday to Friday. Slippers, flipflops, and sandals are not allowed for safety concerns. All students should wear comfortable play shoes so they can engage in regular outdoor play and PE activities.

Uniform Violations

1. First Violation: The front office will contact the parents on the same day of the violation to inform them of the violation and for it to be rectified by the next school day.
2. Second Violation: The parents will be contacted by the front office to bring appropriate uniform to school. Students will be kept in the office until they are in the correct uniform.

Grading

While tests are the easiest method of evaluating students, AIA will incorporate alternative methods of assessment as well. Examples of indicators graded in alternative assessments include students' interpretation of ideas, application of skills and processes, critical thinking, presentation of assignments, creativity of work, mastery of course material, and so on.

Participation in class activities will also constitute as part of students' overall assessment and will be measured using indicators such as initiation of ideas, contribution to class discussion, efficiency in use of time, cooperative learning and class work, preparedness for class, and attendance.

Grading Criteria

A	Demonstrates superior levels of understanding and involvement regarding all quality and participation indicators.
B	Demonstrates high levels of understanding and involvement regarding all quality and participation indicators.
C	Demonstrates average levels of understanding and involvement regarding all quality and participation indicators.
D	Demonstrates a minimal level of understanding and involvement regarding all quality and participation indicators
F	Demonstrates less than a minimal level of understanding and involvement regarding all quality and participation indicators.

Honor Roll

The following criteria will be issued for determining honor roll status at each semester grading period:

- **Principal's Honor Roll** - The principal will recognize those students earning an "A" grade in all classes.
- **High Honors** – Each homeroom teacher will recognize those students who have earned a weighted GPA that is 3.75 and 3.99.
- **Honor Roll** - Each homeroom teacher will recognize those students who have earned a weighted GPA that is between 3.25 and 3.74

Progress Reports/Deficiency Notices

Students' progress is reported at the end of the six and twelve-week grading periods of each semester. Parents will be contacted and advised if a student is failing or in danger of failing prior to the end of the semester. The twelve-week progress report will serve as a deficiency notice to parents. If at any time parents have concerns or questions regarding their students' progress, they should contact the school as soon as possible.

Progress Report Dates:

November 20, 2025

April 2, 2026

Semester Report Cards

Final grades are issued to students twice a year at the end of each semester. Semester grades become part of a student's permanent transcript.

Code of Conduct

Behavioral Expectations

- Students always show respect to all school personnel and fellow students.
- Disrespectful attitudes, speech, and other discourteous actions are not allowed.
- Students are to respect all property. Parents/guardians are responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of any damaged property.
- Fighting or the use of abusive/foul language will not be tolerated.

AIA is committed to a safe and secure environment for all students and staff. Discipline is an integral part of nurturing youth and is considered a supporting element for individual learning. Disciplinary techniques that may be utilized are the following:

- Verbal correction
- Cooling off or time out
- Rewards and incentives

- Assigned school duties other than class tasks
- Sending the student to the office or other assigned areas
- Counseling by teachers, or administrative personnel.
- Withdrawal of privileges, including participation in extracurricular activities and honorary positions
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Detention
- Behavioral contracts
- Suspension (in-school or out-of-school)
- School defined and imposed probation
- Expulsion

Bullying Policy

AIA strives to provide a safe, positive learning environment for all students. Therefore, it is AIA's policy to not tolerate bullying or cyber bullying in any form.

- All forms of bullying and cyber bullying by students are prohibited. Anyone who engages in bullying or cyber bullying in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate discipline.
- Students who have been bullied or cyber bullied shall promptly report such incidents to any staff member.
- Complaints regarding bullying or cyber bullying shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action shall be taken when a complaint is verified. Neither reprisals nor retaliation shall occur as a result of the submission of a complaint.

Games, Electronics and Other Non-Instructional Devices/Materials

Toys and/or electronic devices should not be brought to school. These items include but are not limited to dolls and action figures, trading cards, handheld gaming devices, tablets and other personal electronic devices. Such items will be confiscated and kept in the office until a parent/guardian comes to pick up the confiscated item. In addition, the buying and selling of such items, or any other items, on school property is strictly forbidden. Anyone engaging in this activity will be subject to disciplinary action.

Cell Phone Policy

AIA is NOT responsible for ensuring the safety of cell phones that are brought to school. Students will not be allowed to have cell phones during school hours unless given permission by a teacher or administrator. Cell phone use during class is dependent upon each teacher's classroom policy. Teachers will enforce their classroom cell phone policies.