

Lauriston School

Inspection report

Unique Reference Number	100229
Local Authority	Hackney
Inspection number	276272
Inspection dates	9–10 May 2006
Reporting inspector	Jacqueline Krafft

This inspection of the school was carried out under section 5 of the Education Act 2005.

Type of school	Primary
School category	Community
Age range of pupils	3–11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number on roll	
School	
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair	Mr J Slyce Mrs H Rockhold
Date of previous school inspection	Not previously inspected
School address	Rutland Road London E9 7JS
Telephone number	020 8985 6331
Fax number	020 8985 3823

Age group	3–11
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Introduction

The inspection was carried out by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors and one Additional Inspector.

Description of the school

Lauriston is an average size, inner city primary school with a nursery. It serves a culturally and socially diverse community. Pupils are from a wide range of minority ethnic backgrounds, the largest group being of White British heritage. Approximately twenty nine languages are spoken and one in three pupils does not speak English as their first language. The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals is high and more pupils than average have learning difficulties and disabilities.

Key for inspection grades

Grade 1	Outstanding
Grade 2	Good
Grade 3	Satisfactory
Grade 4	Inadequate

Overall effectiveness of the school

Grade:

What the school should do to improve further

Focus on:

- consistent and detailed analysis to identify how well the school is performing and determine precise, manageable priorities for improvement
- consistent and regular feedback and guidance to pupils on what they need to do to achieve their targets.

Achievement and standards

Grade:

Personal development and well-being

Grade:

Quality of provision

Teaching and learning

Grade:

Teaching and learning are good. Teachers plan carefully to match activities to the range of ability, though more able pupils are not consistently challenged. There are clear links made between subjects that enhance learning further. For example, pupils ably developed their writing around the theme of Anglo-Saxons and made their own artefacts of weapons and jewellery. Teachers' marking is regular and positive. However, feedback to pupils on how to improve their work lacks consistency.

The positive working relationships within classes help create effective environments for pupils to learn. Pupils behave well and they show perseverance and concentration in their lessons. For example, in a science lesson, pupils worked cooperatively and safely in the environmental garden as part of a study of 'Habitats'. They displayed with pride their mini-beast sketches and confidently talked about the newts and snails collected from around the pond.

Information and communication technology is used extensively to reinforce learning and is a strength. Pupils used it well to develop slogans to promote health and safety around the school and combined the slogans with cartoon animations and music. Teachers use interactive whiteboards effectively to enhance pupils' enjoyment and understanding.

Assessment is used effectively to identify pupils' needs from an early age so that appropriate support can be given, which enables many pupils to make the most of their lessons. Very effective support is given to pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities and those who are learning English as an additional language so they are fully included in lessons and make good progress.

Curriculum and other activities

Grade:

The curriculum is outstanding. An imaginative and extensive programme enriches pupils' experiences within lessons and through additional activities. Effective links are made across

subjects such as in Medical Science Week where pupils studied the effect of exercise on their heart rate. They recorded their results on computers using different types of graphs.

The use of visits and visitors is impressive and pupils speak highly of these learning opportunities. As part of a gallery visit, pupils exploring the idea of a journey were encouraged to reflect on their experiences and to link their ideas to Aboriginal art. Links with China are extended through the teaching of Mandarin in Year 5.

The quality of art and music is a particular strength. The school has been awarded the national ArtsMark gold award. Effective links are made with local business, industry and universities raising pupils' awareness and aspirations as well as preparing them for their future lives.

Care, guidance and support

Grade:

The care, guidance and support the school provides are good. The school is a friendly and welcoming community. Pupils feel safe and secure because staff know them well. There are rigorous procedures to ensure their welfare and safety and regular risk assessments are carried out, often involving pupils. Child protection procedures are clear and understood.

There is good additional support for pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities. Their needs are identified early, reviewed regularly and good use is made of other agencies so pupils make good progress. The learning mentor offers good support to pupils and parents.

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 are given good guidance, particularly in literacy. These pupils know the levels they are working at and what they need to do to improve. Their targets and the progress they are making are discussed in regular tutorials. However, this is not consistent throughout the school.

Leadership and management

Grade:

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Text from letter to pupils explaining the findings of the inspection

Pupils

I would like to thank you for making me and my colleague feel so welcome when we visited your school. We really enjoyed talking to you, looking at your work and seeing you in lessons.

You work hard for your teachers and you and your parents told us you enjoy your lessons. You behave well, are polite and care for each other. You have lots of extra activities and clubs and learn about many really exciting things which you enjoy. You use computers well and have done some interesting work with them. Those of you who find work difficult get the help you need.

Your school is a good school where you feel safe and are well cared for. Some of you know exactly how well you are doing and are getting good advice about how to get even better and achieve your targets. We would like the school to do this in more subjects so that you all know how you can get better in those as well. We have also asked your headteacher, teachers and governors to find out more about what will make the school even better. We would like to thank you again for making us so welcome and hope that you carry on enjoying all the exciting things you do at school.

Best wishes

Jacqueline Krafft

Her Majesty's Inspector