

OYY Lubavitch Girls' School

Independent school progress monitoring inspection report

DfE registration number	355/6028
Unique Reference Number (URN)	106004
Inspection number	393451
Inspection dates	3–4 July 2012
Reporting inspector	Sheila Boyle

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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

OYY Lubavitch School is a Jewish day school which has an ethos based on the teachings of the Lubavitch movement. It occupies two sites in the Salford area of Manchester about a quarter of a mile apart. Both sites are based in Jewish community buildings. The school opened in 1980, and in 1997 received registration as an independent day school for girls aged from three to 16 years of age and for boys aged from three to five years (on the original main site). In 2010, the registration conditions changed to include a group of 45 boys between the ages of six and 12 years who were being educated in a second, separate and previously unregistered provision. The two settings operate independently with separate management structures, procedures and policies. This inspection covered both the girls' and boys' settings. Currently, there are 90 pupils on the main site, with 83 girls and seven boys; there are 21 children in the Early Years Foundation Stage, 16 of whom are in receipt of public funding. On the second site, there are 40 boys between the ages of six and 13 years. No pupil has a statement of special educational needs. Thirteen pupils speak English as an additional language.

The school is owned and maintained by the Lubavitch community and admits pupils from Manchester and other towns in the north west of England. The school was last inspected in November 2011. The school's aims are:

'to provide the pupils with a sound Jewish and secular education within the Lubavitch traditions, to help pupils become fulfilled, self confident, independent, contributing, responsible, worshipping and caring members of society who achieve high standards and their full potential.'

Context of the inspection

When the school was last inspected in November 2011 there were several failed regulations in standards relating to the quality of the curriculum, teaching and assessment and in the provision for pupils' welfare health and safety at both sites. Additionally, regulations were failed at the boys' site for standards relating to its premises and accommodation and in the provision of information. The Early Years Foundation Stage provision was judged inadequate because the school's training for child protection was out of date. The school's action plans submitted in January 2012 were evaluated and judged to be inadequate.

This is the first monitoring inspection to evaluate the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan; it covered both the girls' and boys' sites.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan.

When the school was inspected in November 2011 inspectors found weaknesses in the curriculum provision at both sites. An extensive amount of time was allocated for the *Kodesh* (Jewish Studies) curriculum which limited the time available for the *Chol* (secular) subjects. This restricted the progress made by pupils in some important areas of learning. The Key Stage 3 pupils on the girls' site did not have sufficient experiences in technology, science and art and design. This inspection found evidence to show improved provision for all these subjects. Managers have developed appropriate plans and schemes of work for art and design, food technology and needlecraft. The timetable has been reorganised to include discrete lessons in these subjects taught by specialists. Further experiences in art and design and technology are provided through topic work and cross-curricular links particularly with the *Kodesh* curriculum. As a result of the action taken regulations relating to the curriculum provision are now fully met.

At the time of the inspection in 2011 the boys' site did not offer pupils sufficient experiences in scientific, technological and creative and aesthetic areas and too little time was given to the secular curriculum as a whole. This inspection found a more balanced curriculum was in place with a greater proportion of time being allocated to secular subjects. Managers have developed a suitable curriculum statement for secular subjects supported by schemes of work based on national guidance. They include English, mathematics, information and communication technology (ICT), science, art and design, humanities and physical education. The timetable has been rewritten and discrete lessons in these subjects are now being taught. The curriculum provision has improved further through increased integration between the *Kodesh* and secular curriculum. As a result of the action taken, regulations relating to the curriculum on this site are fully met.

The inspection of 2011 found weaknesses in the quality of teaching at both sites. Planning was weak in some lessons and work was not well matched to pupils' individual needs. Evidence from this inspection confirms that managers at both sites acted promptly to address this issue by providing a programme of training for staff on lesson planning, marking and on the setting work for pupils with different needs and levels of ability. Each site now has its own common format for lesson planning which staff use effectively. There is a noticeable improvement in the quality of planning and in the teaching of secular subjects at both sites and, as a result, all regulations relating to teaching are now met.

