

Tarbiyat in the Maktab – تربية الاطفال

There are two aspects to Maktab teaching

1. **Ta'leem:** To impart the knowledge of Deen to the children in your class.
2. **Tarbiyyat:** To ensure that the knowledge of Deen is implemented in the lives of the children with all the aadaab and etiquettes.

Hadhrat Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (RA) mentions that our elders used to put more emphasis on tarbiyat as compared to ta'leem.

How to go about making tarbiyat of our maktab children?

Firstly we need to make our own Tarbiyat

Remember, only a lighted candle can light other candles

1. Develop good qualities like sincerity, taqwa, love, good character, politeness and tolerance.
2. Link yourself to a Shaikh-e-Kaamil and strictly follow the teachings of your elders.
3. Be concerned about our own islaah and tarbiyat till the end of our lives.

When making Tarbiyat of children focus on the following;

- Instill the Greatness of Allah Ta'ala in the child
- Develop the love for Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) and his sunnah in the child.
- Create a desire for the Aakhirah in them
- Imbibe Good Character, Good Morals and good manners in them.

Note: In every lesson whether its Qur-aan, Fiqh, Aqaaid or History we should try and discuss some aspect of the above-mentioned points. This is the advice of Hadhrat Shaikh (RA)

Keep the following points in mind when making tarbiyat;

1. Talking

1. Teach the child how to speak properly with adab and respect.
2. Pupils must use the following words abundantly in their speech.
 - Assalaamu alaykum warahmatullahi wabarakaatuhu
 - JazakAllah
 - Al-hamdulillah
 - Insha Allah
 - Masha Allah
 - Please
3. Be truthful and honest in everything they say. Lies must never be tolerated.
4. They must not speak out of turn
5. When their elders are speaking, they must remain silent.
6. When called they must reply by saying jee

2. Dressing

1. Check the dressing of the children are in accordance to the Sunnah.
2. A code of conduct for dressing must be outlined in the beginning of the year to the parents so that they know how to dress the children when sending them to Madrasah.
3. Boys dressing must be according to Sunnah with Kurta, Topee and pants above the ankles. No two length haircuts.
4. Girls to cover their hair and wear loose flowing garments. Not tight fitting. To wear burqahs and purdah from grade four upwards.
5. Children must be encouraged to dress Islamically even out of Madrasah.

3. Cleanliness

1. Check that pupils nails are clean and cut short.
2. Pupils must cover their mouths when yawning coughing and sneezing.
3. Pupils must make wudhu and come to class.
4. Pupils must not dig / pick their noses. They must not wipe their noses on their sleeves and burqas. Use tissue paper to clean the nose.

4. Zikr in the Maktab

Children should be made to make a short zikr daily before leaving for home. The following zikr should be made. It takes only one minute to make these azkaar.

- 10 X Astaghfirullah
- 10 X Durood Shareef
- 10 X Subhanallah
- 10 X Alhamdulillah
- 10 X Allahu Akbar
- 10 X Laailaha illallaah
- 10 X Allah (Isme Zaat)

5. Daily Reminder

The “Daily Reminder” chart must be put up on the wall and children must read it out before leaving for home.

6. Respect for kitaabs and the Qur-aan Shareef

Make a point of teaching children how to respect the Qur-aan Shareef. How to hold the Qur-aan Shareef and how to keep the books on the desk. Many children keep the Qur-aan Shareef and kitaabs on the floor. Some place books and pencils on the Qur-aan Shareef.

7. General Points

1. Read out Fazaail-e-Aamaal (abridged version) daily for 3 minutes before the children leave for home.
2. Use the 100 Sunnats Kitaab to ensure that they practice on all the sunnats of Rasulullah ﷺ
3. Have a slot for assembly once a week and call all the students of the whole Madrasah together. Discuss one topic with the whole maktab. E.g. **Speaking the truth.**
4. **Correcting the pupils:** Correct the students with hikmah whenever we see them doing something incorrect. E.g. wearing the left shoe first.
5. Work on right and left. Enter with the right foot, leave with the left foot. Drink and eat with the right hand.

Books that could be used for tarbiyat

- Etiquettes for maktab students
- Hadith and Akhlaaq book
- Rules of a Muslim Home
- Tarbiyati Behishti Zewar – Still to be published
- Ta'leemut Tarbiyat – Still to be published
- Mol Imtiaaz Katradah's book on tarbiyat

Conclusion

Regard the Tarbiyah of these children to be your greatest asset. Never regard it to be a burden. It is the greatest profit any person can earn.