

Case study: Enacting Faithful Praxis in one Australian Islamic School.



Ali Arabaci, Principal, Eman Aweida, Secondary Teacher and Samah Taki, Primary Teacher, Irfan College, Cecil Park, NSW.

Abstract

Five years ago, Irfan College (Sydney) set out on a journey to renew educational practice in a way that authentically draws on Islamic ways of knowing and being to enact a faithful praxis. Being an Australian Islamic school that met national and state standards was insufficient. Enacting faithful praxis has meant developing a distinct educational practice that is faith-informed. In this presentation, the school principal will share reflections on the 'why' of this school wide commitment and two lead educators will provide curricular and pedagogical examples of a faithful praxis enacted.

Ali Arabaci Biography

Ali Arabaci is a secondary teacher who commenced his teaching career at Irfan College in 2013. Having served various teaching and middle leader roles at Irfan College, Ali was appointed as Principal in 2016. Ali has a background in community work and has assumed numerous roles in youth groups as a university student. Ali currently stands as a Board Director for Ilim College and an Executive Member for the Islamic Schools Association of Australia. Ali has a strong passion for learning, the Islamic sciences and Classical Arabic.





Eman Aweida Biography

Earlier this year, Ms Eman Aweida was recognised as the inaugural graduate of the Graduate Diploma in Education (Islamic Education) at the Centre for Islamic Thought & Education, University of South Australia. She is a secondary teacher at Irfan College and is also part of the Islamic Alignment Committee, focusing on Pedagogy and Curriculum integration.



Samah Taki Biography

Samah Taki is a primary school teacher at Irfan College. She is also part of the Islamic Alignment Committee, focusing on Pedagogy and Curriculum integration for primary and secondary years. Samah has a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood (birth to eight years), and a Master's degree in Teaching (up to twelve years). Samah is currently completing her Graduate Diploma in Education (Islamic Education).