

Beis Trana Girls' School

186 Upper Clapton Road, London, E5 9DH

Inspection dates

17 March 2015

Overall outcome

Independent school standards met

Context of the inspection

- The school was inspected in January 2011. Many regulations were not met. The school submitted an action plan in May 2011, which was found to require improvement. A progress monitoring visit, in April 2012, confirmed the school had made satisfactory progress, but it was required to take action to address overcrowding in the classrooms.
- The school was inspected in June 2014. Leadership and management, the achievement of pupils and overall effectiveness were deemed inadequate. Four independent school standards were not met. Inspectors identified non-compliance with regulations for the curriculum, Early Years Foundation Stage and financial information provided about income for pupils funded by the local authority. The school had not taken effective action to address health and safety concerns and overcrowding in classrooms.
- The school submitted an action plan in December 2014, which was found to require improvement.
- In February 2015, the Department for Education informed the proprietor that the school had a final opportunity to demonstrate it met all of the independent school standards. Failure to comply would be likely to result in the school's immediate removal from the Register of Independent Schools.
- This unannounced monitoring 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 latest action plan.

Main findings

Curriculum

- The inspection in June 2014 found that the school did not have a curriculum policy to cover all requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The inspector assessed teachers' plans, scrutinised Early Years' children's work in their books and on display. She observed lessons in *Kodesh* (religious studies) and *Chol* (the secular curriculum) during the day. Inspection activity confirms the curriculum policy is implemented effectively and adults are now teaching and assessing the required seven areas of learning as specified in the statutory framework for early years. This prepares them appropriately for Key Stage 1 and this requirement is now met.
- The inspection of June 2014 also found that children in the Early Years Foundation Stage were not being taught English. School leaders and governors have addressed this regulation. In its action plan, the school stated it would introduce dedicated daily sessions to promote children's reading and writing skills in English. Children are now taught to recognise and form letters in the English alphabet. Work in books and discussions with children in English indicate they are developing early reading and writing skills. Some children who are more fluent in English are not challenged to apply these skills further, for example by blending sounds or writing simple sentences. However, this requirement is now met.

Premises and accommodation

- The inspection of June 2014 stated that the school's leadership and management had continued to fail to address overcrowded accommodation in the Early Years Foundation Stage classrooms.
- School leaders and governors have re-assessed the school's accommodation. The Nursery classroom has been reconfigured and enlarged by removing an internal wall. It is now fit for purpose. The other two classrooms in the Early Years Foundation Stage are sufficiently spacious to ensure children's health and safety. This previously unmet regulation has now been addressed.

Provision of information

- The inspection of June 2014 identified that annual accounts were not provided to inform the local authority about the income received and expenditure incurred for pupils who were wholly or partly funded by the local authority. The inspector scrutinised the school's financial records and bank reconciliation statements. This point has been addressed satisfactorily and the regulation is now met.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school now meets the four Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and associated requirements that were judged unmet in the June 2014 inspection.

Inspection team

Ann Debono, Lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about this school

- Beis Trana is an independent day school for girls aged from three to 16 from *Charedi* Jewish families.
- It opened in 1995 and is situated in the Stamford Hill area of London.
- The school abides by the standards set by the Rabbinite of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations.
- The main language spoken at home is Yiddish.
- *Kodesh* (religious studies) is taught in the mornings, in Yiddish, and *Chol* (the secular curriculum) is taught in English in the afternoons.
- There are currently 279 girls on roll. Of these, 55 are in the Early Years Foundation Stage, 33 of whom are in receipt of government funding.
- Three pupils have statements of special educational needs.
- There are five headteachers, each with responsibility for an area of the school's work or a key stage.
- The school's main aim is 'to deliver a high class education, which is firmly based on Torah principles and to be educated in accordance with the National Curriculum, ultimately combined within *Kodesh* studies'.

School details

Unique reference number	131342
Inspection number	463315
DfE registration number	204/6400
Type of school	Day school for Charedi Jewish girls
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	3–16
Gender of pupils	Girls
Number of pupils on the school roll	279
Number of part time pupils	0
Proprietor	Mr Konig
Chair	Mr Rubin
Headteachers	Mrs Hirsh, Mrs Schneck, Mrs Kuflik, Mrs Hager, Mrs Smaya
Date of previous school inspection	25–27 June 2014
Annual fees (day pupils)	No fees charged
Telephone number	0208 815 8000
Email address	seniors@beistranaschool.co.uk

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