

# Promised Land Academy

Independent school progress monitoring inspection report

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DfE registration number	Promised Land Academy
Unique Reference Number (URN)	131031
Inspection number	365620
Inspection dates	18 November 2010
Reporting inspector	David Young

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## **Purpose and scope of the inspection**

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005.<sup>1,2</sup>

The inspection was conducted at the request of the Registration Authority for independent schools in order to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan following the previous inspection.

## **Information about the school**

Promised Land Academy is an independent coeducational Christian school located in the London Borough of Newham. It opened in 2005 and is registered for pupils aged from four to 16 years. There are currently 20 pupils on roll, aged from six to 15 years. None has a statement of special educational needs and none has been identified as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. Pupils have diverse cultural heritages and all have English as their first language. The school is part of the Christian Education Europe (CEE) network. It uses the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) curriculum supplemented by other subjects taught in the afternoon. It is a requirement of entry that the families of the pupils are Christians and a high level of involvement is expected from parents.

The school seeks to 'glorify God by preparing students for a useful and productive Christ-like life by providing a Bible-based education with a staff who are committed Christians'.

It was last inspected in October 2009.

## **Context of the inspection**

The school was inspected in October 2009. It met almost all of the regulations for registration as an independent school. Following that inspection, in February 2010 the school submitted an action plan to address the one regulatory failure related to the safeguarding policy and procedures; the action plan was approved in May 2010. The school then received a monitoring visit in July 2010. This resulted in a further action plan which was accepted in September 2010. This action plan and the accompanying evidence indicated that the school had made satisfactory progress in responding to the issue raised at the original inspection. It was recommended that a further progress monitoring visit be undertaken to check the implementation of the revised safeguarding policy and procedures.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/ukpga\\_20020032\\_en\\_14#pt10-ch1-pb4-l1g162](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/ukpga_20020032_en_14#pt10-ch1-pb4-l1g162)

<sup>2</sup> [www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2005/ukpga\\_20050018\\_en\\_15#sch8](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2005/ukpga_20050018_en_15#sch8)

## **Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan**

Promised Land Academy was required to revise its child protection policy and procedures following its inspection in October 2009. This progress monitoring visit looked at the implementation of the revised safeguarding policy and procedures.

The monitoring visit found that the revised policy is comprehensive and provides a secure basis for the management of child protection in the school. It was updated in August 2010 and is marked as due for review in August 2011. In addition to procedures for managing any disclosures or incidents, the policy includes references to awareness-raising for pupils through the curriculum. The policy identifies the headteacher as the designated person for child protection and recognises the requirement for training to be updated every two years, and every three years for staff and volunteers. There is also a named trustee with delegated responsibility for oversight of the policy and procedures. Appropriate information is included about links with the Local Safeguarding Children Board, together with contact details in the case of any referrals. The headteacher completed appropriate child protection training in October 2009. The headteacher has trained all staff members, using the child protection materials and structure of the course he attended. Both members of staff interviewed during the visit have a good understanding of the required safeguarding procedures, the need for confidentiality and the role of the designated person for child protection.

Pupils interviewed during the monitoring visit can identify themes related to 'keeping safe' which they have studied in the school's curriculum and assemblies. They report that they feel safe in the school and that they do not experience bullying. They have confidence in the staff to attend appropriately to any concerns they may have. There have been no incidents or safeguarding disclosures within the school. The school has appropriate procedures in place to record any incidents, including those reported to the school by social services.

The monitoring visit found that the proprietor, who also acts as the school Principal, takes responsibility for the recruitment of staff and volunteers. The school demonstrates a good understanding of the safeguarding checks required and maintains a single central register in line with requirements. This was approved at the time of the last inspection and there have been no new staff appointments since that time.

## **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

The school has made good progress and now meets all regulatory requirements.

## School details

<b>School status</b>	Independent
<b>Type of school</b>	Christian day school
<b>Date school opened</b>	2005
<b>Age range of pupils</b>	4–16 years
<b>Gender of pupils</b>	Mixed
<b>Number on roll</b>	Boys: 9          Girls: 11          Total: 20
<b>Annual fees (day pupils)</b>	£2,600 (average)
<b>Address of school</b>	St Cedd's Hall, Foster Road (off Whitwell Road) Plaistow, London E13 8SR
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 7473 3229
<b>Email address</b>	admin@promisedlandacademy.org.uk
<b>Headteacher</b>	Mr Allan Coote
<b>Proprietor</b>	Mrs Shirley Coote