

Drop Down Day
15th of December, 2021

Quwwat ul Islam Girls' School

Year Group	10 & 11
Trip Location	Aziziye Mosque

Our main focus was to focus on:

- **Learning Driver:** 'Caring for our Education'
- **UNCRC:** Article 28 of the UNCRC says that children and young people **have the right to education** no matter who they are: regardless of race, gender or disability; if they're in detention, or if they're a refugee.

Students had the opportunity to visit Aziziye Camii in Hackney. They were given a tour of the mosque by the Imam, Brother Ebu Bekir, who explained the uses of each of the unique features of the Mosque including the; dome, kursee, mihrab and minbar. He touched upon the uniquely Turkish design of the mosque that uses the colour often referred to as 'Ottoman Blue' and the beautiful tiles from the city of Kütahya in Turkey. He explained that the mosque was painted freehand using traditional Turkish motifs such as tulips and that the mosque is now a listed building.

Students were also enlightened through the use of stories and Ottoman history. The story of Mimar Sinan blowing 'bubbles' in the mosque to test its acoustics was particularly interesting! The Imam also spoke about the use of 'thuluth' Arabic script (calligraphy) in the decoration of the mosque and the tradition of ijazah in calligraphy teaching and learning. He also spoke about his own educational experience on his journey to becoming an Imam which involved learning in Egypt and studying under reputable scholars.

Students had the opportunity to pray, explore the architecture in detail and even look through some Turkish islamic books. They were offered lokum (Turkish delight) by the Imam and had lunch in the beautiful event hall of the mosque complex.



