

*In The Name of God, Most Gracious,  
Most Merciful*

*Assalaamu alay kum!*

**Wish You a Happy New  
Year**

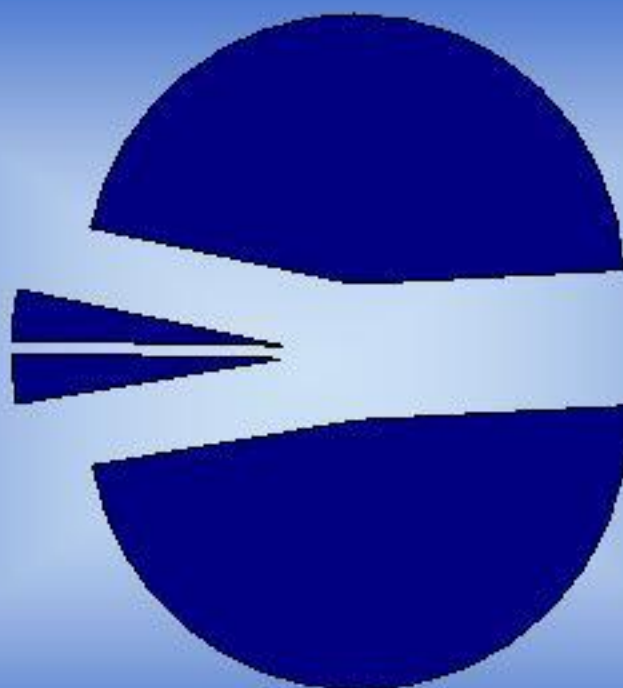
# Islamic Studies, Qur'anic Studies, Social Skills, Academic Readiness

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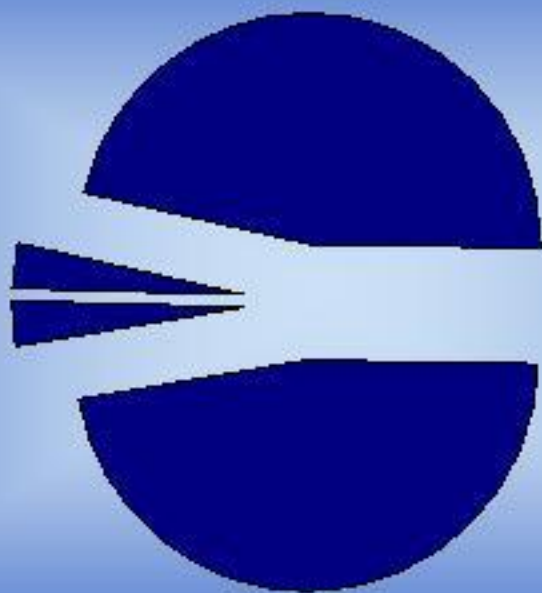
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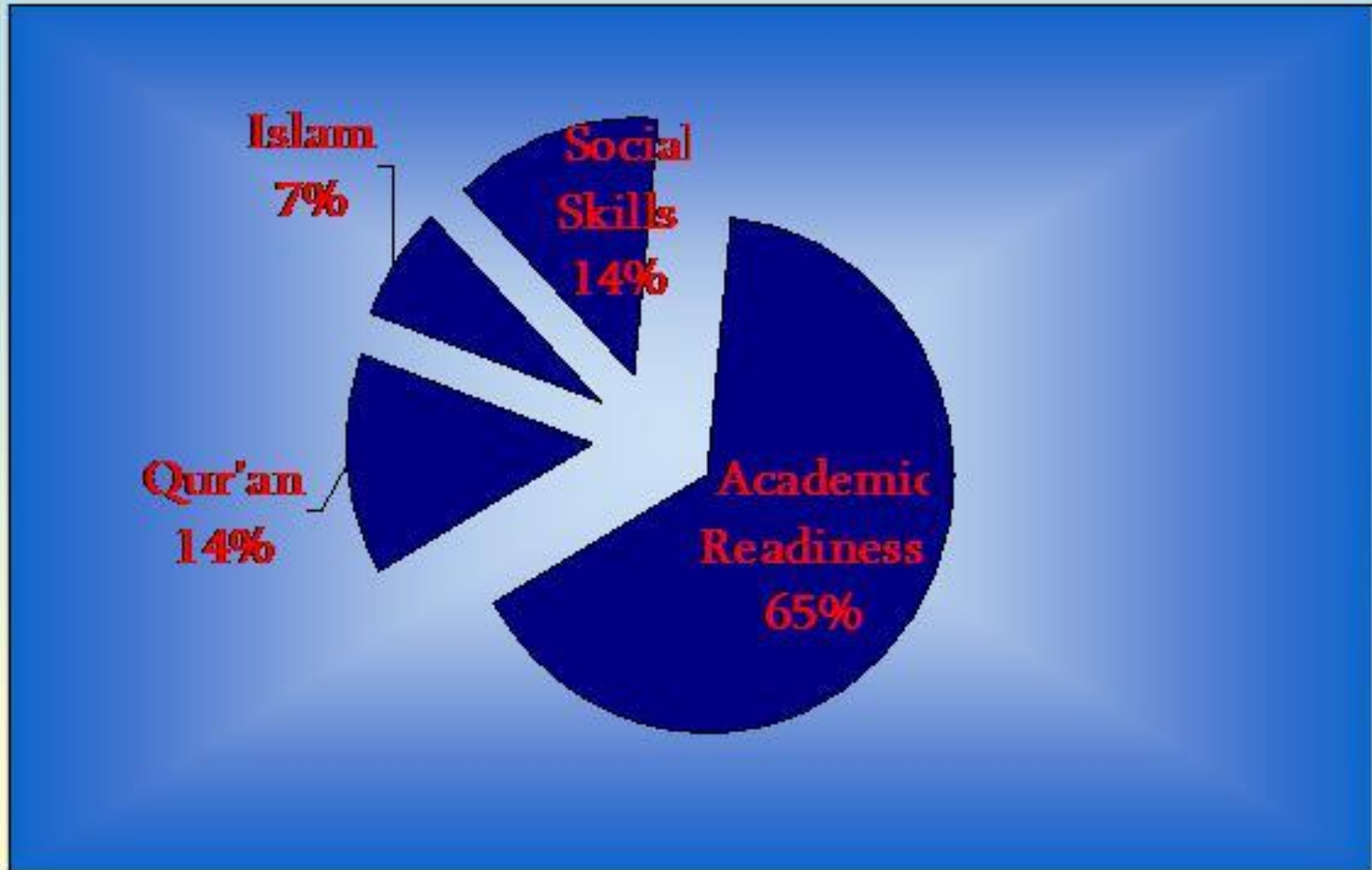


