

T Plus Centre

Independent school progress monitoring inspection report

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Reporting inspector	Mick Megee

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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.

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

The T Plus Centre is a small special school that opened in 2007. It is located in Liskeard, Cornwall. It provides education for boys who have behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. Some also have additional difficulties related to autism spectrum disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or attachment disorder. Students are placed by local authorities. There are 7 boys on roll aged between the ages of 13 and 16 years. All have a statement of special educational needs and two are looked after by their local authority. Most of the students have attended the school for less than three terms. The school operates from two sites, including premises on a local business park where students have the opportunity to carry out vocational and practical activities. The T Plus Centre aims 'to simulate various live work situations and deliver a flavour of what young people can expect as they approach adult working life'. It seeks 'to provide a vibrant and exciting approach in a properly accredited framework which draws out and develops the interests and talents of students in an enjoyable way'.

Context of the inspection

The school's last inspection was on 8 and 9 November 2011 and its action plan to address regulations which were not met at the time of the inspection was approved on 27 February 2012. This is the school's first monitoring inspection to evaluate the progress made in implementing its action plan. The principal areas of non-compliance found previously relate to the welfare, health and safety of students, the accommodation and the information provided.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

The inspection in November 2011 found that the school did not meet a number of welfare, health and safety requirements. Arrangements and policies to promote and safeguard the welfare of students were found to be ineffective and did not comply with current guidance. There were ineffective arrangements to assess, prevent and reduce risk for educational visits and in the vocational areas. There was no recently updated fire policy or fire risk assessment. The first-aid policy had not been recently reviewed, and no qualified first aider was on site. Attendance and admission registers were not maintained in accordance with requirements. In its action plan, the school proposed to update all policies, arrangements and procedures pertaining to the

welfare, health and safety of the students. It planned to introduce effective policies and arrangements to assess and reduce risk for educational visits, vocational activities and fire. It proposed to update its first aid policy and ensure that a first aider is always in attendance. Arrangements for recording student admission and attendance were to be reviewed and improved. During the monitoring inspection, all these actions were found to have been satisfactorily completed, including the appointment of first aiders and fire wardens. The school's policies and procedures for the welfare, health and safety now comply with current guidance in all respects.

The inspection in November 2011 found that it was not possible to verify that all necessary recruitment and vetting checks had been made to show that all staff are suitable to work with children. The school's single central register did not contain all the required information. In its action plan, the school proposed to ensure that the register contains all the required information and that recruitment and vetting procedures are brought into line with the regulations. The monitoring inspection found that the single central register contains all the required vetting information, and staff files show that recruitment procedures are robust and compliant.

The November 2011 inspection found that there were insufficient washrooms and no appropriate facilities available for students who are ill. The school proposed in its action plan to increase the number of washrooms and to provide a suitably-equipped room for students when they become ill. The monitoring inspection showed that these requirements have now been met. There has been an additional washroom made available to students that is accessible to disabled students and those with special needs. A room has been suitably adapted for use by students who become ill that fully meets requirements.

The inspection report of November 2011 found that the school does not submit an annual account of income received and expenditure incurred for each student to their local authority as required. The school has now arrangements in place to ensure that an account is sent to each local authority as required.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

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

School details

School status	Independent special school		
Type of school	Special school for students with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties		
Date school opened	2007		
Age range of pupils	11–16 years		
Gender of pupils	Boys		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 7	Girls: 0	Total: 7
Number on roll (part-time pupils)	Boys: 0	Girls: 0	Total: 0
Number of pupils with a statement of special educational needs	Boys: 7	Girls: 0	Total: 7
Number of pupils who are looked after	Boys: 2	Girls: 0	Total: 2
Annual fees (day pupils)	£37,050		
Address of school	Heathlands Road, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 6DH		
Telephone number	01579 344999		
Email address	info@tpluscentres.com		
Headteacher	Alice Morris		
Proprietor	Alice Morris and Glen Coleman		