

Redstone Educational Academy

466 Moseley Road, Birmingham, B12 9AN

Inspection dates

25 February 2014

Reason for inspection

Ofsted was commissioned to carry out an emergency unannounced inspection by the Department for Education following a parental complaint about a child with special educational needs being left unsupervised, being excluded without reason and the school not answering the parental complaint. Ofsted were asked to report against regulations in Part 2 (the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students), Part 3 (the welfare, health and safety of students) and Part 7 (with respect to the manner in which complaints are handled) of the standards. The inspection visit checked whether the school's procedures for meeting the needs of students with statements of special education needs and dealing with complaints continued to meet the independent school standards.

Conclusions

The school is currently not suitable for the numbers on roll admitted. The school is currently exceeding the permitted numbers and has not formally applied for a material change to increase the numbers. The science laboratory is not used as the water damage has only been partially repaired since the last inspection and is still not fit for use. Students confirm that this prevents them from undertaking any practical science experiments and jeopardises their understanding of certain parts of the science curriculum. The outdoor area has not been used for some time. It is full of craters in the concrete which are hazardous. This prevents students from using the area at break and lunchtimes and so there is significant overcrowding inside the accommodation during these times.

While the school supervises students for the majority of their time in school, there are some periods of time when students are not adequately supervised. This is because male students receiving isolation periods for poor behaviour are sent to a first floor landing to undertake their work away from other students. The school is unable to ensure that students are adequately supervised in this area. It has insufficient staffing to oversee this area. This arrangement is similar to one for female students sent to work in the pastoral head's office. The pastoral head is present in the office for the majority of the time, but not for all of the time, so occasionally female students are left unsupervised. The school does not properly supervise all students as they leave the premises at the end of the school day. This occasionally leads to students borrowing library books without the necessary permission and many books have gone missing.

The school has a behaviour policy in place but the school's current procedures for enforcing good behaviour do not consistently follow the policy. Detentions, although reduced since January 2014 because of changes to the policy, are still widely given for students' poor punctuality, not completing homework on time or not being focused on their work. Prior to this academic year, detentions were given for not concentrating in

class. These decisions took no account of the students' particular needs. Students have occasionally been excluded for rudeness, but then if the same behaviour reoccurred, were not excluded, so that there has been a lack of consistency in applying the policy. On one occasion, instead of following through procedures as defined in the behaviour policy, these issues were discussed by the headteacher with a family member of a student at the local mosque. This means the issues are sometimes resolved by the parents and not within school. Some students are unhappy with the way this information is shared. However, male and female students say they understand the behaviour policy, confirm there are no incidents of bullying, and state that they feel safe.

The school has not always considered carefully enough whether they are able to meet the needs of students with significant behavioural needs or statements relating to this area of difficulty. No member of staff has been specifically trained to deal with students with significant behavioural needs and the school does not have the expertise or human resources to adequately deal with this. Documentation relating to cases where students have been excluded for fixed periods or permanently does appear to fully explain the reasons for exclusion to the parents and has always offered the opportunity for parents to meet with the headteacher of the school to discuss the problem. The school appears to be following its complaints policy and was able to provide evidence of this. However, all documentation relating to behaviour, incidents, exclusions and complaints is not formally logged into a bound book or books. Therefore it is not possible to see the outcomes of these behaviours, incidents or complaints or whether excluded students returned to school and when they did so.

Classrooms and other communal areas were dirty at the time of this visit. The school had not adequately dealt with exposed sharp carpet gripper-rods in all of the classrooms. This was particularly hazardous as students remove their shoes before entering the classrooms. There are ripped carpets in some classrooms which are tripping hazards. There were no hand or paper towels available in the accessible toilet on the ground floor. There is a small canteen with food and drink available for students to buy. These are all unhealthy snacks and drinks, with no fresh food or fruit available. There is currently only one qualified male first aider on the staff and therefore no deputy should this person not be available to administer first aid. However, documentary evidence was supplied to show that three further members of staff (male and female) are to be trained in April 2014.

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

- Revise the behaviour policy and check that the policy is being implemented consistently and effectively. (paragraph 9)
- Deploy staff in such a way to ensure the proper supervision of students at all times, including any students who are sent to isolation or who have not left the premises at the end of the school day. (paragraph 15)
- Maintain the school's accommodation and facilities to a sufficient standard to ensure the health, safety and welfare of students, including improving general cleanliness in classrooms and all other areas, removal of any exposed carpet gripper-rods, replacing any torn carpet which presents a tripping hazard, and ensuring that lunchtime arrangements for students prevent overcrowding in canteen areas. (paragraph 23C)

- Ensure there is suitable outside space to enable physical education to be provided to students. (paragraph 23G(1)(a))
- Ensure there is suitable outside space to enable students to play outside. (paragraph 23G(1)(b))

Inspection team

Jane Melbourne, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- Redstone Educational Academy is a Muslim secondary school situated in Balsall Heath, less than two miles from Birmingham city centre.
- It was registered as an independent school for 125 full-time students on 3 October 2011.
- The school uses former commercial premises which have been substantially converted for use as a school. Boys and girls are taught separately in different halves of the building.
- The school is currently providing full-time education for 159 students aged 11-16 years and from a very wide range of cultural backgrounds.
- There are currently a very small number of students with special educational needs but there are no students with statements of special educational needs.
- All students are proficient in English language, including many who speak English as an additional language.
- The school had its first Ofsted inspection in September 2012 when it was judged to be good in all areas, including the overall quality of education, student's behaviour and the welfare, health and safety of students. At that time, the school complied with all of the regulations for independent schools. The school was requested to improve the quality of teaching so that it was all as good as the best and to implement whole-school systems to record and track students' achievement.
- One complaint has been received by Ofsted since the last inspection. The school was aware of the complaint, which was dealt with appropriately through the school's complaints procedure.

School details

Unique reference number	137560
Inspection number	441340
DfE registration number	330/6009
<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>	
Type of school	Muslim Secondary School
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	11–16
Gender of pupils	Mixed (boys and girls educated separately)
Number of pupils on the school roll	159
Number of part time pupils	0
Proprietor	Redstone Educational Academy Ltd
Chair	Hameed Alam
Headteacher	Hameed Alam
Date of previous school inspection	25 September 2012
Annual fees (day pupils)	£2,985 in Years 7, 8 and 9; £3,285 in Years 10 and 11
Telephone number	0121 448 7933
Email address	headteacher@redstoneacademy.com

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