# Islamic Studies, Qur'anic Studies, Social Skills, Academic Readiness

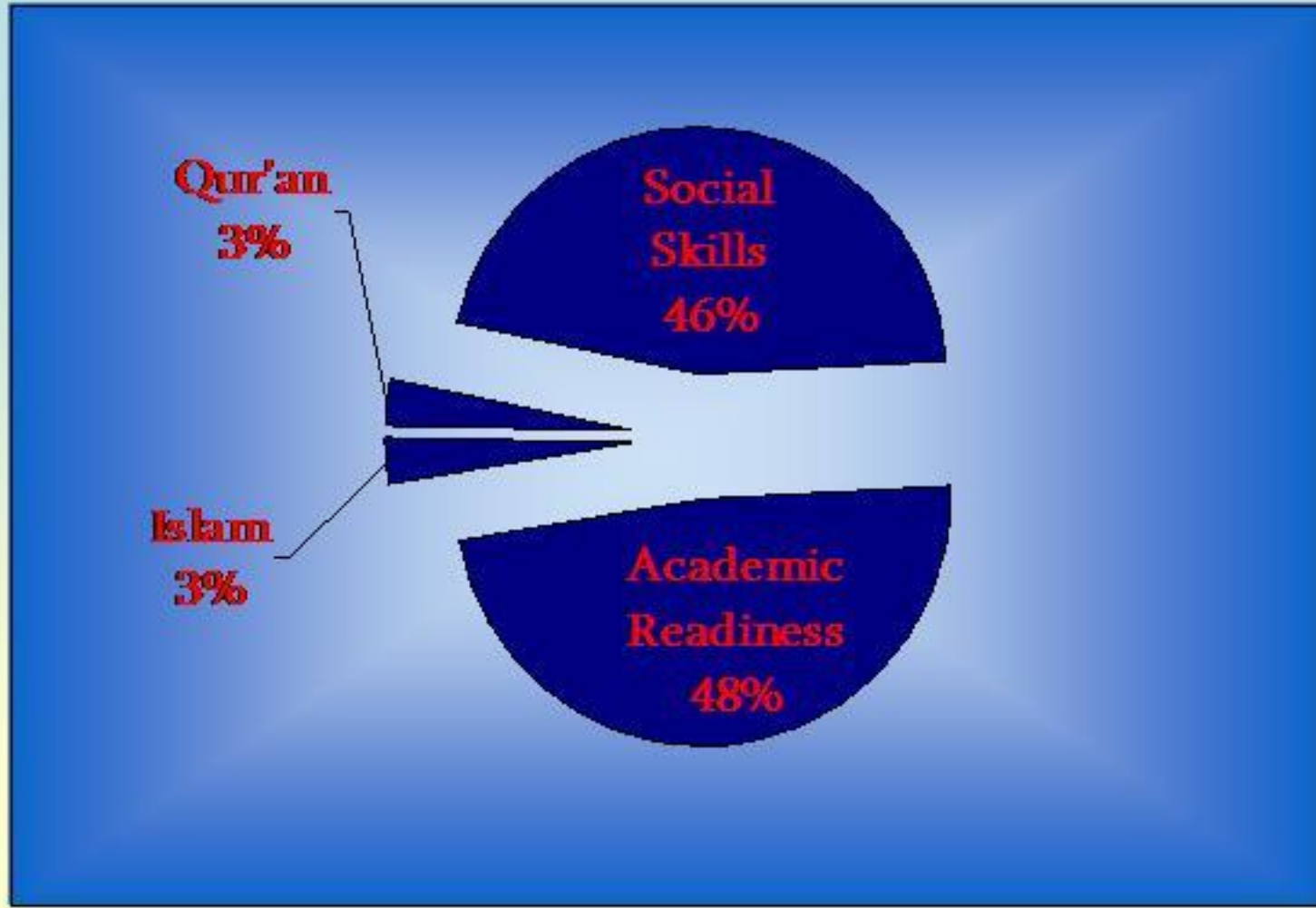
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