

St John's Preparatory and Senior School

Independent school progress report

DCSF registration number	308/6062
Unique Reference Number (URN)	102065
URN for registered childcare and social care	EY240908
Inspection number	354202
Inspection dates	22 April 2010
Reporting inspector	Michael Best

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 08456 404040, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Royal Exchange Buildings
St Ann's Square
Manchester
M2 7LA

T: 08456 404040
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

No. 090137

© Crown copyright 2009



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

St John's Preparatory and Senior School is a co-educational day school set in 28 acres of green belt countryside to the southern side of the M25 motorway, near to Enfield. The majority of pupils live within a 10-mile radius of the school. The school is on two sites, less than half a mile apart. The preparatory school provides places for 185 pupils between the ages of four and 11 years of age, and the senior school for 256 pupils and students between the ages of 11 and 18. There are no pupils with statements of special educational needs and none for whom English is not their first language. The school emphasises its Christian ethos. Its mission statement is expressed as: 'Education makes a man or woman fit company for him or herself'.

Context of the visit

When the school was inspected on 17 March 2009, three regulations were not met. Prior to the publication of the associated inspection report, an announced emergency visit was made to the school on 22 April 2009 following a parental complaint concerning the school's implementation of its policy to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils. The school submitted an action plan, which was accepted on 2 October 2009, to address the shortcomings identified in these inspection visits. This is the first monitoring visit to the school to check the progress made in implementing its action plan.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

At the inspection in March 2009, the quality of the provision for pupils' welfare, health and safety was judged to be inadequate overall. While the school had a clear policy for safeguarding children which met regulatory requirements, this had not been implemented effectively. This was confirmed in the emergency visit that took place the following month. The school has successfully implemented its action plan to remedy the situation within the agreed timescale, taking account of recent changes in requirements. Its policies, procedures and their implementation were checked during this monitoring visit and found to meet requirements.

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

The previous inspection found that the provision of washroom facilities for staff and pupils at both sites fell short of requirements. This remains the case, with insufficient toilets and washbasins for pupils of all ages, particularly at the senior school site. The school has drawn up plans to remedy the situation and intends to submit these for approval by the local planning authority shortly. While some steps have been taken, the overall progress towards meeting this regulation is unsatisfactory.

The facilities for pupils who are ill remain unsatisfactory at both the preparatory and senior school sites. Plans at the preparatory school site to provide a suitable room with a washbasin and access to a nearby toilet are shortly to be submitted for planning approval. At the senior school site, the room allocated for pupils who are ill is used for other purposes and lacks both the required handbasin and close proximity to a toilet. The progress made towards meeting this regulation is unsatisfactory.

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 sufficient washrooms for staff and pupils, including facilities for pupils with special needs, which take account of the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 (paragraph 5(k))
- provide appropriate facilities for pupils who are ill, in accordance with the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 (paragraph 5(l)).

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

School details

Name of school	St John's Preparatory and Senior School		
DCSF number	308/6062		
Unique reference number (URN)	102065		
EY URN (for registered childcare only)	EY240908		
Type of school	Preparatory and senior day school		
Status	Independent		
Date school opened	1988		
Age range of pupils	4–18		
Gender of pupils	Mixed		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 260	Girls: 181	Total: 441
Annual fees (day pupils)	£7,290–£8,745		
Address of school	The Ridgeway Potters Bar Hertfordshire EN6 5QT		
Telephone number	01707 657 294 (Preparatory school) 0208 366 0035 (Senior school)		
Fax number	0208 363 4439		
Email address	stjohnssc@aol.com		
Headteacher	Mr & Mrs Tardios		
Proprietor	Mr & Mrs Tardios		
Reporting inspector	Michael Best		
Dates of inspection	22 April 2010		