Noor-Ul-Iman School

**About**

Founded in 1993, Noor-Ul-Iman is currently in its twenty-seventh year of operation. The current enrollment is 540 students in Pre-Kindergarten through twelfth grade. There are 108 students enrolled in the High School (ninth through twelfth grade). This year there are thirty-one students in the twelfth grade, who will be the seventeenth high school graduating class.

**Accreditation**

Noor-Ul-Iman School (NUI) is a non-public, non-profit, tax-exempt educational organization recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education and accredited by the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools (NJAIS). It is a member of the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools, the National Association of Independent Schools, the Council of Islamic Schools of North America, the Islamic Schools League of America, and the New Jersey League of Islamic Schools (co-founded by NUI School).

**Mission**

Children of good character are the building blocks of a successful community. Our mission is to provide an excellent academic and Islamic education within an Islamic environment to produce good citizens and strong leaders who have a commitment to individual excellence, family, community, and humanity. In partnership with parents, we strive to help our students develop strong Islamic values, self-confidence, a positive attitude, and respect for self and others.

**Instructional Program**

Noor-Ul-Iman offers a comprehensive and rigorous academic & Islamic program for students in KG – 12th Grade which helps students develop deep conceptual understanding by using real world and problem-based interactive learning (whole and small groups) a core part of instruction every day. Interactive learning is connected with visual learning through both print and digital instruction, with options for personalization.

Noor-Ul-Iman further offers a formal Physical Education class, series of electives including art, foreign language, computers, AP and college courses for high school students, and extracurricular activities, sports and clubs for students in KG – 12th grade.

**Pre-Kindergarten**

NUI’s Pre-K program consists of an English/Academics program and a Religious Studies/Arabic program. Students are exposed to print through read-alouds and are able to participate in art activities and experiential learning based on thematic units. They also learn Arabic letters, numbers and words, simple dua’a’s (supplications), short chapters from the Holy Qur’an and stories of the Prophets. Students memorize sixteen dua’a’s (supplications) & eleven chapters from the Qur’an.

The Pre-K program includes indoor/outdoor play in which students’ gross motor and observational skills are developed. Students are taught to practice responsible social and personal behavior during physical activity sessions. A rest/nap time is also scheduled during the day.

**Elementary, Middle & High School**

Noor-Ul-Iman’s program is designed to give students a strong foundation in Literacy and Mathematics alike, with the integration of Science, Social Studies, the arts and character building throughout the curricula. Students have the advantage of learning through a variety of methods, including interactive whiteboard instruction.

Interests and needs are met through independent and cooperative learning, a formal physical education program, technology, active engagement, critical thinking, hands-on activities, S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, art and math) activities, real life projects, and teacher collaboration and training. Various competitions and after school programs are available to students KG—12th grade. In addition, NUI nominates students for the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Talent Search, which has resulted in many students qualifying for the Center for Talented Youth programs.

**Core Values**

Faith • Respect • Integrity • Commitment • Moral Character • Tolerance • Excellence

**Administration**

The administrative and educational affairs of the school are managed by the Head of School with the help of an administrative team consisting of a group of professional educators averaging seventeen years of educational experience, a Business Manager with twenty-seven years of experience in the field, and the Head of IT with eighteen years of experience in the field. The Administrative Team is made up of: Head of School, High School Division Head, Middle School Division Head, Elementary School Division Head, Early Childhood Division Head, Business Manager, and Head of IT.

**Faculty**

NUI students are instructed by sixty-six full time and part time faculty members allowing for the advantages of a low student/teacher ratio. In addition to the faculty members who have Bachelor’s degrees in their fields, nineteen have Master’s degrees and one has a PharmD degree. NUI faculty members have an average of twelve years of teaching experience. All of the foreign language faculty members are native speakers of the language they teach. Several of the high school faculty members have published papers and/or books and many faculty members throughout the school have led workshops in their areas of expertise.

**Students**

The NUI student body is very diverse. Students come from a variety of cultural and economic backgrounds. Most of the students are bilingual, and some are trilingual. This diversity of the NUI student body gives the students a greater perspective on cultural traditions as well as religious understanding.
**NUI Islamic Studies and Quran Programs**

With the collaboration of educators and religious scholars, NUI has designed an Islamic Studies and Quran curricula that is both age appropriate and applies the context of the time and place in which we live.