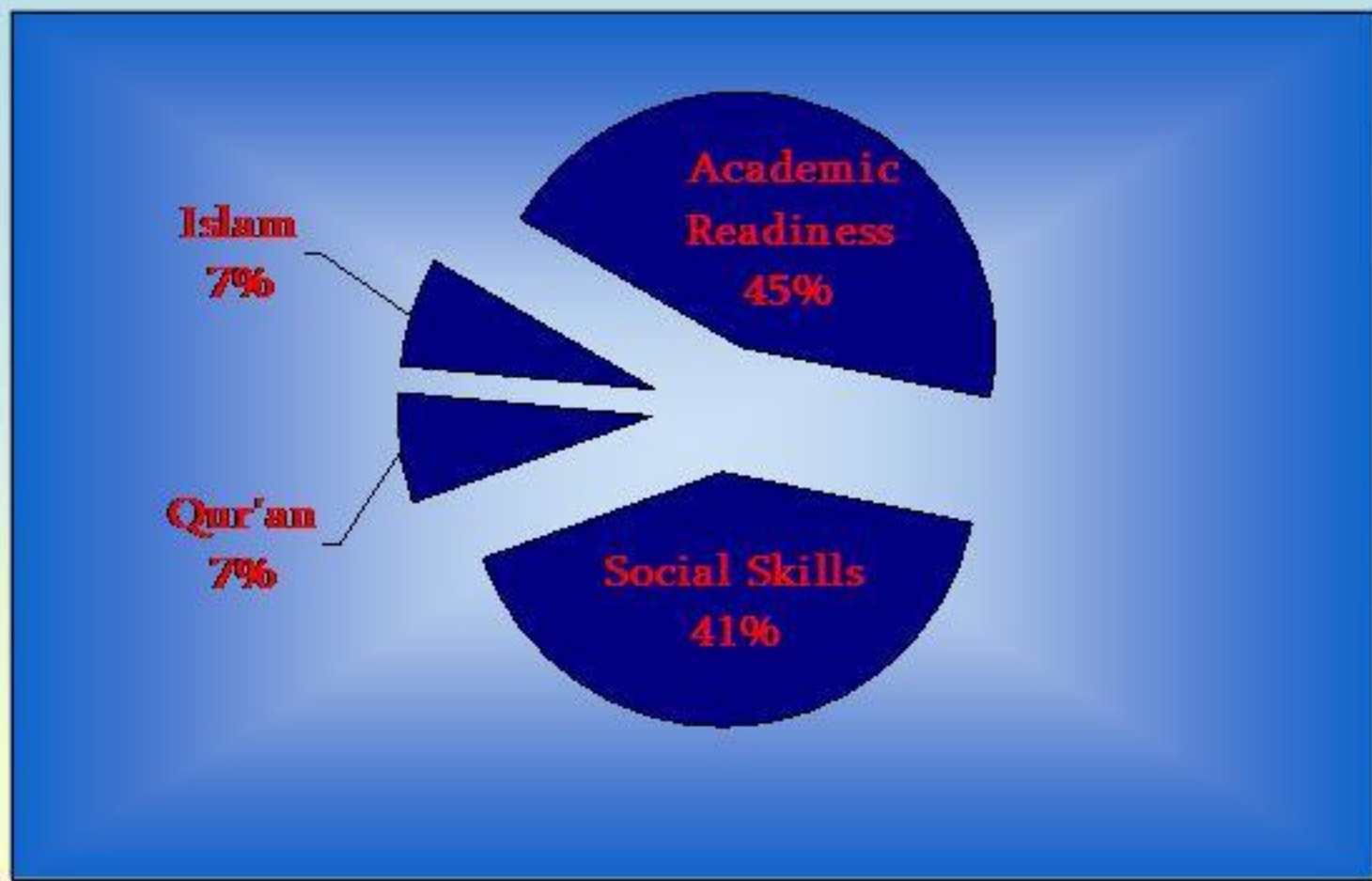
# What Parents Want Their Children To Know When Entering Kindergarten



