

Barbara Speake Stage School

East Acton Lane, East Acton, London, W3 7EG

Inspection dates

4 July 2014

Reason for inspection

This unannounced emergency visit was made at the request of the Department for Education to check the school's compliance with Parts 3 (Welfare, health and safety) and 5 (Premises of and accommodation at the school) of the independent school standards with particular regard to the operation of closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras and the changing accommodation provided for all pupils.

Conclusions

Some, but not all, of the regulations relating to the premises of and accommodation of the school are met. The school's previous inspection in June 2013 found that showers were not provided for senior pupils who participated in physical education, as required. Although the school has installed two showers since the last inspection, these were not in working order on the day of this inspection visit. While there are designated changing facilities for male pupils over 11 years of age, there are no such facilities for female pupils.

The proprietor has recently installed CCTV in various locations around the school, including some classrooms. Leaders have not taken appropriate steps by way of risk assessment to ensure that pupils' privacy, and therefore their welfare, health and safety, is assured by the installation of this equipment.

The school's designated person for child protection has not attended the required two-yearly update of the higher level training in safeguarding procedures. Since the previous inspection, leaders have not been sufficiently robust in their implementation of the school's safeguarding policy and procedures. Although other aspects of the welfare, health and safety of pupils continue to be met, the school's arrangements to ensure the welfare, health and safety of pupils are inadequate.

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

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. paragraph 7

Ensure that suitable changing accommodation and showers are provided for pupils aged 11 years or over at the start of the school year who receive physical education. paragraph 23A(1)(c)

Ensure that the school's accommodation and facilities are maintained to a

sufficient standard to ensure the health, safety and welfare of pupils, as far as is reasonably practical. paragraph 23C

Ensure that the shower facilities have an adequate supply of hot and cold water. paragraph 23F(1)(b)

Inspection team

Michael Best, Lead inspector

Additional Inspector

Information about this school

- Barbara Speake Stage School is an independent day school for boys and girls that specialises in the teaching of the performing arts. It is registered for 141 pupils aged three to 16 years. There are currently 80 pupils on roll aged from five to 16 years. A separate provider caters for children aged three to five years in Early Years Foundation Stage on the premises. Very few pupils speak English as an additional language. There are currently no pupils with a statement of special educational needs or disability, although a few pupils need extra support in their learning.
- While the school was established in 1963, the proprietor has been running classes in the premises in East Acton, London, since 1945. The school aims to support all pupils to fulfil their creative and academic potential and to foster in them a spirit of confidence and self-reliance and the ability to work independently and cooperatively to achieve their ambitions. A theatrical agency, run by the school, provides the opportunity for pupils to work professionally during their time at the school. There is no other additional provision.
- The school was last inspected in 2013 when its overall effectiveness was judged to be adequate.

School details

Unique reference number	101948
Inspection number	450920
DfE registration number	307/6050
Type of school	Specialist stage school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	5 to 16 years
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	80
Number of part time pupils	0
Proprietor	Barbara M Speake MBE
Headteacher	David Speake
Date of previous school inspection	27 June 2013
Annual fees (day pupils)	£6,900–£7,200
Telephone number	020 8743 1306
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Email address	Speakekids3@aol.com

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