

Felixstowe International College

Independent school progress report

DCSF registration number	935/6076
Unique reference number	124899
URN for registered social care	SC024579
Inspection number	345363
Inspection dates	19 November 2009
Reporting inspector	Jill Bainton

This inspection visit to the school was carried out under section 162A of the Education Act 2002 at the request of the registering authority for independent schools.

Age group: 10-17

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Purpose and scope of the visit

This inspection visit was carried out by Ofsted under Section 162A of the Education Act 2002, and under the Care Standards Act 2000 having regard to the national minimum standards for boarding schools.

The visit was conducted 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 following the previous inspection.

Information about the school

Felixstowe International College is privately owned and situated in the suburbs of Felixstowe in Suffolk, where it was established in 1995. Registered for pupils between the ages of seven and 17, it provides education currently for 13 boys and girls aged 10 to 17. All pupils are boarders and all foreign nationals. The school admits pupils from overseas only, usually for one year, but occasionally for two years. Two adult overseas students between the ages of 18 and 23 also attend the school as part of their English language preparation prior to taking up places at British universities, but the education of these students were not the subject of this inspection. The school emphasises that its provision is strongly based on the Anglican faith. It states its aims as: 'to enable pupils to become fluent in English; to become familiar with English independent education; to give pupils the experience of living in a boarding community which has a family atmosphere'. The school was last inspected by the Commission for Social Care in January, 2007 and by Ofsted in May, 2008, as a combined education and social care inspection.

Context of the visit

The school was last inspected as a combined inspection with an Ofsted social care inspector in May 2008. There were a number of regulations which the school did not meet and two action plans were submitted and evaluated. A progress monitoring visit was made to the school in April 2009. This was a joint visit by an education inspector and a social care inspector in order to assess the progress made by the school since the time of the above inspection. Aspects of the school's work still did not fully comply with regulations. The school subsequently submitted an action plan which was evaluated in July 2009. This is the second progress monitoring visit by an education inspector to the school, arranged to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan following the previous inspection.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

The school has now met all but one of the regulations for continued registration. It was required to devise a policy for safeguarding to meet the current guidance and train all staff in safeguarding procedures. An appropriate policy is now in place and the staff have been trained earlier in the year. However, a new member of staff has recently joined the school and has not yet undertaken this training. The school has booked the staff member on to appropriate training to take place shortly. The school was required to have a policy and to have carried out risk assessments for all activities and visits outside the school. This has now been done; an appropriate policy is in place and detailed risk assessment is carried out for all visits.

The school is now fully compliant with national minimum standards for boarding schools. The school's fire procedures needed updating. The school now has robust procedures to ensure fire safety and there is a detailed fire risk assessment. There is an annual maintenance contract to check and repair all appliances and regular documented fire drills, which are held both during the school day and out of school hours for the boarders. The school was required to provide greater rigour with regard to staff appointment procedures. This has now been done. All staff are now checked for their suitability to work with children and full information is recorded on the single central register.

The school has made satisfactory progress in implementing its action plan.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

As a result of this inspection visit, the school must take action to meet the Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2003¹ as amended ('the Regulations'), as follows:

- Ensure that all newly appointed staff are trained in safeguarding procedures (paragraph 3(2(b))).

¹ www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2003/20031910.htm

School details

Name of school	Felixstowe International College		
DCSF number	935/6076		
Unique reference number	124899		
Unique reference number (social care)	SC024579		
Type of school	International		
Status	Independent		
Date school opened	September 1995		
Age range of pupils	10-17		
Gender of pupils	Mixed		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 7	Girls: 6	Total: 13
Number of boarders	Boys: 7	Girls: 6	Total: 13
Annual fees (boarders)	£19,500		
Address of school	Maybush Lane Felixstowe Suffolk IP11 7NA		
Telephone number	01394 282388		
Fax number	01394 276926		
Email address	felixic@rmpc.co.uk		
Headteacher	Mr R Bloyce		
Proprietor	Mrs Jung Shil Lee		
Reporting inspector	Jill Bainton		
Dates of inspection	19 November 2009		