The inspection of 2011 found shortcomings in the way pupils' work was assessed particularly on the boys' site. This inspection found improvements to the way pupils' work is assessed at both sites as a result of action taken. The boys' site has

established baseline assessments for all subjects and termly assessments are now in place that show each individual's progress over time in each subject. Marking has improved and units in core subjects based on National Curriculum objectives are now being assessed. These actions provide information about how well pupils are doing in relation to national expectations. Lesson observations show work is better matched to pupils' individual needs.

The girls' site took positive action by developing new assessments procedures for all secular subjects. As a result of better assessment practice, teachers demonstrate a better understanding of the aptitudes, needs and prior attainments of the pupils and increasingly take account of these factors when planning their lessons. All regulations relating to the assessment of pupils' work are now met on both sites.

The inspection of 2011 found non-compliance in relation to the welfare, health and safety of pupils on both sites. The designated person for child protection at the girls' site (which included the Early Years Foundation Stage setting) had not undertaken the required refresher training. This inspection found evidence that suitable training had been undertaken in the spring term 2012. As a result, this regulation is met and the provision for Early Years Foundation Stage now complies with all the requirements.

The boy's site failed a number of regulations for pupils' welfare, health and safety. It did not have a behaviour or an anti-bullying policy or keep records to show how incidents of poor behaviour and bullying are dealt with. There were no records of risk assessments of the premises or for trips off-site. There were no records kept of fire drills and no policy for fire prevention or evidence that staff had been trained in fire prevention.

To address these various weaknesses the manager drew up a suitable policy to promote good behaviour and an anti-bullying policy and there is evidence that records are now kept to show how managers deal with incidents of poor behaviour and bullying. The school have employed external consultants to undertake risk assessments of the premises including fire risk assessments. A log is now kept of all fire evacuations. Staff have been training in fire prevention and evacuation procedures. A suitable policy and procedure for undertaking risk assessments for trips off site are now in place. As a result of the actions taken, the boys' site now meets all of the regulations relating to pupils' welfare health and safety.

The inspection of 2011 found the premises and accommodation at the boys' site were in a poor state of repair. Classrooms, washrooms and a sick room were all poorly maintained and unclean. The outdoor playground had several potholes which limited the space for pupils to play safely. To address these issues the school have employed external cleaners to undertake regular cleaning of the whole accommodation as well as daily cleaning of floors, classroom furniture and washrooms. A programme of refurbishment has been completed which included painting many of the classrooms and corridors, replacing floor coverings in some areas and the instillation of several new windows to improve the light and

ventilation. General repairs including those to faulty equipment and light fittings have also been completed. Potholes in the playground have been filled in, enabling pupils to play ball games and ride their bikes safely. An ongoing programme of maintenance and repair is planned. As a result of the actions taken, the site now complies with the regulations for premises and accommodation.

The inspection of 2011 found that the boys' site did not provide for parents, carers and others, particulars of its policies relating to bullying and the promotion of good behaviour. These particulars are now provided through the school's prospectus and this regulation is met.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

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

School details

School status	Independent		
Type of school	Jewish day school		
Date school opened	1980		
Age range of pupils	3-16 years		
Gender of pupils	Mixed		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 47	Girls: 83	Total: 130
Number on roll (part-time pupils)	Boys: 0	Girls: 0	Total: 0
Number of pupils with a statement of special educational needs	Boys: 0	Girls: 0	Total: 0
Number of pupils who are looked after	Boys: 0	Girls: 0	Total: 0
Annual fees (day pupils)	£2,900 - £4,500		
Address of school	Beis Menachem Park Lane Broughton Park Salford Lancashire M7 4JD		
Telephone number	0161 795 0002		
Email address	oyylubavitch@gmail.com		
Headteacher	Girls - Mrs J Hanson Boys - Rabbi Cohen		
Proprietor	Rabbi D Hickson		