

Progress monitoring inspection report

13 December 2024

L'École Bilingue Élémentaire

St David's Welsh Church

St Mary's Terrace

London

W2 1SJ

Inspection outcome

The school meets all the relevant Standards that were considered during this inspection.

Inspection findings

Part 3. Welfare, health and safety of pupils

ISSR Paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b); EYFS Safeguarding and welfare requirements 3.5, 3.7, 3.9, 3.24

1. Arrangements to safeguard pupils are robust. Since the previous inspection, the school has appointed two members of staff with designated responsibility for safeguarding who are independent of the proprietors. Safeguarding leaders refer safeguarding matters to external authorities if necessary. They are appropriately trained and demonstrate a detailed and up-to-date knowledge of statutory guidance. They understand and are alert to the contextual safeguarding risks to pupils and ensure that staff are alert to the signs that a pupil may be at risk of harm.
2. A member of the advisory board has specific responsibility for safeguarding and conducts regular safeguarding audits. This enables leaders to reflect on practices and adjust them to ensure that the arrangements for safeguarding are robust. Leaders also carry out an annual review of safeguarding. These arrangements provide proprietors assurance that the school's safeguarding policies are being implemented effectively.
3. Leaders have established clear systems of communication which enable them to identify safeguarding issues early and take prompt action. Leaders liaise and work effectively with the local safeguarding partnership and other external agencies. Leaders have refined the school's record-keeping procedures so that child protection records are detailed and provide a clear rationale for decisions that leaders have taken. Appropriate precautions are in place to ensure confidentiality.
4. Leaders have put in place clear policies and procedures, in line with statutory guidance, which define the processes for identifying, reporting and responding to safeguarding concerns, including allegations relating to adults in school. The safeguarding policy now makes clear expectations relating to staff's use of mobile phones throughout the school, including in the early years.
5. Leaders have put in place comprehensive training in order to ensure that safeguarding policies are understood and implemented effectively by staff. This includes regular briefings, e-mail updates and the exploration of scenarios which test staff's knowledge of statutory guidance. As a result, staff understand their responsibilities, are vigilant and feel confident to manage concerns raised by pupils when they arise. Staff also understand when to report low-level concerns about adults in school and the importance of whistleblowing in keeping pupils safe. Staff are appropriately trained to recognise signs of abuse, mental health issues and radicalisation.
6. Pupils are confident that they have a trusted adult who they can speak to if they need to. The school educates pupils effectively about personal safety, including risks they might encounter online. Appropriate network filtering and monitoring systems are in place in school which leaders check for effectiveness, in line with statutory guidance.
7. The school meets the Standards.

Part 4. Suitability of staff, supply staff, and proprietors

ISSR Paragraphs 18, 19 and 21; EYFS 3.9

8. Staff responsible for the school's recruitment processes ensure that these are rigorously implemented. All required safeguarding checks are completed before adults are allowed to begin employment or to volunteer at the school. This includes confirmation of the relevant checks undertaken by agencies on supply staff in order to ensure their suitability to work with children. The checks are accurately recorded on the school's single central record.
9. The school meets the Standards.

Part 6. Provision of information

ISSR paragraph 32(1)(c)

10. The school provides parents with information relating to safeguarding by publishing its safeguarding policy on the school's website.
11. The school meets the Standards.

Part 8. Quality of leadership and management of schools

ISSR paragraphs 34(1)(a), 34(1)(b), 34(1)(c), 34(2)

12. The proprietors have responded appropriately to the unmet Standards that were identified at the previous inspection. They have worked closely with senior staff and the school's advisory board to draw up and implement an effective action plan. The monitoring of policies and procedures is now more robust, transparent and well-documented so that systems and procedures are now in place to promote the welfare of pupils.
13. The school meets the Standards.

School details

School	L'École Bilingue Élémentaire
Department for Education number	213/6393
Address	L'École Bilingue Élémentaire St David's Welsh Church St Mary's Terrace London W2 1SJ
Phone number	020 7224 8427
Email address	admin@lecolebilingue.com
Website	www.lecolebilingue.com
Proprietor	Mr Franck Laurans and Miss Véronique Ferreira
Headteacher	Miss Véronique Ferreira
Age range	3 to 11
Number of pupils	121
Date of previous inspection	30 January to 1 February 2024

Information about the school

15. L'École Bilingue Élémentaire is a co-educational day school located in Little Venice, London. The school is bilingual and follows both the French and English educational systems. The school is inspected periodically by inspectors from the French authorities. The school is jointly owned by the headteacher and head of administration, who are supported by an advisory board.
16. The school includes an early years setting which accommodates children from the age of three. The setting comprises two classes, the Petite Section for children aged three and above and the Section Moyenne for children aged four to five.
17. The school has identified four pupils as having special educational needs and/or disabilities. No pupil in the school has an education, health and care plan.
18. The school has identified three pupils for whom English is an additional language.
19. The school states that its aims are to provide a high-quality bilingual education in a non-religious setting.

Purpose of the progress monitoring inspection

Inspectors carried out this inspection under section 109(1) and (2) of the Education and Skills Act 2008. This inspection was an unannounced progress monitoring inspection which was carried out at the request of the DfE. The purpose of this inspection was to monitor the progress the school has made in meeting the Independent School Standards and Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and any other Standards that were unmet at the school's previous inspection.

Inspection details

Inspection date 13 December 2024

20. Two reporting inspectors visited the school for one day.
21. Inspection activities included:
 - scrutiny of a range of policies, documentation and records provided by the school and information available on the school's website
 - discussions with the proprietors
 - discussions with the headteacher, school leaders, managers and other members of staff
 - discussions with pupils and staff
 - scrutiny of information published on the school's website.

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- ISI is approved by the Secretary of State for Education to inspect independent schools in England, which are members of associations in membership of the Independent Schools Council.
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Independent Schools Inspectorate

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