

# Switched-On Christian School

125 Alma Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH9 1DE

**Inspection date**

5 April 2017

**Overall outcome**

**The school does not meet all of the independent school standards that were checked during this inspection**

## Main inspection findings

### Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

#### *Paragraph 7–7(b)*

- This progress monitoring inspection incorporated an emergency inspection. The emergency inspection took place as a result of a parental complaint that raised wider issues about the welfare of pupils, health and safety, the use of first aid and the provision of information to parents.
- While none of the aspects of the school's work investigated as part of the emergency inspection indicated that there were any wider concerns about the safety and welfare of pupils, other aspects relating to the progress monitoring inspection did indicate that pupils were at potential risk.
- The school does not meet the requirements of legislation, or follow the guidance provided by the Department for Education, with regard to placing pupils on the school's roll or taking them off it. Specifically, the school's procedures relating to informing the local authority about additions to or deletions from the admission register are lax. A review of deletions from the admission register since the previous standard inspection showed that the local authority had not been informed in a timely fashion in all cases, in line with legislative requirements. In one case, the local authority confirmed that it had no record of one pupil either joining or leaving the school. This is unacceptable and places pupils at risk.
- The standard in this paragraph is now unmet.

#### *Paragraph 11, 13*

- The school has a written health and safety policy, which is implemented effectively. The school also has a written first aid policy that is available to parents on request. Any incident that requires the administration of first aid is recorded in an accident book. There are clear procedures for communicating this to parents. Therefore, the matter that triggered part of the emergency aspect of this inspection in relation to the administration of first aid is not symptomatic of any wider whole-school issue. Both the proprietors, one of whom is the headteacher, have up-to-date first aid training.
- The standards in these paragraphs are met.

### *Paragraph 15*

- The school's admission register at the previous inspection did not meet requirements. It had also not met requirements at the time of a material change inspection in December 2015. The school's admission register is still not maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. The register as presented during the inspection did not include all pupils who had been at the school in the last three years. Some pupils' details are incorrect. For example, dates of removal from the admission register for some pupils are earlier than the dates when they last registered. The admission numbers of some pupils are the same and/or do not correlate with those used in the attendance register. Amendments to the admission register do not include, for example, the date on which the amendment was made or the name and position of the person who made it.

### Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

#### *Paragraph 21(1), 21(3), 21(3)(a), 21(3)(a)(vii)*

- At the time of the previous inspection the single central register did not include accurate, up-to-date information about the right of staff to work in the United Kingdom. School leaders had this information but had not included it in the register. They have now rectified this and the single central register now meets requirements.
- The standard in this paragraph is now met.

### Part 6. Provision of information

#### *Paragraph 32(1)–32(4)(c)*

- The standard in this paragraph was not met at the time of the last inspection as the school had not published its safeguarding policy on its website. School leaders have ensured that the policy is now available to parents on the website.
- As part of the emergency inspection, a full check on the school's provision of information was carried out. All the material that the school must provide parents with is on the school's website. Other information is made available to parents via email updates, in a folder available for consultation at the school or, again, on the website. Hard copies of this information are also available to parents on request. Parents are provided with an annual written report that explains clearly the progress their child is making.
- The standard in this paragraph is now met.

### Part 7. Manner in which complaints are handled

#### *Paragraph 33, 33(c)*

- At the time of the previous inspection the school's complaints procedure did not include clear timescales for handling all stages of the complaints process. School leaders have revised the policy to ensure that timescales are now indicated for all stages of the complaints procedure.
- The standard in this paragraph is now met.

## Part 8. Quality of leadership in and management of schools

### *Paragraph 34(1)–34(1)(c)*

- School leaders had not ensured at the time of the last inspection that all the independent school standards had been met. This remains the case. While they have successfully resolved a number of the unmet standards, some remain unmet. In addition, some standards that were met at the time of the last inspection are now unmet. The quality of record-keeping, identified at the previous inspection as an area for improvement, still remains a concern, as shown by the shortcomings of the admission register. This poor record-keeping has the potential to put pupils' welfare at risk.
- The standard in this paragraph remains unmet.

### Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

- At the time of the previous inspection the school did not have an effective accessibility policy. School leaders have revised the policy and they are now fulfilling their duties with regard to schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.
- This requirement is now met.

## Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school does not meet the requirements of the schedule to The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements that were checked during this inspection. This included the standards and requirements that the school was judged to not comply with at the previous inspection. Not all of the standards and associated requirements were checked during this inspection.

### **The school does not meet the following independent school standards**

*Standards that were not met at the previous inspection and remain unmet at this inspection*

- The proprietor must ensure that an admission and attendance register is maintained in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (paragraph 15).
- The proprietor must ensure that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role so that the independent school standards are met consistently; [and] fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently (paragraph 34(1)–34(1)(b)).

*Standards that were met at the previous inspection, but are now judged to not be met at this inspection*

- The proprietor must ensure that arrangements are made to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils at the school; and such arrangements have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State (paragraph 7–7(b)).
- The proprietor must ensure that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school actively promote the well-being of pupils (paragraph 34(1), 34(1)(c)).

### **The school now meets the following independent school standards**

- The proprietor must keep a register which shows in relation to each member of staff ("S") appointed on or after 1st May 2007, whether a check of S's right to work in the United Kingdom was made (paragraph 21(1), 21(3), 21(3)(a), 21(3)(a)(vii)).
- The proprietor must ensure that particulars of the arrangements for meeting the standard contained in paragraph 7 are published on the school's internet website or, where no such website exists, are provided to parents on request (paragraph 32(1), 32(1)(c)).
- The proprietor must ensure that a complaints procedure is drawn up and effectively implemented which deals with the handling of complaints from parents of pupils and which sets out clear timescales for the management of a complaint (paragraph 33, 33(c)).
- The school must make arrangements to meet the requirements of paragraph 3 of schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

## School details

Unique reference number	138249
DfE registration number	837/6008
Inspection number	10033458

This inspection was carried out under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's suitability for continued registration as an independent school.

Type of school	Independent Christian school
School status	Independent school
Age range of pupils	3 to 18
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Gender of pupils in the sixth form	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	7
Of which, number on roll in sixth form	0
Number of part-time pupils	0
Proprietor	Mrs Cheryl Hill
Headteacher	Mrs Cheryl Hill
Annual fees (day pupils)	£3,600
Telephone number	01202 859421
Website	<a href="http://www.bournemouthchristianschool.co.uk">www.bournemouthchristianschool.co.uk</a>
Email address	<a href="mailto:switchedonchristianschool@gmail.com">switchedonchristianschool@gmail.com</a>
Date of previous standard inspection	15–17 November 2016

## Information about this school

- Switched-On Christian School is a small faith school. It is run by Switched-On Education Limited, whose owner acts as the proprietor of the school.
- The date of the school's previous standard inspection was 15–17 November 2016.
- The school opened in 2012 and moved to its current premises, which it leases from Winton Methodist Church, in 2015.
- The school uses no alternative provision.

## Information about this inspection

- This inspection was carried out at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. The purpose of the inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the independent school standards and other requirements that it was judged to not comply with at its previous inspection. This was the first progress monitoring inspection since the standard inspection in November 2016.
- The inspection also incorporated an emergency inspection due to a parental complaint that raised wider concerns about the welfare of pupils, health and safety, the use of first aid and the provision of information to parents.
- During the inspection, the lead inspector met with one of the proprietors and reviewed a range of the school's documentation, including key policies and the attendance and admissions registers. The lead inspector also reviewed material available on the school's website.

## Inspection team

Stephen Lee, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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