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# **What is the Purpose of Islamic Education?**

**What do we want the end result of this unique education to be, which starts as early as age two?**

- **Good morals (Akhlāq) to form the core of our children's character and personality as confident Muslims.**
- **Firm grounding in moral and ethical values.**
- **Quality academic education**



# **What Do We Do?**

**At New Horizon Schools and all other Islamic Schools we strive to provide a quality academic education in an Islamic environment.**

**We believe that growth in **social skills** with an emphasis on **Islamic values** will help our children develop a **positive self-image** as American Muslims.**

# **What is Important?**

**A good disposition marked with the qualities of compassion, benevolence and respectful behavior must be nurtured and emphasized in the Pre-school years.**

**This is the key to enabling our Muslim children interact with one another in a productive and pure manner for**

**“BUILDING BETTER TOMORROWS”**

# PEOPLE SKILLS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE

## Developing Social Emotional Skills in Pre-school



# AGENDA

- **Akhlaq - an important component of our faith.**
- **What are social emotional skills?**
- **Why are social emotional skills important?**
- **How do we develop social emotional skills?**

# Akhlaq (Good Manners)

- Akhlaq – an Arabic term.
- Refers to the practice of **virtue, morality and manners.**
- Most commonly translated in English dictionaries as:
  - disposition**
  - nature**
  - temper**
  - ethics**
  - morals or character (of a person)**

# Qur'an on Akhlaq

- **Worship Allah, and do not associate partners with Him. And be good to your **parents**, and the **relatives**, and to the **orphans**, and to the **poor** people, and the **neighbor** that is close to you and the neighbor that is not close to you, and your **companion** on the journey. Verily Allah does not love any of those, who full of self-conceit act in a boastful manner”**  
**Surah An-Nisa - 4:36**
- **Ye have indeed in the Messenger of Allah a beautiful pattern (of conduct) for any one whose hope is in Allah and the Final Day, and who engages much in the praise of Allah.**  
**Surah Al-Ahzab 33:21**

**Faith manifests itself in our behavior.  
Good manners is the best form of *dawah*.**

# **Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:**

**“The dearest of you to me, is he who is the best of you in Akhlaq.**

## **A great example for all of us to follow:**

- **Virtues of the Prophet (PBUH)**
- **His life, his dealings with young and old, friends and foes.**
- **Teach ourselves and our children - make them aware of the life of the Prophet (PBUH).**
- **Improve conduct - become better human beings.**

