

London Bunka Yochien School

307a Horn Lane, Acton, London, W3 0BP

Inspection dates

15 September 2014

Overall outcome

Independent school standards met

Context of the inspection

- This inspection was unannounced. It 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, which was submitted in April 2014 and was judged as unsatisfactory.
- The school was last inspected in January 2014 when it was found to be inadequate overall as there were weaknesses in safeguarding and provision for pupils' welfare, health and safety. The inspector on this present visit was accompanied by a translator.

Main findings

- The inspection of January 2014 judged that the school was in breach of regulations relating to the suitability of staff to work with children. Some staff working directly with children had not undergone a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. The single central register of staff appointments had not been completed in the required manner and information on some staff was not available in their files. These shortcomings, which failed to ensure the suitability of staff to work with children, have now been rectified. All staff have been checked for their suitability to work with children and the information is recorded on the required single central register of staff appointments. Staff files contain all the required information.
- The previous inspection found that the designated person responsible for safeguarding had not been trained to the required level and not all staff had received the necessary training in safeguarding. All staff are now trained to the required level, including the designated officer.
- The previous inspection noted some concerns about the location of the social club's bar in the schoolroom and the lack of a risk assessment on the presence of this facility. The school has drawn up a detailed risk assessment to ensure the safety of the children in this area. The facilities are checked daily to ensure that they are securely locked at all times during school hours.
- The school has drawn up detailed risk assessments for all visits off the school site, as required in the previous inspection report, and these are available for parents and carers on request.
- Concerns were raised in the last inspection about the condition of the secluded driveway leading to the school. The school has implemented a range of improvements including additional lighting, the installation of surveillance cameras, widening of the road and markings on the road surface. A meeting was held with parents to ensure that they are fully aware of the changes. The school has devised a detailed risk assessment on this area.
- The school did not have suitable facilities for pupils who might become ill. There are now appropriate facilities.
- The school has implemented its action plan in full.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school meets The Education (Independent School Standards) (England)

Regulations 2010, as amended, and associated requirements.

Inspection team

Jill Bainton, Lead inspector

Additional Inspector

Information about this school

- The London Bunka Yochien School was founded in 1996. The Yochien (Kindergarten) is located in a wooden building in Acton, West London. The school rents the building from a company which, in turn, rents the land from a national rail company. Outside school hours the building is used by a sports and social club. The school uses the playing fields for physical education.
- The school moved to its present location about two years ago.
- The school is registered for up to 25 boys and girls aged from two to six years of age. There are currently 18 pupils on roll. Most pupils are from families who are based in London for a short period of time. Most pupils spend two years at the school. The school follows the Japanese curriculum for all age groups. Pupils are mostly taught in Japanese, but there is some teaching in English.
- The school does not make use of any additional provision.
- There are three full-time teachers who are long-term residents in the United Kingdom.
- The school was last inspected in January 2014.

School details

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| Unique reference number | 131755 |
| Inspection number | 450688 |
| DfE registration number | 307/6079 |

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 inserted by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005.

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| Type of school | Japanese kindergarten |
| School status | Independent school |
| Age range of pupils | 2–6 years |
| Gender of pupils | Mixed |
| Number of pupils on the school roll | 18 |
| Number of part time pupils | 0 |
| Proprietor | London Bunka Yochiem Ltd |
| Headteacher | Mrs Yukimi Asato |
| Date of previous school inspection | 14–16 January 2014 |
| Annual fees (day pupils) | £6,240 |
| Telephone number | 0208 992 9822 |
| Fax number | 0208 992 4209 |
| Email address | home@londonbunka.com |

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