

# King of Kings School

142 Dantzic Street, Manchester, Lancashire, M4 4DN

## Inspection dates

13 March 2014

## Context of the inspection

This 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 inspector was also asked to look at the school's policy, training and staff awareness with regards to safeguarding.

The school was last inspected on 11 June 2013. At that inspection, the provision for the welfare, health and safety of the pupils was judged to be inadequate. Leadership and management of the school were also judged to be inadequate because the welfare, health and safety of the pupils were compromised. The school did not meet two of the regulations for independent schools.

The school submitted an action plan to show how it would remedy this. The plan was evaluated on 16 September 2013 and judged to require improvement. It was subsequently accepted, after modifications.

This is the school's first monitoring inspection. The inspection was unannounced. The headteacher was not in school.

## Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

**Good progress**

### **Pupils' welfare, health and safety**

During the inspection in June 2013 plaster fell from the wall, posing a risk of harm to pupils. Inspectors expressed concerns about the standard of maintenance of the premises and facilities. They also noted that a number of the checks related to welfare, health and safety that were required by the regulations were not up to date and that the school's policy for safeguarding did not meet requirements.

#### Regulation previously not met and action to be taken:

'The school must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school and ensure that these arrangements have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State, specifically by ensuring that the safeguarding children policy includes the name of the designated teacher along with procedures to follow in the event of an allegation about staff or the headteacher (paragraph 7).'

#### Inspector's judgement:

The arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils meet the requirements

of the regulation for independent schools. The school now meets the regulation in paragraph 7.

Regulation previously not met and action to be taken :

'Ensure that the school's accommodation and facilities are maintained to a sufficient standard to ensure the health, safety and welfare of pupils (paragraph 23C).'

Inspector's judgement:

The school has taken prompt action to address the areas of concern specified in the inspection report of June 2013. The school's accommodation and facilities are maintained to a sufficient standard that they no longer compromise the health, safety and welfare of the pupils. The school now meets the regulation in paragraph 23C.

The inspector toured the school with the deputy headteacher and discussed the school's actions with her. The inspector conducted individual interviews about safeguarding with five other members of staff, including the teachers who hold responsibility for child protection; fire safety; and for welfare, health and safety. The inspector looked at the school's policies and records of checks related to welfare, health and safety and spoke with one of the older pupils.

Premises

Work has been done on the roof and some walls have been re-plastered following the water damage noted at the time of the last inspection. When the works were done, a check was made to see that no further structural work was required. The premises no longer compromise the welfare, health and safety of pupils and are being maintained to a reasonable standard.

These are large, old premises but there is a programme of on-going maintenance, supplemented by termly official 'maintenance days' where all parents lend a hand. These days attend to minor repairs, cleaning and painting, and some upgrading.

Some minor issues remain, but these do not pose a risk of significant harm to pupils. These were drawn to the school's attention during the tour and include such matters as a loose carpet in the nursery area; a missing ceiling hatch and peeling paintwork by the proposed library area; and a practical science room that is rarely in use, but needs refurbishment.

Policies and checks

The school's records and checks related to health, welfare and safety are now up to date. Specifically, the testing of portable electrical appliances has been completed, the fire risk assessment has been updated and training has been provided for staff and pupils on what to do in the event of fire.

The school has the required policies in place to underpin its arrangements for health, safety and welfare, but a number need to be updated. The school is in the process of redrafting some policies, drawing on information on the Department for Education's website, for example the policy for safe use of the internet. The inspector advised that the school and governors set up a rolling programme to ensure that all the policies are fully up

to date by the time of the school's next inspection.

### Safeguarding

The safeguarding policy now meets the requirements of the independent school regulations. Following the inspection in June 2013, the school took further advice from its 'umbrella organisation' CCPAS, and from the Local Safeguarding Children's Board and amended the policy for safeguarding. Specific details have been added: the child protection policy names who is the designated officer within school and what to do if an allegation is made against the headteacher or a member of staff. This policy is available on the school's website, for ease of access.

The training for the designated officer and the headteacher for their roles leading on safeguarding is up to date. Training for other staff is also up to date. Staff felt their training was very helpful. In interviews they showed good understanding of the school's policy and procedures and were clear as to their role and what they should or should not do. Recently, through experience, the school's leaders have learnt how best to involve social services, if required. Scrutiny of a casefile shows that appropriate channels of communication are in place, and are being used, to help protect children.

The school's central register of checks on staff appointed is up to date and meets the requirements of the regulations for independent schools.

### **Non-mandatory points for improvement**

At its inspection in June 2013 three points were suggested to the school for further improvement. The school is taking appropriate action on all three. The first was to improve the arrangements for safeguarding and welfare, health and safety and this is detailed above. The school was also advised to further develop pupils' knowledge and understanding of different faiths and cultures in Great Britain today. A programme for this is being implemented: thus far, pupils have learned more about about Islam and discussed life in a Muslim country with visiting speakers. A suitable start has also been made to the final suggestion, to introduce formal lesson observations to improve the quality of self-evaluation and thereby the quality of teaching. The headteacher has completed some formal observations and has audited what the school currently provides to develop pupils' literacy skills.

### **Compliance with regulatory requirements**

**The school has made good progress and now meets all The Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2010, as amended by the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements.**

## Inspection team

Honoree Gordon, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

## Information about this school

- King of Kings is an independent non-denominational Christian school situated close to Manchester city centre. It was established in 1986 and has been on its present site since 1991.
- The school aims 'to provide a Christian education by approaching every aspect of school life in accordance with the Bible, which is God's Word'. It is affiliated to Christian Education Europe (CEE).
- The school occupies the top floor of a large Victorian building, known as the 'Ragged School'.
- It is registered to accommodate up to 45 pupils between the ages of three and 18 years. Currently it provides education for 31 boys and girls between three and 14 years of age. There are two children in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Pupils are grouped by ability rather than age. In the lower school the youngest are taught in a pre-school group and a group where the focus is on early reading (ABCs) while the others are taught in the infant learning centre. In the upper school all pupils are taught in the junior learning centre. The majority of the pupils are of West African heritage. A very small number of pupils have a statement of special educational needs and a small number of others are identified as having some degree of learning difficulty.
- The school was last inspected by Ofsted in June 2013.

## School details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	105596
<b>Inspection number</b>	439273
<b>DfE registration number</b>	352/6037
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.	
<b>Type of school</b>	Christian faith day school
<b>School status</b>	Independent School
<b>Age range of pupils</b>	3–18
<b>Gender of pupils</b>	Mixed
<b>Number of pupils on the school roll</b>	24
<b>Number of part time pupils</b>	1
<b>Proprietor</b>	King of Kings School
<b>Chair</b>	Dr Philip Lewis
<b>Headteacher</b>	Mrs Brenda Lewis
<b>Date of previous school inspection</b>	19 January 2010
<b>Annual fees (day pupils)</b>	£3250.00
<b>Telephone number</b>	0161 834 4214
<b>Fax number</b>	Not applicable
<b>Email address</b>	kingofkingschool@hotmail.co.uk

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