

Hyland House School

Independent school progress report

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Inspection number
Inspection dates

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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

Hyland House School is a small primary school located on the outskirts of Walthamstow in north-east London. It was established in 1939 by the present proprietors, South England Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Nearly all pupils are of a British Afro-Caribbean heritage.

The school has a wide range of objectives, based on ensuring that pupils receive a good Christian education. The school's mission statement says that it is dedicated to the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of its pupils. Its aim is to 'train our pupils to climb and achieve the building bricks that form Characters of Excellence'. Attainment on entry is generally as typically expected for the age group, although there are a significant number of pupils with above average ability.

The school admits boys and girls aged from three to 11 years of age and there are currently 86 pupils on roll. There are 12 children in the attached Nursery and 15 in Reception. The school runs a before-school which is based on Christian values and the principles contained in the government's Every Child Matters document.

Plans are at a preliminary stage of development for the premises to be refurbished and extended. The school anticipates moving into temporary accommodation in January 2011 and returning to its new buildings in December 2011.

Context of the visit

Following the inspection by Ofsted in April 2008, the school drew up an action plan to address the regulations that had not been met. This was evaluated in November 2009, when the action taken or proposed was judged to be broadly satisfactory: however, the timescale for completing these actions was found to be unsatisfactory. This is a report based on the first visit to the school to follow up its progress.

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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

The school has made satisfactory progress overall in implementing its action plan. It now meets or is on course to meet most regulations. The school's arrangements for safeguarding pupils, which were met in full when the school was inspected in April 2008, reflect the latest requirements.

When the school was last inspected, teachers' planning for lessons was found to be variable, but generally satisfactory. However, it was not evaluated effectively to identify the next steps pupils needed to take in their learning. The school has made satisfactory progress and now meets requirements in this aspect of its work. A new format has been introduced since the last inspection which has raised the quality of teachers' planning across the school. This has particularly helped staff to identify opportunities for assessment during their lessons, evaluate pupils' progress and then use this information to plan their next steps in learning.

Although the inspection in April 2008 judged that the school's systems for assessing pupils' progress and attainment in reading, writing, mathematics and science were satisfactory, this information was not always used effectively to inform teachers' planning and to match work to pupils' needs. In addition, although informal assessments were carried out in the Reception class, there was no baseline assessment when children entered the Nursery. The school has made satisfactory progress in addressing these shortcomings and now meets the appropriate requirements. It has introduced, and is continuing to develop, a tracking system that shows pupils' progress over time. Regular discussions between pupils, teachers and senior staff focus on the gains in the skills, knowledge and understanding that pupils have made and also identify areas for further improvement. These are reflected in teachers' planning and shape the individual targets that are then agreed between pupils and teachers for the next half term. In the Nursery and Reception classes, staff are working closely with advisory staff from the local authority to develop good practice in the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and its assessment.

A number of shortcomings which adversely affected the learning environment were identified in the last inspection. The school's provision for pupils who were ill did not meet requirements as the room then allocated did not have a bed and it was too far away from the school office and not near a toilet. The school has made some progress towards meeting these requirements. Although the room now allocated for pupils who are ill has a suitable bed, is readily supervised and adjacent to a toilet that includes a washbasin, the requirements are still not met because there is no washbasin with hot and cold running water in the room itself.

The previous report noted that the flooring in several areas was worn and in need of replacement, notably in the Nursery, on the landings and the main doorway. Although some repair work has been undertaken and new floor coverings have been



laid in a selection of rooms, there continue to be areas where the flooring is in need of repair and/or replacement. As a result, the regulation remains unmet.

Parts of the buildings were, at that time, in urgent need of cleaning and decoration, especially the toilets and the kitchen. The school has made satisfactory progress towards improving the standard of decoration and cleaning, and overall, the requirements are met. It has also taken appropriate action to clear the untidy areas where redundant equipment and litter had accumulated.

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:

- provide a washbasin with hot and cold running water in the room designated for pupils who are ill (paragraph 5(l))
- improve the quality of flooring where it is worn (paragraph 5(s)).

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



Total: 0

School details

Name of school Hyland House School

DCSF number 320/6052 Unique reference number (URN) 103111

Type of school Nursery and Primary School

Status Independent

Date school opened September 1939

Age range of pupils 3–11
Gender of pupils Mixed

Number on roll (full-time pupils)

Boys: 49

Girls: 37

Total: 86

Number of pupils with a statement of

special educational need

Annual fees (day pupils) £2,970–£3,300
Address of school 896 Forest Road Walthamstow

London E17 4AE

Boys: 0

Girls: 0

 Telephone number
 020 8520 4186

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 020 8520 1549

Email address hylandhouseschool@btconnect.com

Headteacher Mrs Gina Abbequaye

Proprietor South England Seventh-day Adventist Church

Conference

Reporting inspector Michael Best

Dates of inspection 4 February 2010