

Trinity College

Moor Lane, Loughborough, LE11 1BA

Inspection dates

1 July 2014

Reason for inspection

The inspection was undertaken, without notice, at the request of the Department for Education (DfE) as a result of complaints that had been received. The inspection sought to review the standards relating to students' welfare, health and safety and the quality of education.

Conclusions

Inspectors held discussions with the headteacher, school staff and the site manager. They met with a group of students and spoke to others informally. They toured both sites and examined the implementation of policies. Inspectors scrutinised a range of documentation including policies relating to aspects of the welfare, health and safety of students. They examined the visitors' book, daily attendance records, the single central record, recruitment records for two staff and the admission register. Inspectors visited one lesson briefly and examined curriculum planning in the primary school.

The single central record meets the majority of statutory requirements. However, while there is evidence that checks were made on a member of staff who had worked overseas, this is not noted on the record. In addition, some aspects of the latest guidance, *'Keeping children safe in education, April 2014'* have not been implemented. For example, the record does not note a prohibition from teaching check, and the child protection policy has not been updated in line with this guidance. There is a comprehensive induction programme and all staff have received recent child protection training. The designated officer has also received appropriate training. General security arrangements are mostly good, but arrival checks for visitors to both school sites are not robust. Upon arrival at the primary annex, inspectors were not asked to sign in. Their identities were not checked at either site and visitors' badges were not issued.

Behaviour is managed appropriately in line with the school's policy leading to a purposeful learning environment. Students are well supervised at the beginning of the day and at lunchtime. A specific anti-smoking policy has resulted in both reducing smoking on the school site and discouraging students absconding from the school site. Staff take decisive action to prevent inappropriate behaviour. An anti-bullying policy is in place, which dovetails into the whole school behaviour policy. Students have a limited understanding of certain types of bullying, particularly homophobic bullying.

There is a written health and safety policy. However, inspectors found that aspects of it were not implemented effectively. Some of the annex toilets were unsafe because water was too hot, fabric towels were shared and a shower cubicle was broken and dangerous. In the secondary school there were no towels or bins in the boys' toilets. There were several trailing leads from electrical appliances on both sites, and some electrical items did

not have clearly dated PAT test checks. The low-level glazing in the dining room windows on the annex site does not appear to be safety glass, and the school was unable to demonstrate that it was.

The site manager carries out weekly fire alarm tests, and termly evacuations are carried out. Routine checks of fire extinguishers are carried out by a professional company. At the annexe site the school has responded to fire officer recommendations to move an emergency exit button for the front door, but this is not accessible to all potential occupants of the building and the school has not checked with the fire authority to ascertain whether its location is acceptable so as to ensure the health and safety of occupants. The school has a first-aid policy and there are a suitable number of trained first aiders. Accidents are recorded diligently. However a number of first aid kits have stock that is out of date, and gloves and guidance leaflets were not always included in these kits. Students were supervised well at both sites.

Attendance registers are kept, but not completed in a timely manner. Attendance was not noted in the annex in the morning, nor at the secondary site in the afternoon. The admission register is not complete as it does not contain the names of all registered parents for each student.

Inspectors did not have sufficient time to examine Part 1 of the Standards (relating to the curriculum) in full. On the basis of limited evidence, there was some concern that primary pupils were not receiving their full curriculum entitlement as required by their statements. Inspectors jointly observed one lesson but were not able to formulate judgements on the basis of this short observation.

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.

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| ■ Ensure that arrangements made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school have regard to the guidance issued by the secretary of state. | Paragraph 7 |
| ■ Ensure that the anti-bullying strategy is implemented effectively. | Paragraph 10 |
| ■ Ensure that the written policy which complies with relevant health and safety laws and it is being implemented. | Paragraph 11 |
| ■ Ensure that the written policy on first aid is implemented. | Paragraph 14 |
| ■ Ensure that attendance registers are maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. | Paragraph 17 |
| ■ Ensure that the single central register of staff checks contains all the necessary information. | Paragraph 22(3) |

Inspection team

Julia Wright, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Mark Mumby

Senior Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- Trinity College is a small independent special school for students with severe behavioural, social and emotional difficulties (BSED).
- All of the current students have a statement of special needs.
- The school opened in 2007 and is registered for 30 boys and girls between the ages of seven and 16 years.
- It is situated on two sites. The 21 secondary-aged students are taught at the main site and the four primary-aged pupils are taught at the annexe.
- The school aims to promote individuals' self-confidence and social skills and help them to re-engage with learning.
- Alternative provision is based at two local further education colleges, Loughborough College and Brooksby Melton College.
- Ownership of the school was transferred to Horizon Care and Education during 2013.
- A new headteacher took up her post in September 2013.

School details

Unique reference number	135218
Inspection number	446408
DfE registration number	855/6025
<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	Special school for students with behavioural, social and emotional difficulties
School status	Independent School
Age range of pupils	7–16
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	25
Number of part time pupils	0
Proprietor	Horizon Care and Education
Chair	Stephen Lambert
Headteacher	Dawn Clarke
Date of previous school inspection	29 January 2014
Annual fees (day pupils)	£975 to £2000 per week
Telephone number	01509 218906
Email address	trinityhead@horizoncare.co.uk

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