

Ysgol Gymraeg Llundain The Welsh School, London

Independent school progress report

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Inspection number	345536
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Reporting inspector	Michael Best

Age group: 4–11

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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 2002¹, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005².

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

Ysgol Gymraeg Llundain (The Welsh School, London) is an independent school for boys and girls aged between four and 11 years. It was established in 1958 and moved to its present location at Stonebridge Primary school in Brent in 2004. The school is run by a board of directors (the proprietorial body) on behalf of The Welsh School Trust. The school's principal aim is to 'provide bilingual Welsh education outside of Wales'. There are currently 29 full-time pupils on roll and a further seven pupils attend each Friday. Most children join the Reception class from the pre-school group that meets on the same site: this is run by a separate provider. There are two full-time teachers and one part-time teacher, supported by one full-time and one part-time classroom support staff member. Parents and other volunteers undertake lunchtime duties and support children in lessons and on visits. The school was inspected in March 2009. There have been a number of staff changes since the inspection, including the appointment of the present headteacher, who took up her post in September 2009.

Context of the visit

The inspection in March 2009 identified a number of regulations that were not met. The school drew up an action plan to address these and this was evaluated and approved in August 2009. This is the first visit since the inspection to monitor the progress the school has made in implementing its action plan.

¹ www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2002/ukpga_20020032_en_14#pt10-ch1-pb4-l1g162

² www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2005/ukpga_20050018_en_15#sch8

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

This monitoring visit found that the school has made insufficient progress in implementing its action plan as the proprietorial body has not completed and recorded the required checks on its members and on volunteers working in the school.

At the time of the inspection in March 2009, the school had not completed the documentation of its policies for safeguarding pupils. The school has since put in place and implemented suitable written policies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are pupils at the school in compliance with the Department for Children, Schools and Families guidance. Staff have undertaken training at the appropriate levels and all are aware of their roles and responsibilities in this area.

The inspection found that the school did not maintain its admission register correctly. All the required information is now accurately recorded and the register is regularly maintained.

The school did not fulfil all the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act (2002) at the time of the inspection. These requirements are now met; an audit has been completed and a three-year plan to improve access put in place.

The inspection identified that the school did not make the required checks when appointing staff and accepting offers of help in school from volunteers. Enhanced checks with the Criminal Records Bureau are now in place for all staff and volunteers. However, while the school makes the checks required prior to the appointment of staff, it fails to follow consistently the correct procedures in respect of volunteers. The inspection also found that the required checks were not made on the proprietorial body. This regulation remains unmet: although some checks have been made on some members of the proprietorial body, others have not. As a result, the single central record for staff, volunteers and the proprietorial body is incomplete.

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 2003³ as amended ('the Regulations'), as follows:

- prior to the confirmation of the appointment of all staff (including volunteers), carry out appropriate checks to confirm their identity, medical fitness, right to work in the United Kingdom, previous employment history,

³ www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2003/20031910.htm

character references and, where appropriate, qualifications and professional references and take such information into account in determining whether their appointment will be confirmed (paragraph 4(2)(a))

- ensure that the chairperson has checked the other members of the proprietorial body to confirm their identity, right to work in the UK, enhanced Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check or, where appropriate, confirmation that he/she does not contravene section 142 of the 2002 Act(a) (paragraph 4B(4) and (5))
- ensure that in relation to each member of staff (including volunteers), the register shows the checks made (and certificates obtained where relevant) of: his/her identity; qualifications (where required); whether an enhanced CRB check was obtained or, where appropriate, that he/she is not working in contravention of section 142 of the Education Act 2002 (List 99); the right to work in the UK and, where relevant for those who have lived outside the UK, suitability to work in a school; and that the register includes the date on which each such check was completed or the certificate obtained (paragraph 4C(2 and 3))
- ensure that in relation to each member of a body of persons named as the proprietor, the register shows whether a check was made of: his/her identity; right to work in the United Kingdom; and whether an enhanced CRB check was carried out and certificate obtained or, where appropriate, confirmation that he/she is not barred from working in school under section 142 of the Education Act 2002; and that the register also shows the date on which any check was completed or certificate obtained (paragraph 4C(6 and 7)).

In order to comply with the welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, the school must:

- ensure that the proprietorial body makes the required safeguarding checks on its members and on volunteers working in the school.

School details

Name of school	Ysgol Gymraeg Llundain The Welsh School, London		
DCSF number	304/6065		
Unique reference number	101573		
Type of school	Primary		
Status	Independent		
Date school opened	1958		
Age range of pupils	4–11 years		
Gender of pupils	Mixed		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 12	Girls: 17	Total: 29
Number on roll (part-time pupils)	Boys: 2	Girls: 5	Total: 7
Number of pupils with a statement of special educational need	Boys: 0	Girls: 0	Total: 0
Annual fees (day pupils)	£2,400		
Address of school	c/o Stonebridge Primary School Shakespeare Avenue London NW10 8NG		
Telephone number	020 8965 3585		
Fax number	020 8965 3585		
Email address	headlondonwelsh@hotmail.co.uk		
Headteacher	Mrs Menna George		
Proprietor	The London Welsh School Trust Limited		
Reporting inspector	Michael Best		
Dates of inspection	26 November 2009		