Students in their early years between ages 3-8 are introduced to the foundations of Islam and Stories of Prophets. The love of Allah and the Prophet are the focus of early learning. They learn salah and a series of duaa that help them build good character. As they begin upper elementary and middle school, students are guided by expert teachers and scholars to help them shape their understanding of their deen. Special seminars are embedded into the curriculum to help middle school students adjust to their developmental changes and learn Islamically appropriate akhlaaq and adaab. By high school, students dive deep into fiqh and aqeedah and are provided with the expertise of the NUI religious scholar to discuss contemporary issues. Our expert teachers cover topics such as seerah, purification of the heart, and marriage.

The new Quran Department Chair in collaboration with NUI staff, redesigned the Quran curriculum to allow more memorization in the younger years and lead into understanding quranic science and tafseer as students become developmentally ready. Students are expected to master proper recitation and tajweed by the end of elementary school as the curriculum requires mastery of makharej (articulation points of the Arabic letters) and tajweed (application of quranic recitation rules) while they memorize a series of surahs.

### ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

Noor-UI-Iman School continues to maintain an excellent academic record. The students in first through eighth grade take the Comprehensive Testing Program 5 (CTP5) national standardized test each year in the spring. First and second graders receive score results in terms of skill development and percentage mastery. Third through eighth graders receive scores in terms of percentiles compared to national norms. In April 2019, over 90% of NUI’s third through eighth graders received scores that were average or above, and over 55% of the students scored in the top 25% of the students who took the test nationwide.

NUI middle school students take the SAT and ACT tests in preparation for college and consistently score well above the national average. Please refer to the High School section above for more details.

In addition to its excellent Academic and Religious Studies programs, Noor-UI-Iman School offers students the opportunity to participate in a variety of clubs, interscholastic sports, and competitions. Of special note, NUI’s students have won numerous awards. For example:

**Contests and Awards**

- 2019 NJ Department of Environmental Protection’s Smokey Bear Calendar Art Contest: An NUI first grader was a contest winner and her artwork is featured in their calendar.
- 2019 Science Olympiad Division B: The NUI middle school and ninth grade team placed second in the Regionals and moved on to the state competition.
- 2019 National Language Arts League Competition: Six NUI 2nd graders and three NUI 4th graders were National Student Winners, and the NUI 9th and 11th grade teams were second place National Team Winners.
- Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Talent Search: Since NUI began nominating students for the Talent Search seventeen years ago, 263 NUI students have tested and qualified for Center for Talented Youth programs.
- 2019 President’s Volunteer Service Award: An NUI 10th grade student was presented with this prestigious award based on the amount of time she served her community and country.
- 2019 National Hispanic Recognition Program: An NUI 12th grade student was recognized as a Scholar based on his PSAT/NMSQT score which was in the top 2.5% among all Hispanic and Latino test-takers in the region.

**Competitions**

- 2018-2019 WordWright Challenge: Three NUI high school students received Honors in various meets (all in the top 1% nationally).
- 2017 Vincent J. Apruzzese Mock Trial Competition: The NUI Mock Trial team placed first in Middlesex County, first in the Regional Competition, and second in the State of New Jersey.
- 2018 Franklin Model United Nations Conference: The NUI Model UN team received two Best Delegate, two Outstanding Delegate, and one Distinguished Delegate award.
- 2019 Johns Hopkins University Model United Nations Conference: The NUI Model UN team received two Best Delegate, and one Outstanding Delegate awards.
- 2017 Emir Abdelkader Global Leadership Essay Contest: An NUI 9th grader won the first place prize and traveled to Iowa to present her essay.
- 2018-2019 New Jersey Forensic League Tournaments: A student from the NUI Debate Club won two first place awards and one second place award in the Junior Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Division. Additionally, an NUI student won fourth place in the state tournament.

**Athletics**

- Soccer: The NUI High School Boys’ 2019 Varsity Soccer Team ended its fall season with an excellent record of 10 wins and 2 losses.