

International Community School

4 York Terrace, East Regents Park, London, NW1 4PT

Inspection dates

9–10 December 2013

Reason for inspection

This emergency integrated inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education to report on the school's compliance with all the standards for independent schools referenced in: Part 3, Welfare, health and safety of pupils and Part 4, Suitability of proprietors and staff and supply staff. In particular inspectors were asked to consider the arrangements made for keeping pupils safe in school, in the boarding house and when on school trips.

Conclusions

The Managing Partner and senior staff are imprecise about the implementation of their safeguarding and welfare and safety policies and do not monitor these aspects of the school's work with sufficient rigour. They have not responded to events which demonstrated significant weaknesses in their systems with sufficient speed to ensure that areas of weakness are rectified.

The first aid policy is incomplete.

In light of the findings of the inspection, inspectors conclude that pupils at the school are not safe, especially when on school trips abroad.

Compliance with regulatory requirements and national minimum standards for boarding schools

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

- Make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school having regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State. Paragraph 7
- Make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of boarders while they are accommodated at the school and have regard to the national minimum standards for boarding schools. Paragraph 8
- Implement fully the written health and safety policy in order to comply with legislation. Paragraph 11
- Ensure that the proprietor secures timely administration of first aid by ensuring that the written first aid policy covers all the appropriate procedures and guidance. Paragraph 14
- Ensure that pupils are supervised properly through appropriate

deployment of school staff.

Paragraph 15

The school must meet the following national minimum standards for boarding schools

- Maintain the school premises, accommodation and facilities to a standard such that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils are ensured. NMS 6.2
- Carry out fire drills regularly (at least once per term) in 'boarding time.' NMS 7.2
- Ensure that:
 - arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school NMS 11
 - and
 - such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- Maintain and monitor the records specified in Appendix 2 and action taken as appropriate. NMS 13.3
- Operate safe recruitment procedures and vet staff in line with the regulatory requirements and having regard to relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State. NMS 14.1
- Have a written agreement between the school and any person over 16 not employed by the school but living in the same premises as boarders (for example, members of staff households). This specifies the terms of their accommodation, guidance on contact with boarders, their responsibilities to supervise their visitors, and notice that accommodation may cease to be provided if there is evidence that they are unsuitable to have regular contact with children. They must be required to notify an unrelated designated member of staff if they are charged with, or convicted of, any offence. NMS 14.3
- Staff supervising boarders outside teaching time are sufficient in number, training and experience for the age, number and needs of boarders, and the locations and activities involved. NMS 15.3

Inspection team

Emma Ing, Lead inspector	Her Majesty's Inspector
John Kennedy	Her Majesty's Inspector
Lucy Martin	Her Majesty's Inspector
Linda Bond	Social care Regulatory Inspector

Information about this school

- The International Community School is a non-selective school offering education for pupils aged three to 18 years.
- Pupils, many of whom are foreign nationals resident in London, follow a curriculum based around the International Baccalaureate. A high proportion of pupils speaks English as an additional language.
- A small minority of pupils has statements of special educational needs including autism.
- An important aspect of the school's ethos is the Travel and Learn Programme. This programme aims to support pupils' learning through foreign trips around the world and is supplemented by a high number of school trips both to locations local to the school and around the country.
- The school has two sites in central London, about a mile distant from each other, one for primary and one for secondary pupils, in addition to an administrative office on a third site. The school offers boarding provision, although there are fewer than five boarders at the moment. Boarders are cared for in a large house about five miles distant from the school.

School details

Unique reference number	101171
Social care unique reference number	SC474187
Inspection number	433802
DfE registration number	213/6304
<p>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.</p> <p>The inspection of boarding provision was carried out under the Children Act 1989, as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000, having regard to the national minimum standards for boarding schools.</p>	
Type of school	Independent all-age school
School status	Independent boarding school
Age range of pupils	3–18 years
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	223
Number of part time pupils	0
Number of boarders on roll	4
Proprietor	Mr B A Toettcher and Mrs E A Toettcher
Chair	-
Headteacher	Stuart Pollard (Primary) Rose Threlfall (Secondary)
Date of previous school inspection	22–23 March 2011
Annual fees (day pupils and boarders)	£16,000-£20,000
Telephone number	020 7935 1206
Email address	Stuart.pollard@ics.uk.net

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