# **The Qur'an outlines essential components of all relationships**

**Respect**

**Honesty**

**Kindness**

**Tolerance**

**Patience**

**Forgiveness**

**Compassion**

**Self-restraint**

**All these virtues apply between parents and children, spouses, business partners, neighbors and friends.**



**“If education is always to be conceived along the same antiquated lines of a mere transmission of knowledge, there is little to be hoped from it in the bettering of man’s future. For what is the use of transmitting knowledge if the individual’s total development lags behind?”**

**Maria Montessori**

**“No one has yet realized the wealth of sympathy, kindness and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every education should be to unlock that treasure.”**

**Author Unknown**

# **What Are Social Emotional Skills?**

- **Confidence → Self Esteem**
- **Co-operation**
- **Communication**
- **Independence**
- **Self-control**
- **Empathy**

# **Why Are Social Emotional Skills Important?**

- **Competence, self esteem, higher academic achievement.**
- **Good relationships with peers and adults and stronger friendships.**
- **Identify, understand, communicate and manage own feelings and emotions.**
- **Solve problems, successfully resolve conflicts**
- **Focus, follow directions and complete tasks.**
- **Understand others' feelings and emotions**

# **What Happens When Social Emotional Skills Are Not Developed**

- **Low self esteem leading to behavior problems**
- **Difficulty following directions**
- **Difficulty in interpersonal relationships**
- **Difficulty working in groups**
- **Rejection amongst peers**
- **Aggression and anxiety**
- **Social awkwardness**
- **Incompetence and low self esteem**
- **Social and emotional malfunction**

# **How Do We Develop Social Emotional Skills**

- **Confidence → build self esteem.**
- **Sharing, taking turns.**
- **Relationships → making friends.**
- **Good manners.**
- **Independence → staying on task, follow directions.**
- **Self-control → conflict resolution,**
- **Empathy → understand how others feel.**

# **Confidence – Self Esteem**

**Lays the foundation for the child's future**

- **Foster a sense of belonging**
- **Provide encouragement**
- **Be a role model**
- **Identify strengths**
- **Set limits**

# **Sharing & Taking Turns**

- **Make sharing fun and start small**
- **Avoid reproach - praise positives**
- **Problem solve**
- **Respect ownership**
- **Lead by example**
- **Give to charity**
- **Practice makes perfect**

# Making Friends

- **Cooperative use toys and materials**
- **Class schedule with friendship opportunities**
- **Model friendship skills – adults, peers**
- **Positive reinforcement – be specific**

**“Who would choose to live, even if possessed with all other things, without friends”**

**- Aristotle**



# Manners

- **Set rules – prioritize – start small**
- **Give reminders**
- **Teach polite speech, gentleness**
- **Correct inappropriate manners**
- **Give choices**
- **Positive reinforcement**

**“Manners are a sensitive awareness of the feeling of others. If you have that awareness, you have good manners, no matter which fork you use”**

**Emily Post**

# Conflict Resolution

- **Keep calm**
- **Acknowledge feelings**
- **Gather information – be a good listener**
- **Ideas to solve problem - help negotiate**
- **Recap conflict and solution**
- **Praise - follow-up – support**

**Conflict should be managed, but should not (and realistically cannot) be eliminated.**

**Amanda Morgan – Blog 'Not Just Cute'**

# Expressing Feelings

- **Recognize feelings/emotions**
- **Name feelings**
- **Be a role-model**
- **Praise positive behavior**

**“Too often we give children answers to remember, rather than problems to solve.”**

**Roger Lewin**

# Empathy

- **Address emotional needs**
- **Develop awareness**
- **Model empathetic behavior**
- **People are similar**
- **Others' point of view**
- **Read facial expressions**
- **Sense of morality**

**“We live in a culture that discourages empathy. A culture that too often tells us our principle goal in life is to be rich, thin, young, famous, safe, and entertained.”**

**Barack Hussein Obama**

# Closing Thoughts

*All of you reading this have loved someone, have done someone a kindness, have healed a wound, have taken on a challenge, have created something beautiful, have enjoyed breathing the air of existence.*

*Never doubt how precious, how vitally important you are.*

*Every moment you make a difference.*

*So, today, appreciate yourself as a  
Random Act of Kindness.*