

Include Bristol

Independent school progress report

DCSF registration number 801/6023
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Inspection number 361060
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Reporting inspector Michael Best

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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

Include Bristol is an independent special school and part of a charitable trust managed by the CfBT Education Trust. It provides education for up to 30 students, aged 14 to 16 years, who have been excluded from their previous schools or pupil referral units. The service is commissioned by Bristol City Council. Currently, there are 23 students on roll. They have all been persistent non-attenders at their previous schools. All students are among the most vulnerable and characterised by disaffection with education and challenging behaviours. Two students have statements of special educational needs relating to behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. The school was established in 1996 and registered in 2005. It is located in two premises, in the Bedminster and Easton areas of Bristol. The aims of the school include the provision of a broad curriculum that develops personal and social skills and academic achievement and which enables students to return to positive destinations post-16. The school was last inspected in January 2007.

Context of the visit

When the school was previously inspected in November 2009, it did not meet a number of regulations. In response, the school drew up an action plan which was accepted in January 2010. This is the first visit to monitor the school's progress in implementing its action plan.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

At the time of the previous inspection, the curriculum was judged to be inadequate overall because it did not provide a broad enough range of courses to meet the needs, interests and aspirations of the students. The information from the school's assessment, planning and review framework was not being used to influence the design of the curriculum and, as a result, some students' achievement was limited

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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



because they did not fully engage with their lessons. The school has put in place improved procedures for assessing all students' needs and interests and has introduced externally validated courses that provide students with access to further study and training. The needs of students with special educational needs are now better met, with the curriculum now meeting the requirements of those who have statements of their special educational needs. Staff assess students' work and progress on a regular basis and use this information to help plan their next steps in learning. Lessons are planned with the aptitudes, needs and prior attainment of individual students in mind. Teachers' effective marking of students' work leads to improvements in both the quality and quantity of their coursework. As a result of these improvements, all students have satisfactory opportunities to learn and make progress.

At the time of the previous inspection, students' attitudes and behaviour were often inappropriate and disrespectful. The school has taken steps to improve the consistency with which its behaviour policy is implemented by staff and understood by students. Reward systems have been implemented and students have contributed their own ideas to establishing negotiable and non-negotiable rules. The provision of a student suggestion box and a newsletter has been beneficial. Through the curriculum students are developing a deeper understanding of right and wrong and respect for the law. Students had too few opportunities to be involved in the local community. A programme of visitors to the school and visits out in the community have remedied the shortfall. Together, these measures have been successful in improving the overall quality of students' behaviour and their enjoyment of school.

The previous inspection found that fire safety documentation was not regularly completed and the school lacked a full complement of fire wardens on the Easton site. Fire safety checks are regularly carried out and properly recorded, and arrangements have been made for named staff to receive fire safety training at the beginning of June 2010 in order to serve as fire wardens. Until such time as there is a full complement of trained fire wardens, this regulation remains unmet.

At both sites, there were insufficient washroom facilities for students and staff. The school has remedied this by providing additional water closets, all of which are correctly signed. However, the installation of washbasins to bring the number available up to requirements has been delayed and is scheduled to take place within the next fortnight. The requirement remains unmet until these are installed and commissioned.

Satisfactory progress has been made in improving the cleanliness of the kitchen facilities at both sites, which were judged to be unhygienic during the previous inspection. A programme of daily and weekly cleaning, coupled with staff and student training, has been implemented. Neither of the school's sites has external facilities, such as a play area, where students can relax during breaks from lessons. The school has now included in its daily programme opportunities for students to make supervised visits to local parks during lunch breaks.



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:

- ensure that there are sufficient trained fire wardens at both sites to maintain a satisfactory level of fire safety (paragraph 3(5))
- ensure that, at both sites, there are sufficient washbasins in line with the requirements of the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 (paragraph 5(k)).

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



School details

Name of school Include Bristol

DCSF number 801/6023 Unique reference number (URN) 134441

Type of school Special school Status Independent

Date school opened 1996

Age range of pupils 14–16 years

Gender of pupils Mixed

Number on roll (full-time pupils)

Boys: 13

Girls: 10

Total: 23

Number of pupils with a statement of

special educational need

Number of pupils who are looked after Boys: 1 Girls: 1 Total: 2

Annual fees (day pupils) £10,870

Address of school 150–154 East Street

Bedminster

Boys: 2

Bristol BS3 4EW

Girls: 0

Total: 2

Telephone number 0117 966 5427

Fax number 0117 963 2559

Email address pshort@cfbt.com

Headteacher Mrs Julie Catanach

Proprietor CBfT Education Trust

Reporting inspector Michael Best
Dates of inspection 21 May 2010