

La Petite Ecole Bilingue

22 Vicar's Road, London, NW5 4NL

Inspection dates

12 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, to check if independent school regulations are met in the following areas: pupils' welfare and safety; suitability of staff, premises and accommodation; and the complaints procedure.
- The school opened in September 2012. The school's first full inspection was in June 2013. Leadership and management were judged inadequate because the proprietor failed to ensure that regulations were met. Pupils' welfare, health and safety were judged as inadequate because too many regulations were not met, in particular the required pre-employment checks were not undertaken, or properly recorded, on staff and others connected to the school.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Regulations not met

The inspection June 2013 found that not all of the important pre-employment safeguarding checks had been completed for all members of staff. The required central record of these checks was not properly completed. The school has now adequately addressed the shortcomings. The headteacher has set up a new recruitment policy and she diligently ensures that all safeguarding checks are made and recorded. She has completed the necessary checks for new members of staff, including those not directly employed by the school. She has also ensured that checks have been completed for those staff who were employed by the school at the time of the June inspection. Staff files now also hold the necessary employment references. The central record of checks is now complete.

The inspection found the school's system for recording pupils' attendance did not meet regulations. Suitable amendments have been made to procedures, and all required information is recorded accurately. This regulation is now met.

The inspection found that a suitable medical examination and sick room for pupils was not available. The school has set up part of a larger room for the care of sick pupils and for medical examinations. This has been done by screening off an area. However, there are no washing facilities provided there. The restrictions on adapting this listed building have hindered better progress. However, the proprietor and headteacher have a credible plan to convert part of the dining room for these purposes. This will enable access to running water and a sink. The regulations are not yet met.

The complaints procedure did not meet the regulations at the time of the inspection because it did not include the requirement for a panel to review complaints not resolved by the headteacher, and omitted a number of other features. All of the requirements for a suitable complaints procedure are now met.

The inspector discussed the findings of this visit with the proprietor and the headteacher.

Compliance with regulatory requirements**The school requires improvement and must take action to meet The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2010 ('the Regulations'), and associated requirements**

Provide accommodation for the medical examination and treatment of pupils. Paragraph 23B(1)(a)

Provide accommodation for the short-term care of sick and injured pupils, which includes a washing facility and is near to a toilet facility. Paragraph 23B(1)(b)

Inspection team

Michelle Winter, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- La Petite Ecole Bilingue is an independent day school for pupils aged from three to 11 years. It is a bilingual school open to parents and carers who wish their children to have a secular, bilingual, French-English education. It is located in Kentish Town, London.
- It is registered for 165 pupils aged three to 11. There are currently 56 pupils aged three to 10. They are taught in six separate classes. There are eight children in the Nursery and 17 in the Reception class. There are currently no pupils with a statement of special educational needs and none is disabled.
- The school aims to 'provide bilingual education and for pupils to be confident in both English and French'.
- The school provides after-school care for children from 4.00pm to 6.30pm Monday to Friday. It uses additional provision, including a local swimming pool and park, for physical education.
- The school was registered in September 2012 and its first inspection was in June 2013.

School details

Unique reference number	138777
Inspection number	433357
DfE registration number	202/6002
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	Bilingual primary school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	3–11 years
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	56
Number of part time pupils	0
Proprietor	Ann Henderson-Stewart
Headteacher	Charlotte Beyazian
Date of previous school inspection	18-20 June 2013
Annual fees (day pupils)	£8,550
Telephone number	0208 960 2725
Email address	lpebl.admission@gmail.com

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