

Encompass Education

Independent school progress report

DCSF registration number	801/6132
Unique Reference Number (URN)	135637
URN for registered childcare and social care	SC367737
Inspection number	361290
Inspection dates	14 June 2010
Reporting inspector	Tom Smith

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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

Encompass Education is a small special school for students of secondary age who have complex behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. It is registered to take up to six boys and girls aged between 11 and 19 years. Students have generally failed to thrive in previous school placements. Students are referred from neighbouring counties within the south west of England and have their places funded by their respective local authority. The school occupies a large Victorian house in east Bristol, which has been appropriately converted and operates as part of Encompass Education and Residential Care.

The school aims to provide an educational programme tailored to a student's individual needs which help him or her to experience success and to re-engage with learning.

Context of the visit

The school was inspected in October 2009. Following that inspection, the school was required to compile an action plan to indicate how it would address the areas of non-compliance identified in the inspection report. The action plan was submitted in December 2009. It was evaluated in January 2010 and was accepted. This is the report from the first monitoring visit to evaluate the progress made in implementing the action plan.

Summary of the progress made in implementing the action plan

Whilst at the time of the school's last inspection in October 2009 it met all of the educational regulation relating to the curriculum and teaching, it did not meet some requirements relating to the provision for students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and for their welfare, health and safety. The school did not carry out all the checks and maintain the required records to show that all checks had been carried out on staff prior to their appointment. In addition, some

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

information which should be provided for parents, carers and others was also lacking and parents and others were unaware of the information to which they were entitled.

In relation to students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, the school did not provide training for staff to equip them effectively to manage students' behaviour, nor did the school sufficiently encourage students to accept responsibility for their behaviour. The school has addressed this issue in two ways. First, training for staff has been provided for staff in managing aggression and the school has adopted an approach known as the social and emotional aspects of learning (SEAL programme). Second, in order to increase the students' community involvement, they now take part in projects such as wood recycling and visit places such as inner city farms, cultural events and multicultural locations; their classroom work develops further the outcomes of these visits. The impact of these actions has been effective. Detailed records relating to behaviour management show that the instances of aggression have decreased over time. The regulations relating to students' spiritual moral, social and cultural development are now met.

The school did not comply with aspects of the provision for the welfare, health and safety of students. Staff training was not at the required level to ensure that safeguarding procedures were effective. The school responded positively to address this issue and all staff are now trained to appropriate levels. The health and safety policy has been rewritten, with staff being allotted specific responsibilities in order to make sure that the policy is effectively implemented. Issues such as installation of appropriate hand-drying facilities have also been addressed. The recording of significant incidents involving students is now rigorously carried out and these are monitored by the proprietor in order to identify trends in the outcomes. The regulations relating to the welfare, health and safety of students are now met.

In relation to the required checks and records on staff, these checks are now carried out in full and are rigorously recorded in an electronic single central register. The school now meets all the regulations in regard to staff employment.

Parents, carers and others were not made fully aware of the range of information to which they were entitled; additionally, some of the required information was missing from the school prospectus. The school has now updated its prospectus and all the required information is now available to parents, carers and others. The regulations relating to the provision of information for parents and others are now met.

Compliance with regulatory requirements

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

School details

Name of school	Encompass Education		
DCSF number	801/6132		
Unique reference number (URN)	135637		
Type of school	Special; for students with complex behavioural, emotional and social difficulties.		
Status	Independent		
Date school opened	July 2008		
Age range of pupils	11–19		
Gender of pupils	Mixed		
Number on roll (full-time pupils)	Boys: 1	Girls: 0	Total: 1
Number of pupils with a statement of special educational need	Boys: 1	Girls: 0	Total: 1
Number of pupils who are looked after	Boys: 1	Girls: 0	Total: 1
Annual fees (day pupils)	£74,000		
Address of school	164 Summerhill Road Bristol BS5 8JU		
Telephone number	01179 557181		
Fax number	01179 414299		
Email address	mrpaulsingh@hotmail.co.uk		
Headteacher	Mr Peter Elvis		
Proprietor	Mr Paul Singh		
Reporting inspector	Tom Smith		
Dates of inspection	14 June 2010		