

Airthrie and Hillfield Dyslexia Trust

27-29 Christchurch Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 2NY

Inspection dates

22 February 2013

Context of the inspection

- The school had its last full inspection on 14 November 2008.
- The school received an unannounced emergency inspection on 13 November 2012 which found that the school failed to meet regulations in relation to the sufficiency and condition of the school's washrooms and lavatories.
- This progress monitoring inspection was undertaken at the request of the DfE to evaluate the progress made by the school in the implementation of its action plan. This is the first visit made to the school to follow up the school's progress.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Good progress

The November 2012 inspection found that:

- there were not enough signs to show clearly whether facilities were to be used for boys or girls
- the water temperature from some taps was too hot
- pupils' privacy was not always being fully maintained, particularly in two of the facilities for boys
- one washroom ventilator was not working properly
- insufficient paper towels and soap were available in one washroom during the afternoon
- there were inadequate arrangements for the disposal of sanitary towels.

In its action plan, the school said that it intended to put up appropriate signs, check all the washrooms, to carry out any necessary maintenance and to service all equipment and appliances regularly.

During this present inspection, all the washroom facilities in both 27 and 29 Christchurch Road were visited. This inspection found that:

- all washroom facilities now have appropriate signs as required, and there are sufficient to meet the needs of the pupils
- the water from all the hot taps was of the appropriate temperature
- all the ventilators have been replaced or serviced and all were working effectively
- the school has erected a solid partition around the boys' urinals in no. 29, and has lengthened the saloon-type half-doors in no. 27, which ensures the pupils' privacy
- the number of paper towel holders has been doubled and all are kept filled
- the school now provides both hard and liquid soap in all washrooms, and all dispensers are kept filled
- the school has made appropriate provision for the disposal of sanitary towels.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

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

Inspection team

Mick Megee, Lead inspector

Additional Inspector

Information about this school

Airthrie School provides a non-selective independent education for pupils aged three to 11 years. Its aims are focused strongly on realising the potential of all its pupils and producing well-rounded individuals. The Hillfield Dyslexia Trust within Airthrie School provides specialist advice and support to staff and some pupils of the school, but does not constitute a discrete unit for the teaching of pupils with dyslexia. Airthrie School occupies linked Victorian houses (27 and 29 Christchurch Road) in a mature residential district of Cheltenham. The site is next to the extensive sports complex of a prestigious public school in the town and all pupils of Year 1 and above have access to this. There are currently 171 pupils on roll, including 24 children who are in receipt of the government's nursery education funding. Currently, 21 children attend part time in the Nursery and most of the 11 children in Reception attend full time. The school was last inspected by Ofsted in September 2008, as a light touch inspection. It was found to provide a good quality of education and met all the regulations.

School details

Unique reference number	115799
Inspection number	411563
DfE registration number	916/6037
This inspection was conducted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005.	
Type of school	Primary
School status	Independent School
Age range of pupils	3–11 years
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	171
Number of part time pupils	27
Proprietor	A E Sullivan and M J Sullivan
Headteacher	A E Sullivan
Date of previous school inspection	14 November 2008
Annual fees (day pupils)	£5,445-£7,800
Telephone number	01242 512837
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