

Eden Independent School

Independent school progress report

DCSF registration number	307/6084
Unique reference number	101964
Inspection number	361188
Inspection dates	14 June 2010
Reporting inspector	Raminder Arora

This inspection visit to the school was carried out under section 162A of the Education Act 2002 at the request of the registering authority for independent schools.

Age group:

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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

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Purpose and scope of the visit

The inspection visit was carried out by Ofsted under Section 162A of the Education Act 2002, as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005.

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

Eden Independent School was opened in 1995 by a group of Seventh-day Adventist educationalists who run the school as a charitable trust. Pupils are admitted from three to 18 years of age and there are 35 pupils currently on roll. Ealing, Hillingdon and Brent local authorities place pupils at the school. There are currently no looked after children in the school. Over one-third of the pupils have a statement of special educational needs which relate mostly to moderate learning, specific learning and behavioural and emotional difficulties. The school's mission statement states that it seeks to support the development of pupils' mental, physical, emotional and spiritual well-being through a practical and creative education. The school's main aim is to 'help each child to do their personal best and to enjoy a full and satisfying education at each stage of their development'.

In October 2008, the school moved to its current premises in Northolt. It is based in a former local authority school for pupils with special educational needs. The headteacher returned last week from a secondment of two years duration in another school. The school has just opened a day nursery with support from the local authority. Eden Day Nursery is registered to care for 24 children in the Early Years Foundation Stage, of which no more than nine may be under two years of age. Currently there are two children in the setting supported by two suitably qualified staff.

Context of the visit

Following the inspection in February 2009, an action plan was submitted in July 2009, with plans to address the regulations that were not met at the time of the inspection. It was evaluated and accepted in August 2009. A first monitoring visit was made in December 2009 to evaluate the progress the school had made in meeting the unmet regulations. The visit reported that some regulations were still not met. The school responded to a letter from DCSF in February 2010, outlining the proposed further actions to address the regulatory failings. This was evaluated and accepted in March and it was recommended that a second visit be made to evaluate the progress in meeting the regulations. This report is based on the findings from the school's second monitoring visit to check on the school's progress in meeting the regulations.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

At the inspection in February 2009, the school did not meet all the requirements for pupils' welfare, health and safety in relation to fire safety. The last monitoring visit noted the required action to change and relocate the alarm system following the school's fire safety inspection. A suitable alarm system has now been installed and regular monitoring and servicing of fire safety equipment takes place. The school has obtained a fire alarm commissioning certificate. Termly fire drills are carried out and the time taken to evacuate the building and the quality of pupils' conduct during the drill is recorded. The school carries out weekly alarm tests as well as monthly emergency lighting tests. Annual checks on plugs and other electric appliances are carried out and recorded in sufficient detail. The school now meets the regulations relating to fire safety.

The school was asked by the DCSF in January 2010 to include in the school's action plan the provision of restraint training for staff. Subsequently, three members of staff attended Restraint/ Reasonable Force training in January 2010 which was provided by the National Federation for Personal Safety and thus has fulfilled this request. The school now meets all the regulations for pupils' welfare, health and safety.

The school was required to address weaknesses in recruitment procedures and to follow the latest guidance on the staff checks, specifically in relation to the appointment of staff prior to the confirmation of employment. There has been good improvement in procedures. The headteacher and the deputy headteacher have attended a course on safe recruitment. The school has a comprehensive policy outlining the procedures for recruitment and selection. The policy in relation to staff recruitment is monitored for its effective implementation. All appropriate pre-appointment checks are now made and properly recorded on the single central register. All staff have completed a health questionnaire and appropriate investigations are made where staff have had a break in service. All staff files, including a recent appointment, contain character or professional references. The school meets all the requirements for safe recruitment.

The DCSF wrote to the school in January 2010, indicating that the school was required to get Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) clearance for the person declared as the Chairman of the Board of Governors at the Annual School Census. This person now has an enhanced CRB certificate. Additionally, as required, he has acquired another check via the department for counter-signatory purposes. In March 2010, the completed form for this check was submitted to the Department who in return issued a confirmation number and this was also confirmed by a phone call during the monitoring visit. The evidence indicates that this requirement has been fulfilled. The school now meets all the regulations relating to the suitability of the proprietor and staff.

The inspection and the previous monitoring visit found that the school did not provide local authorities with an annual account of income received and expenditure made in relation to each pupil registered at the school and funded by the authority. The school now produces a detailed financial report for each pupil, including those funded at higher levels according to their statement of special educational needs. The report is sent annually to local authorities and contains a breakdown of fees payable for its typical provision. The report provides information as to how the funding allocated for each pupil in this category is spent. The school fully meets this requirement and so meets all the regulations related to the provision of information for parents, carers and others.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

The school has made good progress and now meets all regulatory requirements.

School details

Name of school	Eden Independent School		
DCSF number	307/6084		
Unique reference number	101964		
Type of school	Seventh-day Adventist		
Status	Independent		
Date school opened	1995		
Age range of pupils	3–18		
Gender of pupils	Mixed		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 25	Girls: 9	Total: 34
Number on roll (part-time pupils)	Boys: 0	Girls: 1	Total: 1
Number of pupils with a statement of special educational need	Boys: 9	Girls: 2	Total: 11
Annual fees (day pupils)	£2000–£4000		
Address of school	Eden Independent School Eastcote Lane Northolt Middlesex UB5 4HW		
Telephone number	020 842 37455		
Fax number	020 842 37455		
Email address	Edenoffice93@yahoo.com		
Headteacher	Mrs Laura Osei		
Proprietor	Mr Glenroy Anderson		
Reporting inspector	Raminder Arora		
Dates of inspection	14 June 2010		