

StreetVibes Media Academy

6 Eltham High Street, London, SE9 1DA

Inspection dates

10 December 2013

Context of the inspection

The inspection was undertaken 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. The school was last inspected on 27 June 2013, as part of an unannounced inspection at the request of the Department for Education. The inspection found that the school failed to comply with three regulatory requirements. Two of these related to the school's systems to ensure the suitability of staff and proprietors. The other concerned the suitability of the premises of, and accommodation at, the school. An action plan was prepared by the school to address these issues. The plan was reviewed and accepted by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors on 1 October 2013. This was the first visit to the school to follow up its progress in making the necessary improvements to meet regulatory requirements. The visit was made without notice.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Good progress

The inspection of June 2013 found that the school did not have adequate systems in place to ensure that new employees were checked for their suitability to work in a school. This was because the school did not always submit applications for enhanced criminal records checks within a reasonable timeframe, when new members of staff were appointed to the school. In its action plan, the school indicated that it would amend its policies to ensure that all Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, on new members of staff, would be completed before employment commenced, or within 28 days of appointment. As a result of implementing its action plan effectively, the school's recruitment policies have been amended and improved. Consequently, appropriate DBS checks have been completed on six new members of staff, appointed to work at the school, since the last inspection. All staff currently working at the school have been checked for their suitability to work in a school. Leaders have ensured that this information has been appropriately recorded on the school's single central register of staff suitability checks.

At the time of the previous inspection, the school failed to make appropriate checks on new members of staff who had lived or worked abroad to see if they would be suitable to work in the school. Leaders did not have suitable plans in place, with regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State, to make the alternative checks on these staff. The school's action plan indicated that leaders would update the school's recruitment policies to ensure that appropriate checks were considered. The school has implemented its action plan effectively and the school's recruitment policies have been revised. Detailed guidance is now provided to applicants who have lived or worked overseas. The guidance

explains that additional checks, in line with the Secretary of State's recommendations, will have to be made before employment is commenced. Due to changes in staffing, there are no members of staff currently employed at the school who require additional background checks due to them having lived or worked abroad.

At the time of the previous inspection the school failed to ensure that suitable changing accommodation and showers were provided to students who received physical education lessons, other than when students attended a local swimming pool for swimming lessons. The school's action plan indicated that the school would secure an agreement with a new specialist provider of physical education programmes to schools, to include the use of suitable changing and shower facilities for students. The school has successfully implemented its action plan, and students now undertake physical education lessons, on a weekly basis, at a site with suitable changing and shower facilities.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

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

Inspection team

Jeremy Spencer, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- StreetVibes Media Academy is a small independent special day school which has been established on its current site in South London since January 2010. It is run as a non-profit-making organisation and receives funding from a number of organisations, including Youth Music, Children in Need and the Skills Funding Agency.
- The school seeks to provide education in music and creative media for young people, and these underpin the curriculum. All students have a history of disrupted education and personal development or have displayed challenging behaviour.
- The school is registered to provide up to 40 places per day, for students aged between 13 and 19. There are currently 23 students on roll, all between 14 and 16 years of age. Four students attend the school full time and a further 19 who are registered at local schools attend on a part-time basis for one or more sessions per week. All students are placed by local schools or directly by local authority exclusion panels.

School details

Unique reference number	136100
Inspection number	433341
DfE registration number	203/6041
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	Special day school
School status	Independent
Age range of pupils	13–19
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	23
Number of part time pupils	19
Proprietors	Sonia Ramanah and Orlando Clement
Chair	Ian Elwick
Headteacher	Orlando Clement
Date of previous school inspection	27 June 2013
Annual fees (day pupils)	£10,426
Telephone number	020 3031 8240
Fax number	020 8850 2941
Email address	info@streetvibes.org

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