

La Petite Ecole Bilingue

22 Vicar's Road, London, NW5 4NL

Inspection date

26 June 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 inspection was unannounced and was led by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors.

The previous full inspection, in June 2013, judged that the school provided an inadequate quality of education; a subsequent progress monitoring inspection in December 2013 found two regulations were not fully met. These related to the provision of accommodation for the examination and treatment of pupils.

This inspection was conducted to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan which was submitted 28 March 2014. The Department for Education specified that this inspection should check whether the accommodation for the medical examination and treatment of pupils is adequate. The inspector was also asked to check the effectiveness of the arrangements for the observation of teaching and the performance management of staff.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Good progress

The June 2013 inspection found that a suitable sick room for pupils was not available. In December 2013, inspectors found that although an area had been screened off, there were no washing facilities available for pupils. An appropriate room with folding doors has now been constructed and dedicated for the medical examination and treatment of pupils. The room is fully operational and contains a suitable bed and appropriate washing and first-aid facilities; suitable toilets are available nearby. The room provides appropriate accommodation for the short-term care of sick and injured pupils. The folding doors provide unrestricted access to the room but are narrow. The headteacher has suitable plans in place to widen the entrance to the room and to install a sliding door that would allow wheelchair access to the room. The regulations are now met.

The June 2013 inspection found that the quality of teaching had not been checked by the school and there were no formal records of lesson observations or feedback to staff. Since the last inspection, staff have revised and improved the arrangements for observation of teaching and learning. However, arrangements to improve teaching and learning remain underdeveloped and require improvement. The headteacher has improved the support for teachers to raise standards through teacher self-evaluation and peer reviews. The headteacher regularly observes teachers in class, scrutinises teachers' plans well and provides teachers with useful verbal feedback. However, she does not provide teachers with precise written feedback regarding their teaching practice. Teachers value the opportunity to be observed and view the process as being supportive and informative. Teachers have received appropriate training to help them conduct useful peer observations each year. However, observation of teaching relies too heavily on assessment by other teachers and lacks sufficient independent scrutiny. The headteacher plans to carry out

external evaluation of classroom practice with a neighbouring school.

At the time of the last full inspection in June 2013, staff were not formally appraised, and this weakness remains. Action taken to resolve this weakness since the previous inspection has been slow. The headteacher recognises the need to appraise staff performance, and has credible plans in place to resolve this weakness.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

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

Inspection team

Victor Shafiee HMI, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

First inspected in June 2013, 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. The school aims to 'provide bilingual education and for pupils to be confident in both English and French'.

The school is registered for 165 pupils and there are 60 pupils currently on roll aged from three to 10 years; there has been a steady increase of pupils in the last year. Twenty nine children are of nursery and reception age. None of the pupils has a statement of special educational needs and none of the pupils has physical disabilities. The school provides after-school care for children from 4.00 pm to 6.30 pm Monday to Friday. It uses the local park for physical education.

School details

Unique reference number	138777
Inspection number	444917
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	French/English Bilingual primary school
School status	Independent
Age range of pupils	3–11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	60
Proprietor	Anne Henderson-Stewart
Headteacher	Charlotte Beyazian
Date of previous school inspection	December 2013
Annual fees (day pupils)	£8,500
Telephone number	020 728 42620
Email address	education.kt@lpebl.com

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