

Collège Français Bilingue de Londres

87 Holmes Road, Kentish Town, London NW5 3AX

Inspection dates

15 July 2020

Overall outcome

The school is likely to meet the relevant independent school standards if the material change relating to the school provision is implemented

Main inspection findings

Part 1. Quality of education provided

Paragraph 2

- The school is exempt from the curriculum requirements of the early years foundation stage. Nevertheless, the proposed curriculum for children in the early years covers an appropriate range of experiences. It is based on the French curriculum and supplemented with aspects of the statutory framework for the early years foundation stage.
- Although the proposed curriculum does not mirror exactly the statutory framework, there are clear similarities. For example, the five areas of learning include language, numbers, geometry, exploring the world and physical and artistic activities. Personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is identified as an additional area of learning. Clear reference is made to literacy and mathematics, including the use of phonics and solving mathematical problems. This is likely to ensure that children will receive a broad experience that develops their early skills and prepares them for the next stage of their education.
- The bilingual nature of the school is represented clearly in the curriculum document. For example, the proposed timetable shows clearly how French and English are used to teach mathematics. Sufficient time is provided for developing children's literacy skills in both English and French. PSED is given suitable emphasis and there are daily physical activities.
- The independent school standards in this part are likely to be met if the material change is implemented.

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

Paragraphs 7, 7(a), 7(b) and 32(1)(c)

- The comprehensive safeguarding policy provides detailed guidance to staff. Arrangements are robust and adapted to meet the school's circumstances. They

promote the welfare of pupils at the school effectively. References to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State are clear.

- The safeguarding policy includes female genital mutilation, children missing in education, child sexual exploitation, preventing radicalisation and extremism and child criminal exploitation. A comprehensive safeguarding audit was carried out in March 2020. This takes account of the statutory framework for the early years foundation stage. The designated safeguarding leads (DSL) are identified, as are the nominated safeguarding governors. The policy provides detailed information about how to recognise the signs of abuse and the arrangements for reporting concerns.
- A separate policy covers online safety, and the use of the internet and mobile phones. As with other policies, this is comprehensive. The policy references the role of the DSL and those responsible for ensuring e-safety.
- During the telephone conversation, leaders identified the need to update the safeguarding policy to meet the recently published 'Keeping children safe in education 2020' that comes into effect in September. The deputy head, who is also the named DSL, is knowledgeable about the changes. For example, he identified the inclusion of mental health and the need to provide additional training for staff, including for the deputy DSL.
- The safeguarding and child protection policy is available on the school website and includes addendums related to COVID-19 (coronavirus) and the school's revised procedures.
- The independent school standards in this part are likely to be met if the material change is implemented.

Statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

- The safeguarding and welfare requirements of the statutory framework for the early years foundation stage are met in full. The school safeguarding and child protection policy makes specific reference to the early years. This includes the professional qualifications of staff, intimate care and stipulating the staff/children ratio. These are in line with the regulations.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school is likely to meet the requirements of the schedule to the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 ('the independent school standards') and associated requirements that are relevant to the material change.

School details

Unique reference number	100082
DfE registration number	202/6385
Inspection number	10154525

This inspection was carried out under section 162(4) of the Education Act 2002, the purpose of which is to advise the Secretary of State for Education about the school's likely compliance with the independent school standards relevant to the material change that the school has applied to make.

Type of school	Other independent school
School status	Independent school
Proprietor	Collège Français Bilingue de Londres Limited
Chair	Benjamin Vedrenne-Cloquet
Headteacher	Denis Bittmann
Annual fees (day pupils)	£10,940 to £11,980
Telephone number	0207 993 7400
Website	https://www.cfbl.org.uk
Email address	d.bittmann@cfbl.org.uk
Date of previous standard inspection	26–28 June 2018

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal	Inspector's recommendation
Age range of pupils	5 to 16	3 to 16	3 to 16
Number of pupils on the school roll	669	710	710

Pupils

	School's current position	School's proposal
Gender of pupils	Mixed	Mixed

Number of full-time pupils of compulsory school age	699	700
Number of part-time pupils	0	0
Number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	47	47
Of which, number of pupils with an education, health and care plan	0	0
Of which, number of pupils paid for by a local authority with an education, health and care plan	0	0

Staff

	School's current position	School's proposal
Number of full-time equivalent teaching staff	51	55
Number of part-time teaching staff	0	0
Number of staff in the welfare provision	0	0

Information about this school

- The Collège Français Bilingue de Londres opened in September 2011. It is currently registered for up to 700 pupils aged five to 16.
- In the primary department, half of the curriculum time is taught in French and half in English. In the secondary department, pupils study a common core of subjects and follow two distinct pathways, a bilingual one and a multilingual one.
- The school does not use any alternative provision. It provides after-school care until 6pm for pupils aged from three to 16 years.

- There are currently 699 pupils on roll. None of the pupils have an education, health and care plan. Most pupils are French or British, but other nationalities are represented. In the final year of school, pupils take the French national diploma.
- The board of trustees checks that the school complies with the independent schools standards. It oversees financial and human resource matters, and supports the development of the school.

Information about this inspection

- This inspection was commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020. The inspection was conducted remotely.
- The school has applied to the DfE to make a material change to its registration, changing the age range of pupils to three to 16. The current age range is five to 16. The inspection checked whether the school would be likely to meet the relevant independent school standards if the DfE approves the material change.
- The inspector scrutinised a range of documents provided by the school, including policies on safeguarding and health and safety, and details of the proposed curriculum.
- The inspector held a short conference call with the headteacher and deputy headteacher to discuss the material change request and the proposed arrangements.

Inspection team

Brian Oppenheim, lead inspector

Her Majesty's Inspector

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