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## Islamia Primary School Wins Education Award for Excellence

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013, Islamia Primary School received the prestigious *GPU Education Award for Excellence* (Primary/UK) in front of an audience of many thousands at the ExCel centre, London, which was broadcasted LIVE to over 120 countries around the world.

The GPU Education Awards focused on searching for the best English speaking Muslim faith schools across the globe. The criteria included promoting Good Character, School Academic Performance, Creative & Innovative Curriculum, Promotion of Community Cohesion & Tolerance, Parental Participation & Engagement, Extra-Curricular Activities & Achievements. Other winning schools were awarded from South Africa, Nigeria, Canada and the USA.

Islamia Primary School is one of the best known Muslim faith schools in Britain, partly due to its founder, Yusuf Islam, who in the 1960s and 1970s was the well-known singer/songwriter, 'Cat Stevens'. As the school celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, it is a proud moment for all its stakeholders.

The Headteacher, Mrs Zahida Shaheem said: "We celebrate with all the schools, individuals and teams whose dedication and hard work are making a real difference for their pupils and their communities. This can only help us to move forward to make better the lives of future generations, and a heartfelt thank you to the people who make these initiatives happen".

The Chair of Governors, Dr Ahsan Mirza said: "The GPU Education Award is a clear reflection of the good work being done. This year has been a great year. The leaders, managers, staff, governors, parents and pupils have been working really hard to get us to where we are. But we have only just begun. I am confident that the next year will be even better, a stronger team with greater achievements. "

The PSA Chair, Mrs Nur Enver said: "Winning the award has been well deserved and very motivating for us to excel further. It is a result which has proven that when parents, teachers, staff and pupils work as a team we can reap dividends."